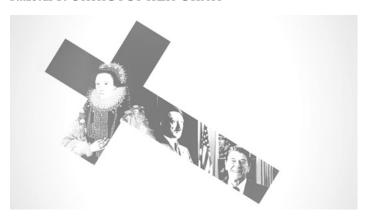
# PASSION PLAY BY SARAH RUHL DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER SHAW



# PUNK ROCK BY SIMON STEPHENS DIRECTED BY LISA JAMES



## USC School of Dramatic Arts PRESENTS

# **BFA SENIOR ACTING REPERTORY**

## PASSION PLAY | PUNK ROCK

Scene Dock Theatre • October 12-22, 2017

#### THE COMPANY (in alphabetical order)

Yelena Akopian Haley Spence Brown Reed Michael Campbell Antonio Chicco Iustin Chien Samantha Dammeyer David Phillip Fishman Ali Gallo Marc Hills Parker Huseby Kyra-Michelle Jacobs Joelle Jacoby Alison Jaye Camron Jones Aubrey Rhodes Sydney Skidmore Andrew Teplitz Graham Vines Patrick Wallace Brandon Warfield Isabelle Yamin Eva Zakula

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#### REPERTORY PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

#### PASSION PLAY

Thursday, October 12 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 14 at 8:00 p.m. Sunday, October 15 at 2:30 p.m. Friday, October 20 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 21 at 2:30 p.m.

#### **PUNK ROCK**

Friday, October 13 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 14 at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, October 19 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 20 at 8:00 p.m. Sunday, October 22 at 2:30 p.m.

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# **PASSION PLAY**

By Sarah Ruhl

SCENIC DESIGN

Don Llewelyn & Carla Estefani Rubio

LIGHTING DESIGN Adam Blumenthal

SOUND DESIGN Ethan Zeitman COSTUME DESIGN Erica Park

STAGE MANAGER Savannah Harrow

Directed by Christopher Shaw

#### CAST OF CHARACTERS (in order of appearance)

Pontius the Fish Gutter, Foot Soldier, P Joelle Jacoby Reed Michael Campbell Visiting Friar, Visiting

John the Fisherman,

Eric. J

Parker Huseby

Marv 1 Eva Zakula

Marv 2

Aubrey Rhodes

Director Marc Hills Village Idiot, Violet

Englishman, Ensemble David Phillip Fishman

Carpenter 1, Ensemble Brandon Warfield

Carpenter 2, Ensemble Camron Jones

Machinist, VA Psychiatrist,

**Ensemble** Yelena Akopian

German Officer, Young Director, Ensemble Andrew Teplitz

Queen Elizabeth, Ensemble

Haley Spence Brown

Hitler, Ensemble Isabelle Yamin

Ronald Reagan, Ensemble Sydney Skidmore

PART ONE SETTING A village in Northern England, 1575. PART TWO SETTING Oberammergau in Bavaria, Germany, 1934. PART THREE SETTING Spearfish, South Dakota, 1969 - present.

There will be two 10-minute intermissions.

WARNING Please be advised that this production contains smoking of herbal cigarettes, mature themes and language, as well as partial nudity.

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

The Passion Play (the play within the play in this production) is a play that tells the story of the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. Productions of the Passion of Christ emerging out of communities all over the world began as early as the 1300s and continue to this day. Often a group effort within a church or a broader community, the village of Oberammergau in the Bavarian Alps in Germany has been performing The Passion Play every 10 years since the 1600s. A recent production of The Passion Play in Oberammergau in the year 2000 by some reports involved something like 2,500 of the village's 5,000 citizens.

Sarah Ruhl, in her writings on her wonderful and complex play, sites a particular section of the 1970 illustrated catalogue of The Passion Play in Oberammergau:

"Spiritual need as there never was before. The turning away from God and modern man's flight before the world to come have in this world led to perplexity, helplessness, and resignation, to a fight of all against all....Man wanting to be like God and to redeem himself by his own strength has failed deplorably. Is this the reason scores of people flock to (The Passion Play) in Oberammergau?"

—Dr Karl Isper, Das Passions Spiel Oberammergau, official illustrated catalogue, 1970.

#### PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTE

I wrote the first draft of *Passion Play*, part 3 before the 2004 election, with a great sense of urgency. Now it's 2007. It's easy to feel powerless as the great political wheels turn, financed by enormous wealth. But then you get to thinking about what starts every grass-roots revolution — people organizing in one room. Luckily that very special right is protected by our Constitution. And as ill-suited as some theater artists are to some meanings of the word organization — there is one thing all of us tend to do well, and that is to organize people to come to one room. It is not that the play is a political treatise — not at all — but it does provide us with another occasion to be in one room together as we continue to meditate on the relationship of community to political icons. And to meditate on what we can do to affect change in very solemn times indeed. —*Sarah Rubl* 

Christopher Shaw is an Assistant Professor of Theatre Practice at the USC School of Dramatic Arts in Acting and Directing. Mr. Shaw has worked professionally in theatre, film and TV in NYC and LA, as well as at numerous renowned regional theaters. Recent work as an actor includes originating the role of Tchaikovsky in the world premier of Tommy Smith's Fugue, directed by Chris Fields, with the award winning Echo Theatre Co in Los Angeles. As a director; Escape From Happiness (USC BFA 2016), Nora (CSULB MFA 2017), How to Disappear Completely and Never be Found (CSUF BFA 2016), The Riot Club (CSUF BFA 2015) and Farragut North (CSUF BFA 2014). Other acting credits include numerous productions of Marvin's Room at Minetta Lane Theatre in NYC, The Kennedy Center and Seattle Rep., The Nancy Keystone and Critical Mass production of Apollo at The Kirk Douglas Theatre and Portland Center Stage, War Music directed by Jessica Kubzansky at The Geffen Playhouse, and the original Echo Theater Co production of War Music (Ovation Award for Best Ensemble and Best Play), and three seasons at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Conference during Lloyd Richard's tenure.

# **PUNK ROCK**

## By Simon Stephens

#### SCENIC DESIGN

Don Llewelyn & Carla Estefani Rubio

COSTUME DESIGN
Ellie Solomon

LIGHTING DESIGN

Antonio Chicco

SOUND DESIGN

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Adam Blumenthal

Dominic Torquato

Iman Khan

## Directed by Lisa James

#### **CAST OF CHARACTERS** (in order of appearance)

William CarlisleCissy FranksChadwick MeadePatrick WallaceSamantha DammeyerGraham VinesLilly CahillNicholas ChatmanDoctor Regina HarveyAlison JayeJustin ChienKyra-Michelle JacobsBennet FrancisTanya Gleason

Ali Gallo

#### TIME

### Present Day

Scene One: October 6th 8:31 a.m.

Scene Two: October 14th 3:30 p.m.

Scene Three: October 30th 12:46 p.m.

Scene Seven: December 24th 11:59 a.m.

Scene Four: November 10th 8:27 a.m.

#### PLACE

The first six scenes of the play are set in a fee-paying grammar school in Stockport.

The seventh scene is set in Suttons Manor Hospital.

#### There will be no intermission.

warning Please be advised that this production contains gun shots; mature languages, themes and content; strobe lighting effects, and the smoking of cigarettes.

SPECIAL THANKS Joseph Stern, Sally Essex-Lopresti, Matthew Glave, Gregg Henry

Director Lisa James is a multi-award winner for her work on Heartstopper (LA Weekly Award); Palladium is Moving, (Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award); Lynn Siefert's Little Egypt; Wendy Macleod's The Water Children, Matrix Theater Company (LADCC nomination and Garland Awards); Justin Tanner's Bitter Women (LADCC Award); Bold Girls, Matrix Theater Company; and The Visible Horse (LADCC and Garland Awards). World premieres include Beth Henley's Tight Pants, Billy Aaronson's The News, ASCAP/Disney presentation Scream (music by David Foster); Justin Tanner's Oklahomo! and Little Egypt The Musical (music/lyrics Gregg Lee Henry) at both the Matrix Theater in L.A. and the Acorn Theater in NYC; Dying is Easy Comedy is Hard EST LA and NYC; End Days at the Odyssey Theater; The West Coast premiere of Smoke by Kim Davies at Rogue Machine. West Coast premiere of Punk Rock for the Odyssey Theater (Ovation Recommended). She is currently developing a new musical That Was Then.

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