4.48 Psychosis
By Sarah Kane
Directed by Paul Backer
McClintock Theatre
October 2–5, 2014
USC School of Dramatic Arts
PRESENTS

4:48 Psychosis

By Sarah Kane

WITH (in alphabetical order)
Delaney Brokman   Tara Dervin   Michael DiNardo
Caroline Dingwall   Margaret Kelly   Isabel Lemon
Rebecca Mellinger   Anna Pazderski   Katie Peabody   Jared Sandler

SCENIC DESIGN
Sarah Steinman

COSTUME DESIGN
Tina Haatainen-Jones

LIGHTING DESIGN
Liam Sterbinksy

SOUND DESIGN
Emma Bramble

PRODUCTION/VIDEO DESIGN
Nicholas Santiago

STAGE MANAGER
Jessica Major

DIRECTED BY
Paul Backer

McClintock Theatre
October 2-5, 2014

Produced by special arrangement with Casarotto Ramsay & Associates Ltd.
Cast of Characters
(in order of appearance)
Delaney Brokman
Tara Dervin
Michael DiNardo
Caroline Dingwall
Margaret Kelly
Isabel Lemon
Rebecca Mellinger
Anna Pazderski
Katie Peabody
Jared Sandler

Time
The present

Place
Inside the “suicidal mind”

There will be no intermission.

Please be advised that this production contains adult language and themes.

PRODUCTION STAFF
Vocal Coach | Andrea Odinov Fuller
Movement Coach | Anastasia Coon
Scenic Artist | Sarah Steinman
Assistant Stage Manager | Kat Brannan-Williams
Scenic Production Assistant | Michelle Black
Costume Production Assistant | Marly Hall
Sound & Projection Production Assistant | Jacob Magnin
Crew | Sarah Fanella, Cyrus Hobbi, Gwendolyn Brook Lewis, Abigail Mark, Bennett Saltzman

DIRECTOR'S BIO
Dr. Paul Backer is an Associate Professor of Theatre Practice and Director of Undergraduate Voice and Movement at the USC School of Dramatic Arts. He has worked as an actor, director and in production on stage, television and film, and was the Artistic Director of the Ojai Shakespeare Festival for 16 years. At USC, he last directed Fefu and Her Friends by Maria Irene Fornés.

AUTHOR’S BIO
Sarah Kane (1971-1999) was a British playwright who exploded into the theatre world in 1995 with her first play Blasted, written when she was 23. In the course of her short career during the 1990s, her plays were brilliant, experimental and controversial, possessing a sense of wickedly funny “gallows humor.” They were highly influential on a new generation of theatre artists. Suffering from depression her entire life, she wrote 4.48 Psychosis as a “theatrical poem” to try to depict on stage the “inner drama” and struggle of a suicidal mind. A few weeks after completing the play, she took her life while in a psychiatric hospital.
Sarah Kane on 4.48 Psychosis:
“[It’s] about a psychotic breakdown and what happens to a person’s mind when the barriers which distinguish between reality and different forms of imagination completely disappear, so that you no longer know the difference between your waking life and your dream life...[a] split between one’s consciousness and one’s physical being. For me that’s what madness is about.....the only way back to any kind of sanity is to connect physically with who you are emotionally, spiritually and mentally.... On the whole [my plays] are about love and about survival and about hope.”
(Interview with Nils Tabert)

Edwin S. Shneidman, 
The Suicidal Mind (1996):
“In almost every case, suicide is caused by pain, a certain kind of pain — psychological pain, which I call psychache. Furthermore, this psychache stems from thwarted or distorted psychological needs. In other words, suicide is chiefly a drama in the mind..... Suicide is the result of an interior dialogue.... It is almost as though the suicidal drama were autonomously writing itself, as though the play had a mind of its own.”

“Every night I am sane. If only I could get out of this enchanted chair, it would last. I should be a man again.... For now that I am myself I can remember that enchanted life, thought while I was enchanted I could not remember my true self.”
(C. S. Lewis, The Silver Chair)

“One lifts up the curtain, and passes to the other side, — that is all!”
(Goethe, The Sorrows of Young Werther)

SPECIAL THANKS
Dr. Summer Neilson Moshy, Dr. Mary Weathers.
DEAN
Madeline Puzo

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Oliver Mayer

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Takeshi Kata
Tom Ontiveros
Sibyl Wickersheimer

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Andrei Belgrader
Natsuko Ohama
Andrew J. Robinson

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS OF THEATRE PRACTICE
Philip G. Allen
Paul Backer (Director of Undergraduate Voice and Movement)
Brent Blair (Director of MA in Applied Theatre Arts)
Elsbeth M. Collins (Director of Production)
Anita Dashiel-Sparks
Christina Haatainen-Jones (Director of Design)
Joseph Hacker
Duncan Mahoney (Technical Director)
Mary-Joan Negro (Director of BA Acting Courses)
Jack Rowe (Artistic Director, Director of BFA Acting Courses)
Stephanie Shroyer (Associate Artistic Director)
Eric Trules

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS OF THEATRE PRACTICE
Randy Mell
John DeMita
David Warshofsky

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Debra DeLiso, Kathleen Dunn-Muzingo, Frank Dwyer, Dan Fishbach, Jeff Flowers, David
Franklin, Parmer Fuller, Caitlin Gannon, Terry Gordon, Andrew J. Henkes, Michael Keenan,
Mary K Klinger, Shishir Kurup, Edgar Landa, Vicki Lewis, Helene Lorenz, Heather Lyle,
Marjo-Riikka Makela, Babette Markus, Kevin McCorkle, Debbie McMahon, Laurel Meade,
Lauren Murphy, Ntare Guma Mbaho Mwine, Patrick Pankhurst, Leah Piehl, John Rubinstein,
Mady Schultzman, Janet Shulman, Colin Sieburgh, Zachary Steel, Jason Thompson, Ella
Turenne, Laura Vena, Matt Walker, Julie Welch

Courtesy Joint Appointments: Thomas G. Cummings, Larry E. Greiner (Emeritus), Bruce Smith
Emeriti Faculty: Don Llewellyn, Eve Roberts, Robert R. Scales, James Wilson
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To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday
By Michael Brady
Directed by Cameron Watson
Scene Dock Theatre
October 2–5, 2014

4.48 Psychosis
By Sarah Kane
Directed by Paul Backer
McClintock Theatre
October 2–5, 2014

Dark of the Moon
By Howard Richardson
and William Berney
Directed by John DeMita
Bing Theatre
October 9–12, 2014

The Dream of the Burning Boy
By David West Read
Directed by Edward Edwards
Scene Dock Theatre
October 23–26, 2014

Summer Brave
By William Inge
Directed by Robert Bailey
McClintock Theatre
October 30–November 2, 2014

Cat Among the Pigeons
By Georges Feydeau
Translated by John Mortimer
Directed by Michael Keenan
Bing Theatre
November 6–9, 2014

Anna in the Tropics
By Nilo Cruz
Directed by Denise Blasor
McClintock Theatre
November 20–23, 2014

The American Clock
By Arthur Miller
Directed by Cameron Watson
Scene Dock Theatre
November 20–23, 2014

MFA Acting Spring Repertory*
Scene Dock Theatre
February 7–March 8, 2015

The Seagull
By Anton Chekhov
Directed by Kate Burton

The Servant of Two Masters
By Carlo Goldoni
Translated by Sylvie Drake
Directed by Andrew J. Robinson

Blood Match
By Oliver Mayer
Translated and adapted from the play Bodas de Sangre
by Federico García Lorca
Directed by David Bridel

Red Noses
By Peter Barnes
Directed by Stephanie Shroyer
McClintock Theatre
February 26–March 1, 2015

As You Like It
By William Shakespeare
Bing Theatre
March 5–8, 2015

The Way of the World
By William Congreve
Directed by John DeMita
Scene Dock Theatre
April 2–5, 2015

Grease
Book, Music and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey
Directed by Brian Kite
Bing Theatre
April 2–12, 2015

The Waiting Room
By Lisa Loomer
Directed by Larissa Kokernot
McClintock Theatre
April 9–12, 2015

New Works Festival Year 2
The Master of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing
Playwrights Workshop
Massman Theatre
April 10–26, 2015

BFA Sophomore Show
Directed by Jack Rowe
McClintock Theatre
April 23–26, 2015

Crumbs from the Table of Joy
By Lynn Nottage
Directed by Gregg T. Daniel
Scene Dock Theatre
April 23–26, 2015

New Works Festival Year 3
The Master of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing
Play Project
The Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse
May 26–30, 2015

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