

# Breath, Boom

By Kia Corthron

Directed by Anita Dashiell-Sparks

Scene Dock Theatre

April 21-24, 2016



USC School of Dramatic Arts 2015/2016 SEASON

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# USC School of Dramatic Arts

PRESENTS

## Breath, Boom

By Kia Corthron

WITH (in alphabetical order)

Carol Anotinette   Elyssa Blanks   Cherie Carter  
Gianni Coleman   Natalie Galdamez   Jasmine Hayden  
Kari Lawson   Ashley Maimes   Julissa Merius  
Sara Molinar   Gabriela Ortega   Tallulah Winston

SCENIC DESIGN

Grace Wang

COSTUME DESIGN

Holly Victoria

LIGHTING DESIGN

Haley Miller

SOUND DESIGN

Stephen Jensen

PROJECTION DESIGN

Simon Chau

STAGE MANAGER

Lexi Hettick

DIRECTED BY

Anita Dashiell-Sparks

Scene Dock Theatre | April 21–24, 2016

*Breath, Boom* is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

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

<b>Comet</b> Carol Anotinette	<b>Fuego</b> Tallulah Winston
<b>Prix</b> Elyssa Blanks	<b>Counselor</b> Jasmine Hayden
<b>Angel</b> Gabriela Ortega	<b>Denise</b> Sara Molinar
<b>Malika</b> Cherie Carter	<b>Socks</b> Jasmine Hayden
<b>Jerome</b> Gianni Coleman	<b>Pepper</b> Natalie Galdamez
<b>Mother</b> Julissa Merius	<b>Girl</b> Ashley Maimes
<b>Cat</b> Kari Lawson	<b>Jupiter</b> Carol Anotinette
<b>Officer Dray</b> Cherie Carter	<b>Jo</b> Ashley Maimes
<b>Shondra</b> Julissa Merius	<b>Jo's Friend</b> Tallulah Winston

**TIME:** 1986–2000.

**PLACE:** Bronx, New York.

There will be no intermission.

**WARNING** Please be advised that this production contains adult language and themes, smoking of herbal cigarettes, and staged violence and abuse of sexual nature.

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**PRODUCTION STAFF**

*Hair & Make-up Design* Holly Victoria | *Vocal Coach* Kathleen S. Dunn-Muzingo

*Fight Choreography* Edgar Landa | *Scenic Artist* Stephanie Nimick

*Scenic Design PA* Anhthu Kieu | *Lighting Design PA* Abby Light

*Pianist* Kari Lawson | *Crew* Ashley Murphy, Sarah Rosenthal, Michael Yapujian, Layla Shahabi, Larson Emissie

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## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Imagine a world where, as a child,  
you feel that anything is possible.

Imagine a world, as a child, you discover  
that possibility is compromised.

Imagine a world, as a child, your dreams of  
the future turn into the nightmares of today.

Imagine a world, as an adult, you discover  
that you are a product of your environment.

Imagine a world, as an adult, you discover that you are  
entrapped in an institutionalized cycle of oppression,  
an institutionalized cycle of violence and abuse.

Imagine a world, as an adult, where you stop breathing,  
suffocating by the circumstances of your life because  
there is no escape, and you see no exit, no way out.

Imagine a world, as an adult, you see a rainbow in your clouds.

Imagine a world, as an adult, you see that your identity is  
not limited to and defined by what has happened to you.

Imagine a world, as an adult, you are able to “right” your  
own definition of who you are and shed the skin of  
what the world told you, that you are, or should be.

Imagine, the power of your imagination is the  
escape, is the exit, the breath and the boom,  
that will lead you wherever you want to go.

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## DIRECTOR'S BIO

Anita Dashiell-Sparks is an Associate Professor of Theatre Practice, Founder of Building Bridges Community Outreach Program, and USC SDA Diversity Liaison. Broadway Credits: *Night Must Fall*, starring Matthew Broderick; and *The Sunshine Boys*, alongside Tony Randall and Jack Klugman. Off-Broadway/Regional: *I Stand Before You Naked*, *Spunk*, *Blues from an Alabama Sky*, *House of Bernarda Alba* with Chita Rivera and *Massoud: The Lion of Panjshir* (dir., Dominique Serrand) at the Mark Taper Forum, and *Acts of Love* at the Geffen Playhouse. L.A. World Premieres: *Helen* at the Getty Villa; *Memoirs of a Preacher's Daughter* at Ebony Repertory Theatre; *Laws of Sympathy* (Oliver Mayer); *SICK* and *Circus Ugly* with Playwright's Arena. Television/Film: *Lincoln Heights* (NAACP Image Award), *Huff* (w/Angelica Houston), *Friends*, *The West Wing* (recurring), *The Division*. Directing Credits: *Letters from Zora* at the Tony Award-winning Crossroads Theatre Company and two critically acclaimed engagements at The Pasadena Playhouse and the National Black Theatre Festival; *Voices of Our Children* at The Cathedral of Los Angeles; *Girl-Un-Interrupted* for Eve Ensler's V-Day Foundation in New York; *Intimate Apparel*, *The Bluest Eye* (NAACP Theatre Award), and *VENUS* for the USC School of Dramatic Arts. Education: MFA, NYU Graduate Acting Program.

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## SPECIAL THANKS

Linda Luna, Sarah Stoycos, Savannah Harrow, Els Collins, USC Center for Women and Men (Ekta Kumar), USC Student Counseling Services (Ilene Rosenstein), and The Sparks Family (Anthony, Olivia, Langston, & Dashiell) for your support in this creative process.

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Directed by Paul Backer  
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By Willis Hall  
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Directed by Jeremy Skidmore  
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By Nagle Jackson  
Directed by Robert Bailey  
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## Ring Round the Moon

By Jean Anouilh  
Adapted by Christopher Fry  
Directed by Stephanie Shroyer  
MT Oct 29-Nov 1, 2015

## You Can't Take It With You

By George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart  
Directed by Gigi Bermingham  
BT Nov 5-8, 2015

## Marisol

By José Rivera  
Directed by Denise Blasor  
MT Nov 19-22, 2015

## La Ronde

By Arthur Schnitzler  
Translated by Carl Mueller  
Directed by Cameron Watson  
SDT Nov 19-22, 2015

## MFA Acting Repertory

SDT Feb 6-Mar 6, 2016

### Threepenny Opera

Book and Lyrics by Bertolt Brecht  
Music by Kurt Weill  
English adaptation by Marc Blitzstein  
Directed by Andrew J. Robinson

### Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992

By Anna Deavere Smith  
Directed by Gregg T. Daniel

### The Oresteia Project

Written by David Bridel and the MFA Acting Class of 2016  
Inspired by Aeschylus' *Oresteia*  
Directed by David Bridel

## The Learned Ladies

By Molière  
Translated by Richard Wilbur  
Directed by Michael Michetti  
BT Feb 25-28, 2016

## Camille

By Alexandre Dumas  
Translated by Pam Gems  
Directed by Debbie McMahon  
MT Mar 3-6, 2016

## The Country Wife

By William Wycherley  
Directed by John DeMita  
SDT Mar 31-Apr 3, 2016

## A Little Night Music

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim  
Book by Hugh Wheeler  
Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick  
Suggested by a Film by Ingmar Bergman  
Originally Produced & Directed on Broadway by Harold Prince  
Directed by Kelly Ward  
BT Mar 31-Apr 10, 2016

## BFA Sophomore Shows

### The Rimers of Eldritch

By Lanford Wilson  
Directed by Jack Rowe  
MT Apr 7-10, 2016

### Book of Days

By Lanford Wilson  
Directed by Paul Backer  
MT Apr 21-24, 2016

## Breath, Boom

By Kia Corthron  
Directed by Anita Dashiell-Sparks  
SDT Apr 21-24, 2016

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**YEAR 1** New Play Readings  
**Parkside 1016** May 2, 2016

**YEAR 2** Playwrights Workshop  
**MS** Apr 8-24, 2016

**YEAR 3** Play Project  
**MT** May 1, 2016

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KEY: SDT = Scene Dock Theatre BT = Bing Theatre MT = McClintock Theatre MS = Massman Theatre

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