

# MFA Dramatic Writing Year 3 New Works Festival

McClintock Theatre April 20-27, 2023 USC School of Dramatic Arts

presents

## MFA Dramatic Writing Year 3 New Works Festival

## Michaela's Fluent Aphasia

By Christina Carrafiell Directed by John DeMita

## **Weekend Warriors**

ву Adi Eshman Directed by Fran de Leon

bloody noses By Matilda Corley Schulman Directed by David Warshofsky

## McClintock Theatre

April 20-27, 2023

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE *Michaela's Fluent Aphasia* Thurs, April 20, at 7:30 p.m., Sat, April 22, at 8 p.m., Tues, April 25, at 7:30 p.m. *Weekend Warriors* Fri, April 21, at 7:30 p.m., Sun, April 23, at 2:30 p.m., Wed, April 26, at 7:30 p.m. *bloody noses* Sat, April 22, at 2:30 p.m., Mon, April 24, at 7:30 p.m., Thur, April 27, at 7:30 p.m.

## Michaela's Fluent Aphasia By Christina Carrafiell

With

Ben Crane Maddy Curry Lexi Minetree Micah Schneider

Scenic Design **Takeshi Kata** and **Maya Channer** *BFA Design, Sophomore*  Costume Design Juliet Black BFA Design, Sophomore

Lighting and Projection Design G.Austin Allen

Sound Design Alma Reyes-Thomas

Stage Manager **Yaesol Jeong** 

Technical Director **Dominic Vacca** BFA Technical Direction, Senior

### Directed by John DeMita

Please be advised that this production contains discussions of domestic abuse, as well as depictions of surgical procedures. This production also contains use of strobe lighting.

#### NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

This play, Is for the girls; The girls who support, Who help, Who save lives, Who took broken pieces and put them back together again, For language always unknown and misunderstood, Dedicated to those Who wait for life, rather than confronting it, The hopeless romantics and the poets, inside all of us; To those who cannot heal themselves and those who try to heal others. Thank you to my actors and collaborators, my family and friends for their support, and especially my grandfather, Michael O'Connor.

#### ADDITIONAL MICHAELA'S FLUENT APHASIA PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer Oliver Mayer | Associate Director Ian Connolly | Intimacy Director Jaclyn Chantel | Movement Director Caribay Franke | Fight Choreographer Edgar Landa Assistant Stage Manager Lexi Cruz | Stage Management Mentor Leia Crawford Scenic Mentor Takeshi Kata | Hair & Makeup Consultant Juliet Black | Costume Mentor Ann Closs-Farley | Technical Director Mentor Duncan Mahoney | Technical Crew Dylan Beck, Garrett J. Henry, Meu Iwamoto, Ryann Jacobson, Matias Lievano, Zoey Monnissen, Jean Tramontano

## Weekend Warriors By Adi Eshman

With

Will Domke James Donovan Lindsey Esch **Emily Nobel Shyhiem Parker Alex Prout** 

Scenic Design Takeshi Kata and Aarti Patel

Costume Design **Crystal Son**  Lighting Design **Martha Carter** 

BFA Design, Sophomore

BFA Design, Junior Stage Manager

Sound Design Marcus Maia BFA Stage Management, Junior

MJ Adamson

**Technical Director Dominic Vacca** 

BFA Stage Management, Junior

BFA Technical Direction, Senior

### Directed by Fran de Leon

Please be advised that this production contains depictions of WWII reenactors, including those appearing as Nazi soldiers. This production also contains use of firearms onstage, and depictions of intimacy, as well as themes of racial erasure and gender expression discrimination.

#### NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

I don't think any part of history speaks more loudly to me than World War II. It's the perfect story: Heroes, villains, lots of action, and the heroes win in the end.

But ever since Hamilton came out, I've been wondering: How is remembering history also an act of forgetting?

And in our present moment, with all of its tensions and divisions, what and how we choose to remember turns out to matter a lot to our future.

For Weekend Warriors, I decided to follow a group of characters on a journey of remembering, eager to see where it leads.

Thank you to Fran, MJ, and the hardworking cast and crew for making this play come alive. And thank you to the faculty, staff and playwrights at USC for being a support system throughout this journey.

#### ADDITIONAL WEEKEND WARRIORS PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer Oliver Mayer | Intimacy Director Jaclyn Chantel | Reenactment Consultant Alejandro Gehry | Stage Management Mentor Els Collins | Composer Mason Rosse Hair & Makeup Consultant Juliet Black | Costume Mentor Samantha Jones Sound Design Mentor Alma Reyes-Thomas | Technical Director Mentor Duncan Mahoney Technical Crew Johnny Bennett, Ashley Gehl, Sydney Leanna, Mason Rosse, Henry Tsai, Zafina Virani, Biliena Zekarias

## bloody noses By Matilda Corley Schulman

With

Emily Arancio JT Garcia Ella Lao Belle Meyer Tess Patton Zoe Poole Tessa Slovis Brett Wyman

Scenic Design

Takeshi Kata and Sheela Yuan

BFA Design, Sophomore

Costume Design **Maya Channer** *BFA Design, Sophomore* 

Lighting and Projection Design G.Austin Allen

#### Sound Design Alma Reyes-Thomas

Stage Manager Lisa Toudic BA Theatre, Junior Technical Director Dominic Vacca BFA Technical Direction, Senior

### Directed by David Warshofsky

Please be advised that this production deals with dark themes of sexual assault, abuse, and mental illness. It contains depictions of gaslighting, and the assault of a minor by a person in power. This production also contains the use of theatrical haze and strobe lighting.

#### NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

To the girls who have been told to be quiet. To the girls who have been told it didn't happen. To the girls who have been told to move on.

To the girls who need to find their voice again. It's not too far out of reach. I promise. I promise. I promise.

This is a rage song. And a love letter. I think it can be both.

P.S. If your partner asks you what happened in the car...run.

And one last, very important thing, perhaps the most important thing; thank you to everyone who let me be loud again, who told me I could and would be loud again. There are so many of you that don't even know who you are. We'd be here a while if I went down the list. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Just thank you. And the biggest thank you of all... Teresa and Ted, you and P are my whole world.

#### ADDITIONAL BLOODY NOSES PRODUCTION STAFF

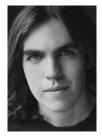
Producer Oliver Mayer | Intimacy Director Jaclyn Chantel | Assistant Stage Manager Lili Ignon | Stage Management Mentor Leia Crawford | Hair & Makeup Consultant Juliet Black | Costume Mentor Ann Closs-Farley | Technical Director Mentor Duncan Mahoney | Technical Crew Arya Hanumara, Lili Ignon, Sophie Ignon, Sydney Kauphusman, Lilah Pate, Sarisha Sabhlok, Giovanni Suarez, Mia Sun

### MFA Dramatic Writing Year 3 New Works Festival

CASTS (In alphabetical order)



Emily Arancio Lou bloody noses MFA Acting, Year 3



Ben Crane Theo Michaela's Fluent Aphasia BA Theatre, Acting Em., First Year



Maddy Curry Michaela Michaela's Fluent Aphasia BA Theatre, Acting Em., Junior



Will Domke Sarge Weekend Warriors BA Theatre, Acting Em., Junior



James Donovan Shuan Weekend Warriors BA Theatre, Senior



Lindsey Esch Jessie Weekend Warriors MFA Acting, Year 3



JT Garcia Cody bloody noses BA Theatre, Acting Em., Senior



Ella Lao Teddy bloody noses BA Theatre, Acting Em., Senior



Belle Meyer Riley bloody noses BA Theatre, Acting Em., Junior



Lexi Minetree Julia Michaela's Fluent Aphasia BA Theatre/BA Public Relations, Junior



Emily Nobel Misha Weekend Warriors BA Theatre, Acting Em., Sophomore



Shyhiem Parker Wade Weekend Warriors MFA Acting, Year 3



Tess Patton Swing Bec/Riley/Teddy bloody noses BA Theatre, Junior



Alex Prout Cameron Weekend Warriors MFA Acting, Year 3



Zoe Poole Bec bloody noses BA Theatre, Acting Em., Sophomore



Micah Schneider Will Michaela's Fluent Aphasia BA Theatre, Acting Em., Sophomore



Tessa Slovis Wife/Waiter/Counselor bloody noses MFA Acting '19



Brett Wyman Coach bloody noses MFA Acting '19

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DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS Velina Hasu Houston (Resident Playwright)

#### PROFESSORS

Sharon Marie Carnicke Meiling Cheng Colman Domingo

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Luis Alfaro Alexandra Billings Takeshi Kata (*Chair of Design*) Sibyl Wickersheimer

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#### ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

OF THEATRE PRACTICE John DeMita Kathleen Dunn-Muzingo Melinda C. Finberg Laura Flanagan

#### ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

OF THEATRE PRACTICE Boni B. Alvarez Bayo Akinfemi **Kirstin Eggers** Scott Faris (Alice M. Pollitt Professor of Stage Management) Stevie Johnson Rena M. Heinrich (Chair of Critical Studies & Dramatic Writing, Chair of Literary Committee) Noel Nichols Dan Shaner (Director of Professional Development) Zachary Steel (Director of Comedy) Rodnev To

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#### ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The USC School of Dramatic Arts fosters the talents of artistscholars who are dramatically different — who are willing to imagine the future of the entertainment industry and bring it to life. Through an interdisciplinary, entrepreneurial education students develop the skills necessary to discover their unique voice and are exposed to diverse styles and multiple media. Students and recent alumni are supported by the School's unique Professional Development Center which offers career services and professionalization opportunities to help students establish and sustain successful careers as creators, performers and cultural innovators.

For more information, please visit dramaticarts.usc.edu.

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The USC School of Dramatic Arts would like to recognize the generosity of the following individuals and organizations who have supported the School over the past year towards core programs such as production, professional development, scholarship, Dean's Strategic Fund and our new Drama Center. We recognize at the visionary level those donors whose tremendous generosity has reached the cumulative giving level of \$1 million+. Their extraordinary commitment has built the foundation for our continued ascent and future achievements.

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