Peter Weiss'

The Persecution and Assassination of Jean-Paul Marat as Performed by the Inmates of the Asylum of Charenton Under the Direction of the Marquis de Sade

English Version by Geoffrey Skelton Verse Adaptation by Adrian Mitchell Sanctuary Theatre October 18-27, 2024



USC School of Dramatic Arts 24/25

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Peter Weiss'

The Persecution and Assassination of Jean-Paul Marat as Performed by the Inmates of the Asylum of Charenton Under the Direction of the Marquis de Sade

English Version by Geoffrey Skelton Verse Adaptation by Adrian Mitchell

With

Matthew Abatti Casey Landman
Diego Casasnovas-Torres Sophie Lee
Davon Collier Jr. MJ Manning
Ben Crane Isabelle Messner

Quaz Degraft Zoey Juliette Monnissen

Rachel Dickinson Lewis Oliveras

Jacquelyn "Jax" Fajarillo Rama Orleans-Lindsay

Sonia Goswami DePrē Owens
Lane Haven Eugene Reicher
Briana James Sarisha Sabhlok
Michelle Jones Lee Samantha Salamoff

Henry Keogh Cesar Serrano
Caleb Kocsis Vincent Williams

Co-Scenic Design Co-Scenic Design/Technical Direction

Jacob Hollens He/They, Alex Muir She/Her, Kealey Busch She/Her, BA Theatre, Emphasis in Design Senior

BFA Technical Direction Junior BFA Theatrical Design Senior

Costume Design

Lighting Design Sound Design Production Stage Manager

Billie Oleyar They/He, Ari Hyman They/Them, Lexey Glouberman She/Her, BFA Theatrical Design Junior BFA Sound Design Senior BFA Stage Management Senior

Musical Direction by Billy Thompson
Directed by Stephanie Shroyer

Sanctuary Theatre October 18-27, 2024

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CAST (In alphabetical order)



Matthew Abatti
He/Him, Jean-Paul Marat
•MFA Acting Year 3



Diego Casasnovas -Torres He/Him, Marquis De Sade ∙MFA Acting Year 3



Davon Collier Jr.

He/Him, Cucurucu ·BA Theatre,
Emphasis in Acting Junior



Ben Crane He/Him, Kokol •BA Theatre, Emphasis in Acting Junior



Quaz Degraft He/Him, Herald •MFA Acting Year 3



Rachel Dickinson
She/Her, Patient ·BA Theatre
Junior



Jacquelyn "Jax"
Fajarillo She/Her,
Herald's Light ·BFA Acting
for Stage & Screen Senior



Sonia Goswami She/Her, Simonne Evrard •MFA Acting Year 3



Lane Haven He/Him,
Patient · BA Theatre, Emphasis
in Acting Sophomore



Briana James She/Her, Rossignol •MFA Acting Year 3



Michelle Jones Lee She/Her, Charlotte Corday •MFA Acting Year 3



Henry Keogh
He/Him, Patient
•BA Theatre Sophomore



Caleb Kocsis He/Him, Nurse •BFA Acting for Stage & Screen Senior



Casey Landman she/Her, Madame Coulmier •MFA Acting Year 3



Sophie Lee She/Her, Patient ·BA Theatre Junior



MJ Manning
They/Them, Polpoch
BA Theatre Sophomore

(continued on next page)

CAST (continued)



Isabelle Messner
She/Her, Sister ·BA Theatre,
Emphasis in Acting Junior



Zoey Juliette Monnissen she/Her, Coulmier's Daughter •BA Theatre Junior



Lewis Oliveras He/Him, Coulmier's Son •BA Theatre, Emphasis in Acting Senior



Rama Orleans
-Lindsay She/They,
Jacques Roux
-MFA Acting Year 3



DePrē Owens She/Her, Patient •Theatre Minor Junior



Eugene Reicher
He/Him, Patient
•Theatre Minor Junior



Sarisha Sabhlok She/Her, Patient ∙BA Theatre, Emphasis in Acting Junior



Samantha Salamoff She/Her, Herald's Shadow •BA Theatre, Emphasis in Acting Senior



Cesar Serrano He/They, Patient •BA Theatre Sophomore



Vincent Williams He/Him, Duperret •MFA Acting Year 3

This performance contains a 15-minute intermission.

CONTENT WARNING

Please be advised that this production is from a genre of theatre categorized as "Theatre of Cruelty," a style of theatre envisioned by French surrealist director, Antonin Artaud, as a response to the passivity of realism. The production includes descriptions and depictions of violent and sexual acts, including assault, murder, and other forms of violence. Additionally, this production includes depictions of incarceration and mental illness. This production also includes loud sounds and flickering lights.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

USC is built on the unceded land of the Tongva, Chumash and Kizh people. We at SDA acknowledge and honor the Tongva, Chumash and Kizh people/communities and wish to amplify that they are still here. We encourage everyone to find out whose ancestral land you live on and commit to our shared responsibility to be agents of change, and for each of us to consider our roles in reconciliation, decolonization and allyship.

NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC TEAM

Welcome to The Persecution and Assassination of Jean-Paul Marat as Performed by the Inmates of the Asylum of Charenton Under the Direction of the Marquis de Sade. The dramaturgical team offers you some names and concepts to recognize.

Jean Paul Marat — French political theorist, physician, scientist, radical voice during the French Revolution. He was assassinated by Charlotte Corday, a sympathizer of a rival faction.

Marquis de Sade — a member of the nobility. He was a writer of novels, plays, and political tracts. He served as an officer in the king's army before a series of sex scandals led to his detention in various prisons and insane asylums. Sade's sole encounter with Marat was giving his funeral oration.

The asylum of **Charenton** housed those whose behavior made them socially impossible, not necessarily insane. The Marquis de Sade spent the last years of his life, from 1801 to 1814, interned there. The salacious reputation of his plays, many of which were considered obscene, made members of Parisian exclusive circles think it a rare treat to attend the plays he produced at Charenton.

Author Peter Weiss was highly influenced by the theatrical theories of Antonin Artaud and Bertholt Brecht. Artaud proposed a theater of cruelty — He proposed a theater in which violent physical images crush and hypnotize the sensibility of the spectator who experiences the theater as by a whirlwind of higher forces.

Brecht's view was that a Marxist theatre must not make the audience believe they are witnessing something happening here and now or to identify or empathize with characters, but make the audience watch critically and not be passive observers. Making the familiar seem strange became known as the Defamiliarization Effect and constantly reminded audiences that they were in a theatre.

ADDITIONAL MARAT/SADE PRODUCTION STAFF

Vocal/Dialect Coach Louis Colaianni | Intimacy Director Joy DeMichelle
Fight Choreographer Edgar Landa | Assistant Director Celia Hidell
Dramaturg Melinda Finberg | Production Deputies Lewis Oliveras, Sonia
Goswami, Billie Oleyar | Assistant Stage Managers Serena Feng, Quinn Healey
Production Manager/Stage Management Mentor Leia Crawford
Scenic Design Assistant Yifan Cheng | Scenic Mentor Sibyl Wickersheimer
Costume Assistant Sofia Hussain | Hair & Makeup Consultant Juliet Black
Costume Mentor Samantha Jones | Assistant Lighting Designer Erin Caparrelli
Lighting Mentor Elizabeth Harper | Associate Sound Designer Richie Nickel
Sound Mentor Philip G. Allen | Assistant Technical Director Sophia Pollacchi
Technical Direction Mentor Duncan Mahoney | Technical Crew Jayden AdamsRuiz, Lara Botha, Courtney Chu, David James, Sydney Linko, Alison Mitchell

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(Director of MFA Acting, McKinlay Chair)

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