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2021 SEASON

contemporaryamericantheaterfestival
AT SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY

ED HERENDEEN

WELCOME

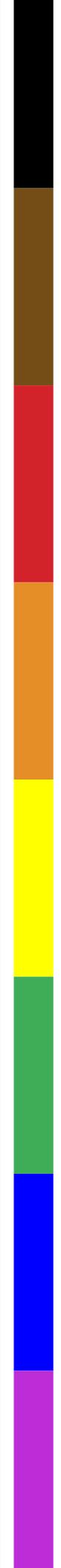
It is with great pleasure I welcome you back to our artistic home. I am looking forward to being with you again and celebrating Summer 2021 with our partners Shepherd University and Shepherdstown. Let's be together on the historic streets of our friendly small town and enjoy LIVE dynamic music, poetry, and two CATF playcasts.



It's time to be together again. It's time to connect and enjoy the art of conversation. It's time to breathe fresh air and celebrate summer in West Virginia. We miss you. We miss telling you stories and sharing the power, the excitement, and the thrill of the Contemporary American Theater Festival. It's what we do! It's what we do together that matters. We are happy to be with you again.

Welcome Home!

Ed Herendeen
FOUNDER & PRODUCING DIRECTOR



We believe that
**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER.**

We believe that every voice
must be heard.

We believe that every person
must be seen.

We believe that together,
we have the power to
build a better world.

**CATF IS IN SOLIDARITY WITH
BIPOC AND AAPI COMMUNITIES.**

playcast*plus*

contemporaryamericantheaterfestival

AT SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY

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Associate Producing Director

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Business Manager

TRENT KUGLER
Production Manger

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Public Relations Manager

VICKI WILLMAN
Director of Development

Contemporary American
Theater Festival at
Shepherd University

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Shepherdstown, WV
25443

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www.catf.org

 CATFatSU
 @thinktheater

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THANK YOU

The Contemporary American Theater Festival's 2021 Season is supported, in part, by the following foundations, corporations, institutions, and government agencies.

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The Contemporary American Theater Festival at Shepherd University is proudly affiliated with Actors' Equity Association, United Scenic Artists, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, National New Play Network, and Theatre Communications Group.

MARELLEN AHERNE

This summer CATF celebrates 31 years providing audiences with new and daring theater. Our 30th and 31st seasons were and are quite different from our first 29 years. Yet, behind the scenes, the theater continues to make things happen! We are so pleased to be with you again this summer.



In my own life, I have a lot of things to be grateful for. Eight and a half years ago when I moved to Shepherdstown, I was optimistic. I hoped to find friends, cultural activities, and opportunities for education. Shepherdstown and Shepherd University have provided more than I could have envisioned. My life is rich in all the things I was looking for. Though this last year and a half has been challenging on so many levels, this community has not let me down. Shepherdstown and Shepherd University have worked hard to provide safety, community, opportunities for joy, and support for us all. I for one am staying put. Who wouldn't want to live here?

The team of Shepherdstown and Shepherd University is only made richer by the participation of a third player - the Contemporary American Theater Festival. During these months, CATF and our collaborators have been the recipients of an outpouring of love, interest, and support from the community, state, and town. None of us could have gotten through the days of COVID alone. Our partnerships are our strength. Gratitude abounds.

Welcome back to CATF! This summer provides a different look at theater. We bring you these four Fridays of programming with deep appreciation to the artists who help made all this happen under challenging circumstances.

We will be back with live theater next summer. Mark your calendar for July 2022!

Marellen Johnson Aherne
PRESIDENT, CATF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DR. MARY J.C. HENDRIX

It is with great excitement that I welcome you back to live events during the summer of 2021 with our partners: Mayor Auxer and the Shepherdstown Town Council and the Contemporary American Theater Festival.



For over 30 years, since the founding of the Theater Festival in 1991, this partnership has culturally and financially enhanced our community, region, and the lives of creative artists and audiences from 38 states, the District of Columbia, and international countries. Together, Shepherd University, the Theater Festival, and our home Shepherdstown, have weathered the global pandemic and we now begin an exciting journey forward to re-connecting with our community as we re-grow the arts, academics, and the economy of the Eastern Panhandle.

The **CATF playcastplus Street Parties** in July will feature Shepherdstown and global majority artists and the release of audio dramas by playwrights Kevin Artigue and Terence Anthony. In August, Shepherd University is poised for a re-opening of in-person learning to welcome our students, faculty, and staff back to campus. All of us at Shepherd University have longed-for the return of in-person festival, theater, art, athletic, historical, and other community events.

As we get together again, I hope you will take advantage of all that is offered by the Theater Festival this summer, historic Shepherdstown, and Shepherd University. CATF evinces Shepherd's dedication to excellence, innovation, and opportunity. We are extremely proud to be a partner of the Contemporary American Theater Festival, and play a collaborative role in transforming the future.

With many best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary J.C. Hendrix".

Mary J.C. Hendrix, Ph.D.
SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

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‡ IN MEMORIAM

OUR DONORS

CATF extends a special thank you to the following FESTIVAL FRIENDS who gave donations to support and sustain the Theater Festival between June 30, 2020 and June 29, 2021.

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JUNE 30, 2021 - JUNE 29, 2021

While we make every effort to provide a complete and accurate acknowledgement of our contributors, if we have made an error, please accept our apologies and contact Vicki Willman, Director of Development, at vwillman@catf.org or 681-240-4044.

PRODUCER'S CIRCLE	\$10,000+
PLAYWRIGHT'S CIRCLE	\$5,000-\$9,999
AGENT'S CIRCLE	\$2,000-\$4,999
DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE	\$1,000-\$1,999
ARTIST'S CIRCLE	\$500-\$999
PATRON'S CIRCLE	\$100-\$499
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***Bolded** listings indicate donors who increased their contribution by 10% or more in comparison to the previous season.*

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

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THE ED HERENDEEN FUND FOR CONTEMPORARY THEATER

CATF extends its sincere gratitude to the following individuals and businesses for their leadership in supporting this critical endowment fund for future artistic initiatives and programming.

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Ernest & Joan Johnston	Mikki Van Wyk, <i>In honor of Jenny Ewing Allen</i>
Karen & Douglas Kinnett	
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CATF'S OVATION SOCIETY

CATF wishes to acknowledge the extraordinary members of the Ovation Society who have provided for the future of the Festival in their estate plans.

Jenny Ewing Allen	Dr. Stanley C. Marinoff
Anonymous	Susan L. Mills
RC Howes	Sheri & Raymond Wolfe
Jeffrey Longhofer & Jerry Floersch	

ARTISTIC FUND

In 2020, CATF announced the creation of the Artistic Fund to support new play commissions, artistic projects that support BIPOC artists, and professional development opportunities for the staff.

The fund was seeded with a special \$30,000 gift by Rick & Sheila Shaffer. The first additional \$30,000 in gifts to the Artistic Fund are being matched dollar-for-dollar by Rick & Sheila.

Contemporary American Theater Festival Artistic Fund Contributors:

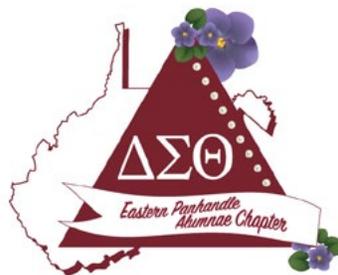
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Ed & Mary Boutté, <i>In memory of Grace Valentine</i>	Enid Mirkin
James Chervenak	Sally & Charles Neustadt
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Chisa Hutchinson	kb saine, <i>In honor of Shepherd University's Contemporary Theater Studies Program</i>
Catherine E. Irwin, <i>In honor of Marellen Aherne</i>	Matt Schutz
Susan Coady Kemnitzer	Emma J. Stokes

JULY 9 - AUGUST 9

MONTH OF GIVING

The Trustees of the Alford Foundation have challenged us to raise \$5,000 for the Month of Giving to support the future of the American theater: the art on CATF stages; dynamic *talktheater* events; the new play development process; and the talented Intern Company.

CATF is also investing in our community to celebrate the value and importance of partnerships. A portion of the donations CATF receives during the Month of Giving associated with the Listening Party & on-demand audio drama of *The House of the Negro Insane* by Terence Anthony will support the **Eastern Panhandle Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.**



DONATE AT CATF.ORG TODAY
TO HELP US MEET THE ALFORD FOUNDATION CHALLENGE

CATF LEADERSHIP



ED HERENDEEN***
FOUNDER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Ed Herendeen founded the Contemporary American Theater Festival in Shepherdstown, West Virginia in 1991 with the mission to produce and develop new American theater. Through his leadership, and operating under an LORT D Actor's Equity Association contract, the theater festival has produced 133 new plays - including 56 world premieres and 11 commissions - and has gained a reputation as one of country's most important curators of new work. Hosted on the campus of Shepherd University, CATF produces a four-week season of six plays in rotating repertory and attracts a national audience and an ever growing international audience. CATF was presented with the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts in 1999 and the Governor's Award for Leadership in the Arts in 2012.

Ed has also worked at The Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, The Missouri Repertory Theatre, The Old Globe, The Lyceum Theatre, and the Williamstown Theatre Festival. Ed was honored with the College of Fine Arts Distinguished Alumni Award in Theater from Ohio University and has served on the Admissions Committee for New Dramatists, as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, and has served on the board of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for American theaters.



PEGGY MCKOWEN** (she/her)
ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Peggy McKowen's association with CATF began in 2006, when she designed the costumes for *Mr. Marmalade* and *Jazzland*. She joined the full-time staff the following year. As a designer, her work at CATF includes: costumes for *Antonio's Song/ I Was dreaming of a son*, *The Welcome Guest*, *The Wedding Gift*, *Not Medea*, *Everything You Touch*, *1001*, *H2O*, and *Scott and Hem in the Garden of Allah*; and scenery for *From Prague*, *Wrecks*, and *Gidion's Knot*.

Previously, Peggy was the resident designer for the Obie-award-winning Jean Cocteau Repertory in NY and the Phoenix Theatre Ensemble. Her regional theater work has been seen at Arkansas Repertory Theatre; Barrington Stage; Tennessee Repertory Theatre; Texas, Dallas, and Houston Shakespeare Festivals; and Perseverance Theater. International theater work includes the B.A.T. Studio Theatre (Berlin, Germany); the Teatro Alfa Real (Sao Paulo, Brazil); and the E.T.A. Hoffmann Theatre (Bamberg, Germany). Additionally, Peggy designed the first full-length English speaking production of *The Tempest* performed in Beijing, China, and the first Mandarin translation of *How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying* for the Seven Stages Production Company in Beijing.

She is a member of United Scenic Artists 829 and has served on the board of the National New Play Network. Peggy was the featured artist in the exhibition *High Drama: Costumes from the Contemporary American Theater Festival* at the Museum of Fine Arts, Washington County and a four city traveling show through West Virginia. In 2018, Peggy was named West Virginia Artist of the Year at the Governor's Arts Awards and was recognized by *WV Living Magazine* as one of the 2019 Wonder Women of the Year. Peggy is also the co-editor of the anthology, *Plays by Women from the Contemporary American Theater Festival*.

CATF LEADERSHIP



EBONÉE HELMICK

(she/her)

BUSINESS MANAGER

Ebonée Helmick joined the theater festival in 2019. She obtained her Master's Degree in Public Administration and a Certificate in Non-profit Management. Prior to joining CATF, Ebonée worked with several organizations in various management positions in North Central West Virginia. Most notably, she was instrumental in the development of the Fairmont Community Development Partnerships affordable rentals program, overseeing the acquisition and rehabilitation of real property in Marion County, West Virginia, as well as streamlining the financial and organizational management of the Partnership.



TRENT KUGLER

(he/him)

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Trent began working full time with the festival in 2020 after spending the previous 10 years working seasonally with CATF and serving as Technical Director for the departments of art, theater, and music at Shepherd University. He continues to serve at Shepherd as an adjunct instructor of technical theater. Trent obtained his BFA in Theater Design/Technology from Otterbein University. His interest in robotics and building small electronic contraptions resulted in his first published paper by USITT and a Tech Expo "Best in Show" award for his work *A Realistic and Interactive LED Candle* in 2015.



CHASE MOLDEN

(he/him)

**PRODUCTION &
PROPS SUPERVISOR**

Chase graduated from Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio with a BFA in Theatre Design/Technologies. He first started working with CATF in 2005, while still in college. During the year, Chase works as the Technical Director with the School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences for Shepherd University. Other credits include: The Barter Theatre, The Albany / Berkshire Ballet Company, The Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire, and The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey.



JEN ROLSTON
GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Jen's love for CATF started with her internship in 1992 (Season 2!). Starting in 2001, she began working with CATF on an annual basis under her mission-based creative agency, Eden Design. A West Virginia native and graduate of Shepherd University's BFA program, Jen has primarily worked with small businesses, non-profits, and arts organizations using her expertise to help clients achieve visions that often nurture communities and improve local economies. She serves on the Board of the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation and is a member of the Jefferson County NAACP.

CATF LEADERSHIP



NICOLE M. SMITH*
(she/her)
COMPANY MANAGER

Nicole holds a BFA in Theatre Design & Technology. Her career in Stage Management took her from her hometown in Arizona to Washington D.C. and New York. Nicole worked with Roundhouse Theatre, Sitar Arts Center, The Juilliard School, and Theatreworks USA where she traveled across the United States. It was her work in New York that brought her to CATF for the first time in 2012 and introduced her to Company Management. After three summers at CATF, Nicole worked with the Arizona Theatre Company as their Assistant Company Manager for a season. From 2015 to 2018, Nicole served as the Housing Coordinator in the Company Management department at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, as well as the Stage Manager for the Rogue Valley Symphony & the Southern Oregon Repertory Singers. In 2018, Nicole returned to Shepherdstown as a full-time staff member at CATF and Adjunct Professor of Stage Management at Shepherd University. She also serves as a Board Member for the Shepherdstown Visitors Center and is a member of the Jefferson County NAACP.



GABRIELLE TOKACH
(she/her)
**PUBLIC RELATIONS
MANAGER**

Gaby has been a part of the festival since 2010, when she joined the box office team. She graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College, where she majored in Musical Theater and Arts Administration. After earning her Master's Degree in Arts Management from George Mason University, she joined CATF's full time staff. While at GMU, Gaby served on the executive committee of the Graduate Arts Management Society and received the Erin Isabelle Edwards Gaffney Award. Still involved at her alma mater, Gaby is an active member of the program's Alumni Working Group. She's served as a panelist for workshops at the Theatre Communications Group and WV Arts Day, and has directed productions at Shepherd University (*Wondrous Strange, Dog Sees God*) and in the community (*The Miracle Worker*). Gaby has also worked with Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Arvold Casting (History Channel's *The Wars*), and Scrappy Cat Productions.



VICKI WILLMAN
(she/her)
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Vicki joined CATF in January 2016 following over two decades of fundraising positions in the performing arts, public radio and television, eldercare, and higher education. Vicki was first drawn to the development profession through volunteering with a community orchestra and public radio station.

She joined the development staff of Prairie Public Broadcasting as a Corporate Support Associate. Vicki's rebuilding of the radio network's sponsorship base led to successive positions with Wisconsin Public Television in Madison, WI, and Maryland Public Television (MPT). For eleven years, she served as the Director of Development with the Maryland Symphony Orchestra.

Prior to joining MPT, she briefly held other development positions in her native North Dakota with The Sacred Heart Benedictine Foundation and at her alma mater, the University of Mary, where she earned her BS in Music Education. Vicki has served as a music panelist for the Maryland State Arts Council and performs regularly as a timpanist with the Frederick (MD) Symphony Orchestra.

COMPANY LIST

ED HERENDEEN***

PRODUCING DIRECTOR

PEGGY MCKOWEN**

ASSOCIATE PRODUCING DIRECTOR

EBONÉE HELMICK

BUSINESS MANAGER

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Shepherd University
Contemporary Theater
Studies Students



This Theater operates under an agreement between the League Of Resident Theatres and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

*Actors' Equity Association **United Scenic Artists

***Stage Directors and Choreographers Society



CELEBRATE SHEPHERDSTOWN **LIVE!** Street Parties

In July, CATF is throwing several street parties – and you're invited! Grab your personal pod, get dinner from your favorite downtown restaurant, and join us behind the library for some socially distanced human connection that celebrates art and artists - musicians, actors, poets, and others - that inspire the work of CATF.



JULY 9 - VENUE CHANGE: MARINOFF PARKING LOT

Kick off the playcast plus season with a Sneak Peek filled with live entertainment from local artists: Shepherd University Jazz Quartet; from CATF's *The Cake*, actress Erika Rolfsrund with a short scene and song; blues guitarist Billy Thompson and singer Mary Hott; from CATF's *Stick Fly*, actor David Emerson Toney with trumpeter Mike Burton; The Speakeasy Boys; and Laughing Hat Photo Booth. SPONSORED BY DEB WEISBACHER

FREE; RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.



JULY 16 - Celebrate global majority artists that inspire the artists of CATF, as you enjoy an evening of live entertainment: Washington Guzheng Society; from CATF's *Stick Fly*, actor David Emerson Toney and the Working Song Singers; poet Hope Maxwell Snyder; classical and gospel singer Nicole Davis; R&B, funk, soul band The Groovemasters; painter Hiromi Katayama; and Shepherd University performance artist Kay Dartt.

SPONSORED BY CITY NATIONAL BANK & JEFFERSON COUNTY CVB
FREE; RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.

WHO'S COMING TO DINNER?

TakeOut & Talk

JULY 20 & JULY 27 AT 6PM

Wherever you are - order dinner from your favorite local restaurant and hop online for a chat moderated by CATF's Producing Director Ed Herendeen.

Each conversation features some of your favorite CATF artists, but it's a surprise! You won't know who the guest artists are until you get in the Zoom Room! FREE. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.





SHEEPDOG

BY KEVIN ARTIGUE

A NEW PLAY

the playcast

DIRECTED BY
MELISSA CRESPO

SPONSORED BY
C.M. & STEPHANIE PARTRIDGE

CAST

Amina
MYXOLYDIA TYLER

Ryan
JOHN ZDROJESKI

VOICEOVERS

CHERRY J. DAVIS
DANNY LEMACHE
ISSA MALAK BEST
MICHAEL FREDERIC

TIM NICOLAI
JOEL PEREZ
SOL MARINA CRESPO

PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager
LORI M. DOYLE

Casting Director
PAT MCCORKLE, CSA

Dramaturg &
Equity Liaison
THERESA M. DAVIS

Dialect Coach
KIRSTEN TRUMP

Composer
MARK VAN HARE

Covid Compliance Officers
TRENT KUGLER
NICOLE M. SMITH

Sound Designer
SHARATH PATEL

TIME & SETTING

Summer, 2017 / A home in suburban Cleveland

WARNING: Contains mature themes and language.

Recorded at Dubway Studios.

Originally Produced by South Coast Repertory.

SHEEPDOG was presented as part of the New Works Festival at Long Wharf Theatre (Joshua Borenstein, Managing Director).

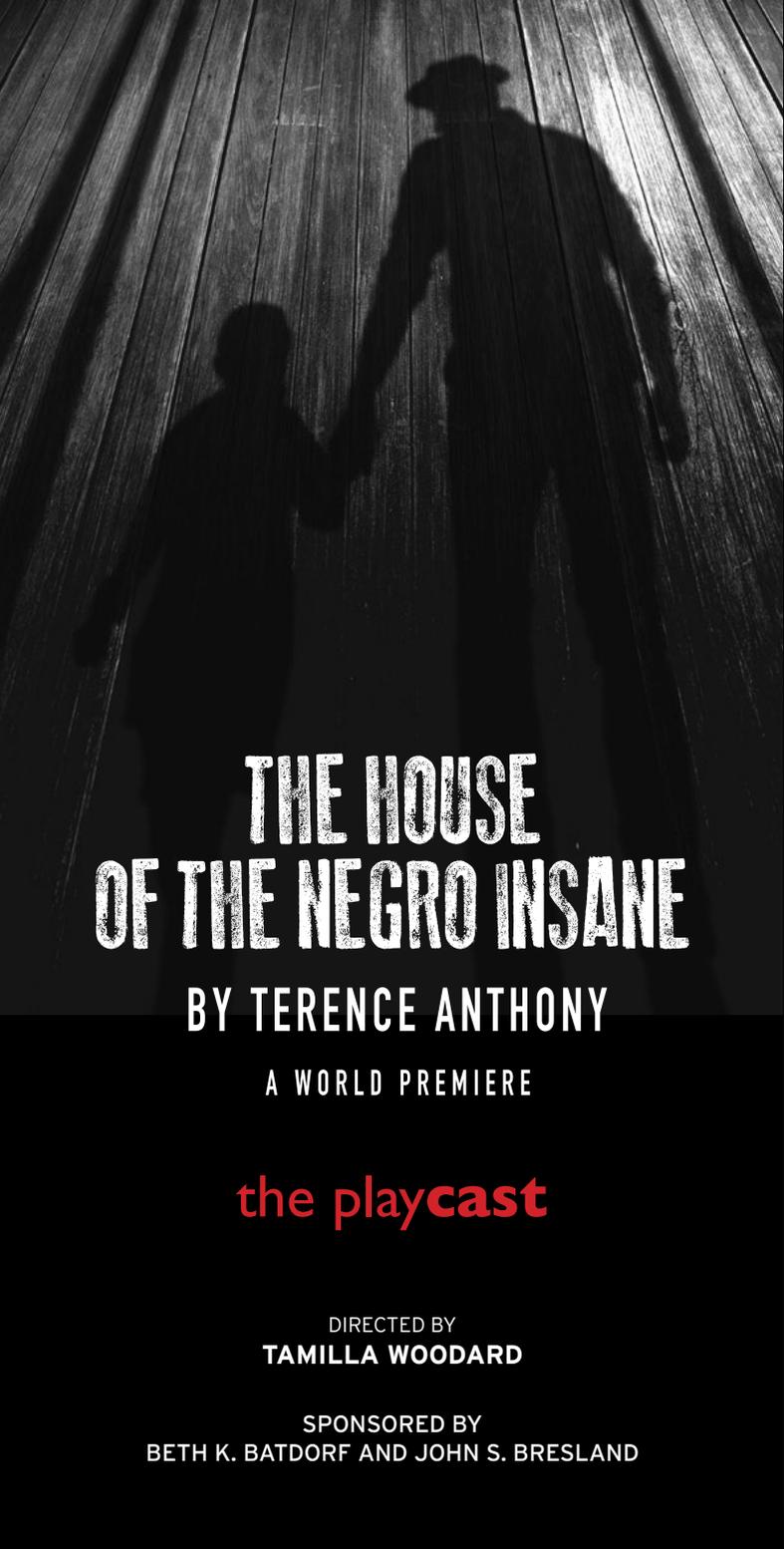
The audio drama artists are supported in part by the generous gifts of Yolanda & Frank Bruno, Anita Difanis (In memory of Richard Krajeck), Erdem & Joan Ergin, Bev & Frank Kristine, Louis & Shirley Punecky (In honor of Allie Puneckii), Margaret Ann Ross, and Robert & Mary Helen Strauch.



KEVIN ARTIGUE writes plays, TV, and film. He was raised in Redlands, CA and calls Brooklyn home. His play *Sheepdog* (Dramatists Play Service) was a recipient of an Edgerton New Play Award and a finalist for the Harold and Mimi Steinberg/American Theatre Critics Association 2020 New Play Award. *Sheepdog* premiered at South Coast Repertory in 2019 and at Shattered Globe Theatre in Chicago to critical acclaim. Kevin is a member of the resident playwright company at New Dramatists, class of 2026. He's also a current member of the Dorothy Strelsin New American Writers Group at Primary Stages, and an alum of The Working Farm @ SPACE at Ryder Farm, Interstate 73, and the Public Theater's Emerging Writers Group. His plays have been performed and developed with South Coast Rep, Shattered Globe, Golden Thread, Page 73, The Public Theater, the National New Play Network, NYTW, Long Wharf Theater, Portland Center Stage, and the Playwrights' Center. MFA: Iowa Playwrights Workshop.

EXTRAS

Watch: [The Making of Sheepdog](#) | **Watch:** [Interview with Kevin](#) | **Read:** [The Dramaturgical Companion](#)



THE HOUSE OF THE NEGRO INSANE

BY TERENCE ANTHONY

A WORLD PREMIERE

the playcast

DIRECTED BY
TAMILLA WOODARD

SPONSORED BY
BETH K. BATDORF AND JOHN S. BRESLAND

CAST

Attius
WILLIAM OLIVER WATKINS

Madeleine
TABATHA GAYLE

Effie
CANDACE GRACE

Henry
CHRISTOPHER HALLADAY

VOICEOVERS

JENS RASMUSSEN
ERIC T. MILLER

MICHAEL BRYAN

PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager
LORI M. DOYLE

Casting Director
PAT MCCORKLE, CSA

Dramaturg &
Equity Liaison
THERESA M. DAVIS

Dialect Coach
KIRSTEN TRUMP

Composer
NEHEMIAH LUCKETT

Covid Compliance Officers
TRENT KUGLER
NICOLE M. SMITH

Sound Designer
SHARATH PATEL

TIME & SETTING

1935 / A workshop on the far edge of the property of the Taft Hospital for the Negro Insane in Oklahoma.

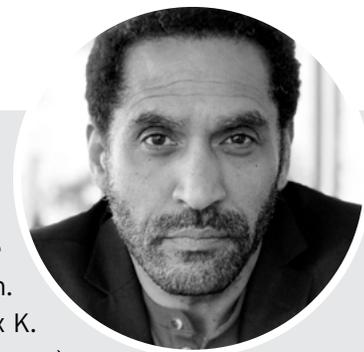
WARNING: Contains mature themes and language.

Recorded at Dubway Studios.

THE HOUSE OF THE NEGRO INSANE is presented by special arrangement with the Robert A. Freedman Dramatic Agency, Inc.

THE HOUSE OF THE NEGRO INSANE was developed in part with the 2019 Bay Area Playwrights Festival and PlayPenn's 2017 New Play Development Conference.

The audio drama artists are supported in part by the generous gifts of Yolanda & Frank Bruno, Anita Difanis (In memory of Richard Krajeck), Erdem & Joan Ergin, Bev & Frank Kristine, Louis & Shirley Punecky (In honor of Allie Puneckii), Margaret Ann Ross, and Robert & Mary Helen Strauch.



TERENCE ANTHONY is a playwright, artist, and communications specialist based in Oakland, CA. He has been awarded writing fellowships to the Djerassi Resident Artist Program, the Santa Fe Art Institute, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, and the Ragdale Foundation. Terence's plays include *Burners* (nominated for four 2017 Ovation Awards), *Euphrates* (Max K. Lerner Playwriting Fellowship), *Tombolo* (Finalist for the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference), and *Blood and Thunder* (LA Weekly Award Winner). Terence's plays have been performed and developed at the Bay Area Playwrights Festival, PlayPenn, Moving Arts, Radar LA, La Jolla Playhouse, the Segerstrom Center, Chicago Dramatists, Company of Angels, the Great Plains Theatre Conference, and the Last Frontier Theatre Conference.

EXTRAS

Watch: [The Making of The House of the Negro Insane](#) | **Watch:** [Interview with Terence](#) | **Read:** [The Dramaturgical Companion](#)



Terence Anthony, Kevin Artigue, Melissa Crespo,
Tamilla Woodard, Theresa M. Davis, and Sharath Patel

CATFUNMUTED pod

INTRODUCING THE **NEW** CATFUNMUTED Podcast

CATF's new podcast gives you a backstage tour of developing new plays - from the first draft to opening night! The inaugural podcast season showcases the storytellers, characters, and playmakers who are bringing *Sheepdog* and *The House of the Negro Insane* to life.

FIND **CATFUNMUTEDPOD** ON APPLE PODCASTS, GOOGLE PODCASTS, OVERCAST, AND POCKETCASTS, WHICH ARE ALL FREE APPS!

Episode Release Dates:

SHEEPDOG SERIES

JULY 10 - Meet the Storytellers

PLAYWRIGHT **KEVIN ARTIGUE** AND DIRECTOR **MELISSA CRESPO**

JULY 14 - Meet the Character

AMINA

JULY 17 - Meet the Playmakers

SOUND DESIGNER **SHARATH PATEL**

SHEEPDOG SERIES SPONSORED BY MARJORIE WEINGOLD

THE HOUSE OF THE NEGRO INSANE SERIES

JULY 21 - Meet the Storytellers

PLAYWRIGHT **TERENCE ANTHONY**, DIRECTOR **TAMILLA WOODARD**,
AND DRAMATURG **THERESA M. DAVIS**

SPONSORED BY MARTHA MOSS

JULY 24 - Meet the Characters

ATTIUS, EFFIE, MADELEINE, AND HENRY

SPONSORED BY JOHN ARRINGTON & LINDA KING

JULY 25 - Meet the Playmakers

COMPOSER **NEHEMIAH LUCKETT**

SPONSORED BY MARTHA MOSS

COMPANY BIOS



MELISSA CRESPO**
DIRECTOR
Sheepdog

Melissa is a director of new plays, musicals, and opera. She is thrilled to return to CATF. Recent credits: *I and You* (Syracuse Stage), *The Cooking Project* (Dominican Artist Collective/NYTW Artist Instigator), *Promenade* (NYU Tisch Artist-in-Residence). Her play *Egress*, co-written with Sarah Saltwick, will receive a world premiere at Amphibian Stage this fall. Fellowships and Residencies: Stonehenge NYC Still Standing Residency (Current), Time Warner Fellow (WP Theatre), The Director's Project (Drama League), Van Lier Directing Fellow (Second Stage Theatre), Allen Lee Hughes Directing Fellow (Arena Stage). She is currently the Editor for *3Views on Theater* and received her MFA in Directing from The New School for Drama.

melissacrespo.com



TAMILLA WOODARD**
DIRECTOR
The House of the Negro Insane

Tamilla is the Co-Artistic Director of Working Theater as well as the co-founder of PopUP Theatrics, which has created immersive and participatory theatre for audiences in Europe, South America, Mexico, and the US since 2007. She's an alum of The Lincoln Center Director's Lab, a usual suspect at New York Theatre Workshop, and alum of the WP Theater Directors Lab, which she currently facilitates. She was the Associate Director of *Hadestown* on Broadway, and recently named one of 50 Women To Watch on Broadway. Tamilla is a graduate of Yale School of Drama, where she also currently chairs the acting department.

tamilla.com

**TABATHA GAYLE***

(she/her)

ACTOR***The House of the Negro Insane***

Tabatha is a black multi-disciplinary creator and performer. As a director, actor, writer, and poet, she has worked with companies and off-Broadway theaters such as HERE Arts Center, Musical Theater Factory, Poetic Theater Productions, Ars Nova (ANT Fest), Prelude Festival, Out of Chaos (UK), The Tank, New York Musical Festival, The Bushwick Starr, New York Theater Workshop, The Resident Acting Company of New York, and Virginia Stage Company. She is a Resident Artist with New Light Theater Project.

**CANDACE GRACE****ACTOR*****The House of the Negro Insane***

Candace Grace is a New Orleans native. A 2020 MFA Acting graduate of Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University, Grace received a BFA from University of Louisiana at Lafayette. *The House of the Negro Insane* marks the first professional theater/audio role for Grace since graduating.

**CHRISTOPHER HALLADAY*****ACTOR*****The House of the Negro Insane***

Off-Broadway: *In Masks Outrageous and Austere* (World premiere of Tennessee Williams' last full-length play) at the Culture Project, The Actor's Company Theatre, The Ensemble Studio Theatre, Abingdon Theatre. Regional Theater: LunaStage, Palm Beach Dramaworks, South Coast Repertory Theatre, A Noise Within, Pasadena Playhouse, Shakespeare Orange County, Mile Square Theater, Montréal Fringe Festival. TV: *FBI*, *Ray Donovan*, *God Friended Me*, *The Blacklist*, *Mr. Robot*, *Limitless*, *The Unusuals*, *All My Children*, *Guiding Light*. Film: *American Insurrection*, *Tale of the Wet Dog*, *Stella's Last Weekend*, *Movie Night*, *February*, *Hide the Sausage*. He is an Adjunct Professor of Acting, Theater Appreciation, American Contemporary Theater, Theater History and Stage Make-Up. He currently teaches at Rutgers University and the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Former instructor at Rider University, New York Conservatory of Dramatic Arts, and Montclair State University.

christopherhalladay.com



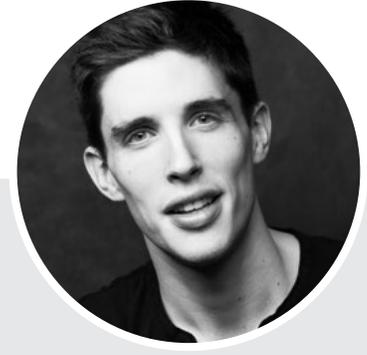
MYXOLYDIA TYLER*
ACTOR
Sheepdog

Off Broadway: *The House That Will Not Stand* (Spring 2017 Reading at Manhattan Theatre Workshop); *A Season to Unravel* (Signature Theatre's workshop production). Regional Highlights: *Detroit '67* (McCarter Theatre and Hartford Stage); *Well Intentioned Whited People* (Barrington Stage); *A Raisin in the Sun* (Arkansas Rep); *All The Way* (St. Louis Rep); *The Mountaintop* (Vermont Stage and Baltimore Center Stage). Television: *New Amsterdam*, *Manifest*, *Homeland*, *I am Homicide*. Teaching: Lincoln Center Education, Pomona University, Harlem School of the Arts, The Conservatory for the Dramatic Arts of Film and Television, The Acting Studio. She is a Hermitage Artists Fellow and just finished writing her first commissioned production of *Freebird: The Early Life of Sarah Vaughan* for NJPAC Education Assemblies Program. Myxolydia can currently be seen in the starring role of Berta in Everyman Theatre's current production of *Berta, Berta*, which had its world premiere at CATF in 2018.



WILLIAM OLIVER WATKINS*
ACTOR
The House of the Negro Insane

Stage: *Jordan* (Northern Stage world premiere), *Thirst* (CATF world premiere); *Sweat, Ruined, Jackie & Me*, *One Night in Miami*, *As You Like It* (Denver Center); *Snakeskin Suit*, *Nodding Off* (EST world premieres); *Othello*, *Twelfth Night* (Cincinnati Shakes); *Antigone*, *Camp Logan* (Nat'l Black Theatre); *The Christians*, *Merchant of Venice* (Gulfshore Playhouse); *Great Expectations* (Syracuse Stage); *Lombardi* (Cleveland Playhouse); *Moss Hart Story* (Good Theater); *Nursery Rhymes at the 99*, *Duck Sauce* (AND); *I Knew King When He Was Nobody* (Abingdon); *A Raisin in the Sun* (Studio Arena). Screen: *40-Year Old Version* (Sundance Best Direction Award Winner); *Bull*; *Wu-Tang's American Saga*; *L&O*; *SVU*; *Blindspot*; *The Blacklist: Redemption*; *Madam Secretary*; *Forever*; *Nasty Baby*; *Nurse Jackie*; *Rescue Me*; *NY 22*; *Canterbury's Law*. Training: BFA from Webster Conservatory. Will is originally from Cincinnati, OH.



JOHN ZDROJESKI*
ACTOR
Sheepdog

John is an actor and singer/songwriter based out of New York City. Off-Broadway: *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* (Playwrights Horizons, Special Citation Obie); *Before We're Gone* (13th Street Theatre); *Monster* (Potomac Theatre Project). Regional: *Romeo and Juliet* (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company and Huntington Theatre Company); *10x10* (Barrington Stage Company); *The Kite Runner* (New Repertory Theatre). Film/TV: *Evil* (upcoming), *The Breakdown Parables* (upcoming), *Billions*, *The Code*, *Madam Secretary*. Education: NYU (MFA) and Boston University (BFA). His debut EP *Primitive* is available on all streaming services.

THERESA M. DAVIS
EQUITY LIAISON,
DRAMATURG, & STREET
PARTIES DIRECTOR
The House of the
Negro Insane

Theresa M. Davis is an Artist-Educator in 3-D (Dramaturg-Deviser-Director) working to expand the boundaries of creating culturally specific work in academic institutions and beyond. It is her steadfast desire to produce events that speak to diverse audiences and communities - revolutionary theatre that inspires growth and fosters intercultural communication. Theresa collaborated as a dramaturg with the Contemporary American Theater Festival's productions of *The Ashes Under Gait City* and *Dead and Breathing*. She is also CATF's Hostel YOUTH! Director. Tenured at three different institutions, Theresa has taught at Kalamazoo College, West Virginia University, and the University of Virginia where she joined the faculty in 2007 as an Associate Professor of Cross Cultural Performance. As a director she has also enjoyed Guest Artist residencies at Macalester College and Purdue University. Her directing credits include *The Colored Museum*, *The Miser*, *A Piece of My Heart*, *Flyin' West*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *Twelfth Night*, *Mo Pas Connin*, *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf*, *Seven Guitars*, *The African Company Presents Richard III*, *Day of Absence*, *Every Tongue Confess*.

LORI M. DOYLE*
STAGE MANAGER
Sheepdog
The House of the
Negro Insane

It's Lori's 12th CATF season, and might have been her 13th if not for... Lori is ever pleased and honored to be a part of this wonderful company. Her most recent theatrical credits are *Once* at Bucks County Playhouse and a concert version of *Celebration!* at York Theatre Company. Broadway: *The Visit*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (1st revival), *Fela!*, *Jane Eyre: The Musical*, *1776* (1st revival), *Say Goodnight Gracie*, and 11 main-stage productions and numerous gala events for The Roundabout Theatre Company. Regional: multiple productions at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Baltimore Center Stage, La Jolla Playhouse, Westport Country Playhouse, Hartford Stage, The Huntington Theatre Company. Off-Broadway: 2nd Stage Theatre Company, RTC @ The Laura Pels, The NY Shakespeare Festival, The Lambs Theatre Company, Circle Rep, and The American Jewish Theatre. Additional: 82+ Corporate & Special Events with 32 different production companies.

JAEHELLE JOHNSON
ASSISTANT
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Jaechelle Johnson is a Brooklyn based production manager and sound engineer. She is a graduate of UNC School of the Arts School of Design and Production. This is her sixth season with CATF and her third as Associate Production Manager. She can typically be found at St. Ann's Warehouse, Ars Nova, MCC, and New York Theater Workshop. Since quarantine began, she has been consulting with individuals and organizations on how to create diverse and equitable theatre spaces.

**ELECTRA JUDSON
BOX OFFICE ASSOCIATE**

Electra Judson is a third-year box office associate with the Contemporary American Theater Festival. While still a Shepherdstown local at heart, she has recently moved to Atlanta to pursue acting. It has been an incredible honor for her to continue working with the theater company that made her fall in love with this artform.

**NEHEMIAH LUCKETT
COMPOSER**

***The House of the
Negro Insane***

Originally from Jackson, Mississippi, and now a resident of New York City, Nehemiah Lockett has been leading and accompanying choirs for more than 25 years. From an early age he connected his deep love of music to the transformative power of building community through breathing and singing with family and friends. He is a freelance composer, performer, teacher, and music director. Current projects include composing an afro-futurist queer Bible-based opera, *Jonathan and David*, and two new musicals: *A Burning Church* with collaborators Zhailon Levingston and Alex Hare, and *Triple Threats* with Tracy Conyer Lee.

**SERAFINA MAERTEN
MARKETING/PR FELLOW**

Serafina Maerten is a recent graduate from Shepherd University with her B.S. in Communications and Marketing. She will be attending WVU in the fall to pursue her master's in data marketing. This is Serafina's third summer working with CATF in the Front of House Staff and marketing department.

SHARATH PATEL***
SOUND DESIGNER

Sheepdog
The House of the
Negro Insane

Sharath is a Portland, Oregon-based designer who works nationally and internationally focusing on experimental, commercial, academic, and political and socially conscious theatre. Recent designs have been at Portland Center Stage, Rep Theatre of St. Louis, Seattle Children's Theatre, Folger Theatre, ACT Theatre, Artist Rep, American Rep, Seattle Rep, Yale Rep, Cal Shakes, Alabama Shakes, EastWest Players, Marin Theatre Company. Additional work in New York City, Washington D.C., Boston, Norfolk, Raleigh, Aspen, India, France, England, Germany, and Romania. He has previously served as a visiting assistant professor, lead designer, guest artist, instructor, or lecturer at Reed College, Whitman College, Yale, Fordham, Columbia, Willamette, Ohio, Portland State, and Butler Universities. He is a member of USA829 as well as the Theatrical Sound Designers and Composers Association. Sharath is also an Arts Envoy for the U.S. Department of State and a Resident Artists at Artist Rep. He is excited to be returning to CATF. MFA: Yale School of Drama.

sharathpatel.com

KIRSTEN TRUMP
DIALECT COACH

Sheepdog
The House of the
Negro Insane

Kirsten is a Professor of Theatre at Shenandoah Conservatory in Winchester, VA where she directs and teaches Voice and Speech for the Actor, Dialects, and Voiceover. Most recently at SU, Kirsten directed the Caryl Churchill adaptation of Strindberg's *A Dream Play* filmed for a virtual audience. She coached a Wisconsin dialect for LAByrinth Theater's command Zoom performance of *Our Lady of 121st Street* by Stephen Adly Gurgus, and her voice could be heard in CATF's summer of 2020 performance series in *Ushuaia Blue* by Caridad Svich. She is a published voiceover artist, lyricist, and poet. Her first book of poetry, *Songs from the Sleepy Creek* was published last year. Kirsten's CATF connection spans three decades, having collaborated on many initiatives and coached over 25 plays.

MARK VAN HARE
COMPOSER

Sheepdog

Mark Van Hare is a composer, sound designer, and audio engineer working in New York City. Recent credits include: *Oh My Sweet Land* and *Villa* with The Play Company; *Life Sucks* at the Acorn Theatre; *Brother Toad* at Kansas City Repertory Theatre; *Refuge Malja* and *Lost Boy Found in Whole Foods* at Portland Stage (Portland, Maine); *Paris!* and *Nutcracker Rouge!* with COMPANY XIV at Irondale Theatre; *Men On Boats*, *The Wild Party*, and *Icarus* with The Yale Dramatic Association. Mark is currently the technical director for <The Get Up> podcast on Spotify.

markvanhare.com

PRODUCTION HISTORY

2021 playcastplus

2020 CATFUNMUTED

2019 *My Lord, What A Night* by Deborah Brevoort*^
Support Group For Men by Ellen Fairey
Wrecked by Greg Kalleres*
A Welcome Guest: A Psychotic Fairy Tale
by Michael Weller**
Chester Bailey by Joseph Dougherty
Antonio's Song / I Was Dreaming Of A Son
by Dael Orlandersmith & Antonio Edwards Suarez*

2018 *The Cake* by Bekah Brunstetter
Berta, Berta by Angelica Chéri*
Memoirs Of A Forgotten Man by D.W. Gregory*^
Thirst by C.A. Johnson*
A Late Morning (In America) With
Ronald Reagan by Michael Weller*
The House On The Hill by Amy E. Witting*

2017 *The Niceties* by Eleanor Burgess
Welcome to Fear City by Kara Lee Corthron*
Wild Horses by Allison Gregory*^
Byhalia, Mississippi by Evan Linder
Everything is Wonderful by Chelsea Marcantel*
We Will Not Be Silent by David Meyers*

2016 *pen/man/ship* by Christina Anderson
Not Medea by Allison Gregory*^
The Wedding Gift by Chisa Hutchinson*
20th Century Blues by Susan Miller*
The Second Girl by Ronan Noone

2015 *World Builders* by Johnna Adams*
Everything You Touch by Sheila Callaghan
On Clover Road by Steven Dietz*^
WE ARE PUSSY RIOT by Barbara Hammond**
The Full Catastrophe by Michael Weller*

2014 *The Ashes Under Gait City* by Christina Anderson*
One Night by Charles Fuller
Uncanny Valley by Thomas Gibbons*^
North of the Boulevard by Bruce Graham
Dead and Breathing by Chisa Hutchinson*

2013 *A Discourse on the Wonders of the Invisibile*
World by Liz Duffy Adams*
Modern Terrorism, or They Who Want to Kill Us
and How We Learn to Love Them by Jon Kern
H2O by Jane Martin**
Heartless by Sam Shepard
Scott and Hem in the Garden of Allah
by Mark St. Germain**

2012 *Gidion's Knot* by Johnna Adams*
The Exceptionals by Bob Clyman
In a Forest, Dark and Deep by Neil LaBute
Captors by Evan M. Wiener
Barcelona by Bess Wohl*

2011 *From Prague* by Kyle Bradstreet*
Race by David Mamet
Ages of the Moon by Sam Shepard
We Are Here by Tracy Thorne
The Insurgents by Lucy Thurber**

2010 *The Eelwax Jesus 3-D Pop Music Show*
by Max Baker & Lee Sellars*
Lidless by Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig
Breadcrumbs by Jennifer Haley*
Inana by Michele Lowe
White People by J.T. Rogers

2009 *The History of Light* by Eisa Davis
Yankee Tavern by Steven Dietz
Dear Sara Jane by Victor Lodato
Fifty Words by Michael Weller
Farragut North by Beau Willimon

2008 *Stick Fly* by Lydia R. Diamond
A View of the Harbor by Richard Dresser*
Pig Farm by Greg Kotis
WRECKS by Neil LaBute
The Overwhelming by J.T. Rogers

2007 *Lonesome Hollow* by Lee Blessing*
My Name is Rachel Corrie from then writings of Rachel
Corrie, edited by Alan Rickman and Katharine Viner
The Pursuit of Happiness by Richard Dresser
1001 by Jason Grote

2006 *Augusta* by Richard Dresser*
Jazzland by Keith Glover**
Mr. Marmalade by Noah Haidle
Sex, Death and the Beach Baby by Kim Merrill*

2005 *Augusta* by Richard Dresser+
Jazzland by Keith Glover++
Sonia Flew by Melinda Lopez
On the Verge or the Geography
of Yearning by Eric Overmyer~
The God of Hell by Sam Shepard
American Tet by Lydia Stryk*
Father Joy by Sheri Wilner*

2004 *Amazing* by Brooke Berman~
Flag Day by Lee Blessing*
Rounding Third by Richard Dresser
Homeland Security by Stuart Flack
The Rose of Corazon: ATexas Songplay
by Keith Glover**
Father Joy by Sheri Wilner+

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

PRODUCTION HISTORY, CONTINUED

- 2003** *Whores* by Lee Blessing*
Flag Day by Lee Blessing+
Bright Ideas by Eric Coble
The Clandestine Crossing by Keith Glover+
The Last Schwartz by Deborah Zoe Lauffer
Wilder by Erin Cressida Wilson
- 2002** *Thief River* by Lee Blessing
Rounding Third by Richard Dresser+
Silence of God by Catherine Filloux**
The Late Henry Moss by Sam Shepard
Orange Flower Water by Craig Wright*
Melissa Arctic by Craig Wright+
- 2001** *Tape* by Stephen Belber
Carol Mulrone by Stephen Belber+
Silence of God by Catherine Filloux++
The Ecstasy of Saint Theresa by John Olive*
The Occupation by Harry Newman*
The Pavilion by Craig Wright
Orange Flower Water by Craig Wright+
- 2000** *Something in the Air* by Richard Dresser
Mary and Myra by Catherine Filloux*
Miss Golden Dreams, A Play Cycle
by Joyce Carol Oates*
Hunger by Sheri Wilner*
- 1999** *Coyote on a Fence* by Bruce Graham
Compleat Female Stage Beauty by Jeffrey Hatcher**
Flo's Ho's by Julia Jordan*
Tatjana in Color by Julia Jordan++
The Water Children by Wendy MacLeod
- 1998** *Gun-Shy* by Richard Dresser
Interesting Times by Preston Foerder**
Carry the Tiger to the Mountain by Cherylene Lee**
BAFO by Tom Strellich
- 1997** *Lighting Up the Two Year Old* by Benjie Aerenson
Below the Belt by Richard Dresser
Demonology by Kelly Stuart
CATF Dance Ensemble
- 1996** *Tough Choices for the New Century* by Jane Anderson
The Nina Variations by Steven Dietz
The Nose by Elizabeth Egloff
Octopus by Jon Klein*
Bad Girls by Joyce Carol Oates*
- 1995** *Betty the Yeti* by Jon Klein
Maggie's Riff by Jon Lipsky
Psyche Was Here by Lynn Martin*
Voir Dire by Joe Sutton
- 1994** *What are Tuesdays Like?* by Victor Bumbalo*
Shooting Simone by Lynne Kaufman
Spike Heels by Theresa Rebeck
Forgiving Typhoid Mary by Mark St. Germain
- 1993** *A Contemporary Masque* by Stephen Bennett
Dream House by Darrah Cloud
Alabama Rain by Heather McCutchen
Black by Joyce Carol Oates
- 1992** *The Baby Dance* by Jane Anderson
The Swan by Elizabeth Egloff
Still Waters by Lynn Martin*
Static by Ben Siegler
- 1991** *Accelerando* by Lisa Loomer
Welcome to the Moon by John Patrick Shanley

** world premiere; commissioned by CATF

* world premiere

^ NNPN Rolling World Premiere

++ staged reading; commissioned by CATF

+ staged reading

~ CATF Actors' Lab Workshop

SPECIAL THANKS

SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY PARTNERS

Adam Paige
Department of Contemporary Art & Theater
Faculty & Staff
Dr. Rob Tudor
Holly Frye
Jack Shaw
Jacquelyn Fluker
Jayne Angle
kb saine
Liz Sechler & Residence Life
President Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix
Shelley Shaffer & Facilities Staff
Shepherd University Campus Police
Sonya Sholley & Office of the President Staff
Traci Morris
Valerie Owens

MEDIA PARTNERS

Broadway World
DC Metro Theater Arts
Martinsburg Journal
MD Theater Guide
The Observer
Shepherdstown Chronicle
Spirit of Jefferson
The Washington Diplomat
The Washington Post
The Washington Times
WEPM & WLTF, West Virginia Radio Corporation
West Virginia Public Broadcasting
WRNR, Talk Radio

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Mayor Jim Auxer & the Shepherdstown Town Council
WV State Legislative Members of the Eastern Panhandle
Randall Reid-Smith, Lance Schrader, &
West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History
Chelsea A. Ruby, West Virginia Tourism Office
Eric Waggoner, West Virginia Humanities Council
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playcast^{plus}

contemporaryamerican**theater**festival
AT SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY

JULY 2021

9 FRI

DowntownShepherdstown^{live}

Kick off the playcast^{plus} season with live entertainment from local artists

FREE / RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

10 SAT

CATF^{UNMUTED} Podcast

Sheepdog Series:
Meet the Storytellers

FREE

14 WED

CATF^{UNMUTED} Podcast

Sheepdog Series:
Meet the Characters

FREE

16 FRI

DowntownShepherdstown^{live}

Celebrate the global majority artists of CATF with an evening of live entertainment

FREE / RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

17 SAT

CATF^{UNMUTED} Podcast

Sheepdog Series:
Meet the Playmakers

FREE

20 TUE

Take Out & Talk

Grab dinner from your favorite local restaurant and hop online for a conversation with CATF artists

TICKETS REQUIRED

21 WED

CATF^{UNMUTED} Podcast

The House of the Negro Insane Series:
Meet the Storytellers

FREE

23 FRI theplaycast



TICKETS REQUIRED

27 TUE

Take Out & Talk

Grab dinner from your favorite local restaurant and hop online for a conversation with CATF artists

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24 SAT

CATF^{UNMUTED} Podcast

The House of the Negro Insane Series:
Meet the Characters

FREE

25 SUN

CATF^{UNMUTED} Podcast

The House of the Negro Insane Series:
Meet the Playmakers

FREE

30 FRI theplaycast



TICKETS REQUIRED

AUDIO PLAYS

PODCASTS

STREET PARTIES

This summer, CATF is taking to the **airwaves** and to the **streets!** Our **playcast** features two plays recorded as audio dramas by professional, talented CATF actors. **plus** - you'll have a chance to listen to the plays at in-person street parties and learn about the shows with the pre-release podcast series.

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