The Belle's Stratagem

By Hannah Cowley
Scene Dock Theatre
April 6–April 16, 2023
USC School of Dramatic Arts presents

The Belle’s Stratagem

By Hannah Cowley

With

Jordan Anderson  Caleb Kocsis
Maya Ben-Harush  Collette McCurdy
Aaliyah Brathwaite  Aneesa Monet
Luke Bucaro  Patricia Ogbac
Jordan Cooper  Rory Quinn
KJ Dawson  Adrian Quinonez
Malika Dinan  Derek Rabin
Ella Donnelly  Virginia Richardson
Jack Dugoni  Landon Robinson
Jax Fajarillo  Sofía Rodríguez-Toymil
Sharlee Fuentes  Riley Skinner
Yannick E. Haynes  Maya Sta. Ana
Nathaniel Hicks  Emma Woodward
Lukas Jann

Scenic Design  Yuri Okahana-Benson
Costume Design  Sophia Grose  BFA Design, Senior
Lighting Design  Jacob Hollens  BA Design, Sophomore
Sound Design  Ari Hyman  BFA Sound Design, Sophomore
Stage Manager  Megan Reed  BFA Stage Management, Sophomore
Technical Director  Zoe McCracken  BFA Technical Direction, Junior

Directed by Albert Dayan

Scene Dock Theatre
April 6–April 16, 2023
CAST (In alphabetical order)

Jordan Anderson
*Ensemble*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Sophomore

Maya Ben-Harush
*Ensemble*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Sophomore

Aaliyah Brathwaite
*Letitia Hardy*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Junior

Luke Bucaro
*Doricourt*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Sophomore

Jordan Cooper
*Ensemble*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Sophomore

KJ Dawson
*Ensemble*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Sophomore

Malika Dinan
*Mrs. Racket*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Junior

Ella Donnelly
*Lady Frances Touchwood*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Sophomore

Jack Dugoni
*Flutter*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Junior

Jax Fajarillo
*Ensemble*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Sophomore

Sharlee Fuentes
*Kitty Willis*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Junior

Yannick E. Haynes
*Saville*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Junior

Nathaniel Hicks
*Hardy*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Junior

Lukas Jann
*Crowquill/Silvertongue, Mountebank*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Junior

Caleb Kocsis
*Ensemble*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Sophomore

Collette McCurdy
*Ensemble*
BFA Acting for Stage, Screen & New Media, Sophomore
This performance contains a 10-minute intermission.

**PLEASE NOTE**

Please be advised that this production contains depictions of complicated adult relationships and 18th Century characterizations of gender roles. This production also contains the use of strobe lighting.
“Everybody about me seemed happy; but everybody seemed in a hurry to be happy somewhere else.”

—Lady Frances Touchwood, The Belle's Stratagem by Hannah Cowley

The culture is fast-paced and frivolous. People rush from one entertainment to the next. Pretense and clout-chasing are the norm. Who you are is less important than who you seem to be. Newspapers are packed with celebrity scandals. Women don’t get their due. Life, if anything, is breathless. Sound familiar? Well, it’s not Los Angeles, 2023. It’s 1782 and we’re in London.

Welcome to the frenetic world of Hannah Cowley’s The Belle’s Stratagem, a comedy from a distant time and place that, nevertheless, may ring a bell(e).

Hannah Cowley, was one of the foremost playwrights of the late 18th century, and known for her sparkling dialogue and sprightly comic characters. She was widely acclaimed by both the public and the critics of her day, and her plays were popular on both sides of the Atlantic. The USC School of Dramatic Arts is thrilled to be part of her restoration to the American stage.

*ADDITIONAL THE BELLE’S STRATAGEM PRODUCTION STAFF*

*Asst. Director* Lexie Hastings | *Choreographer* Cedric Dodd | *Vocal/Dialect Coach* Kathleen Dunn-Muzingo | *Asst. Stage Manager* Hannah Baker

*Stage Management Mentor* Els Collins | *Design Asst.* Sheela Yuan

*Costume Asst.* Imogen Jeffords | *Hair & Makeup Consultant* Juliet Black

*Costume Mentor* Samantha Jones | *Lighting Mentor* Martha Carter

*Sound Design Mentor* Noel Nichols | *Technical Director Mentor* Duncan Mahoney


“Everybody about me seemed happy; but everybody seemed in a hurry to be happy somewhere else.”

—Lady Frances Touchwood, The Belle's Stratagem by Hannah Cowley
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VICE DEAN
Lori Ray Fisher

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Anita Dashielh-Sparks
(Vice Chair of Performance,
George Burns Professor of Theatre)
Professor Oliver Mayer
(Director of MFA Dramatic Writing Program)

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS
Velina Hasu Houston
(Resident Playwright)

PROFESSORS
Sharon Marie Carnicke
Meiling Cheng
Colman Domingo

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS
Luis Alfaro
Takeshi Kata
(Chair of Design)
Sibyl Wickersheimer

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Alexandra Billings
Esther K. Chae
Ann Closs-Farley
Elizabeth Harper
Samantha C. Jones
Noel Nichols

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Philip G. Allen
(Director of Sound Design)
Brent Blair
(Director of Theatre & Social Change)
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Bayo Akinfemi
Kirstin Eggers
Scott Faris
(Allice M. Pollitt Professor of Stage Management)
Stevie Johnson
Rena M. Heinrich
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(Director of Professional Development)
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The USC School of Dramatic Arts fosters the talents of artist-scholars 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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