

dearelizabeth

sarahruhl

ashance kottage (SFS '22) producer
amy li (COL '22) director
joseph ravago (COL '23) stage manager
kennedy burroughs (SFS '23) technical director



nomadictheatre

nomadictheatre
2020-2021 Season

Audio Spice

*a serial podcast featuring The Importance of Being Earnest
by Oscar Wilde*

a co-production with Mask & Bauble Dramatic Society

Directed by Madeline Warner (COL '21)

Produced by Cory Kleinman (COL '21)

Stage Management by Angela Nguyen (COL '24)

Technical Direction by Phoebe Shiffman (COL '21)

-
Available on our website and SoundCloud

Love & Information

by Caryl Churchill

Directed by Paul James (SFS '23)

Produced by Madison Carter (COL '21)

Stage Management Catherine Shonack (COL '22)

Technical Direction by Pace Schwarz (COL '23)

-
November 7-9 and 12-13, 2020

Dear Elizabeth

by Sarah Ruhl

Directed by Amy Li (COL '22)

Produced by Ashanee Kottage (SFS '22)

Stage Management by Joseph Ravago (COL '23)

Technical Direction by Kennedy Burroughs (SFS '23)

-
April 23-25 and May 1, 2021

nomadictheatre presents:

by arrangement with Concord Theatricals

Dear Elizabeth
by Sarah Ruhl

April 23-25 and May 1, 2021

Director
Amy Li

Producer
Ashanee Kottage

Stage Manager
Joseph Ravago

Technical Director
Kennedy Burroughs

Lighting Designer
Paul James

Sound Designer
Advait Arun

Hair & Makeup Designer
Julia Maenza

Costume Designer
Lily Brown

Co-Properties Designers
Annemarie Cuccia
Han Miller

Co-Cinematographers
Daniela González Landero
Isabella Martinez-Aleman

Graphic Designer
Elaine Wong

Co-Animations Designers
Panna Gattyan

Publicity Director
Jenny Chung

Jenni Loo
Valeria Ma
Margaret Neely

Zoom Master
Abby Hames

A Note from the Director

Today, no one keeps stamps in their desk drawer and the letter's long voyage has since been traded for the convenience and immediacy of text. However, given the great sense of loss and palpable absence we must have all experienced in this past year, I have found the letters of this play to be a kind solace. They have also encouraged me to try my hand at letter writing, but I've quickly come to realize that it takes tremendous skill and a vibrant mind to write a good and wonderful letter.

How to meticulously craft and organize your words to keep your reader entertained? How to entice them to respond right away so to minimize the days you spend wasting away? I think Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell knew the answers, as flawed and heroic and lovely and brilliant as they may be.

And what colourful characters they were! Endlessly interesting and surprising, it was a great delight to discover their poetry through this play. Lowell's poetry is like a treasure hunt, where the more you search, the more there is for you to discover. However, I didn't always have the patience or focus to keep digging, which may be why I found myself gravitating towards Bishop's deceptively straightforward poetry. And perhaps there is no poem more relevant in this moment than Bishop's "One Art," where she confronts the art of losing in a very candid and unexpectedly intimate way.

It is my first time directing a show so, obviously, I am brimming with confidence, completely unfamiliar with this concept of doubt. Except, now reflecting on this process, that statement is not entirely untrue. This whole endeavor has been enriching in so many ways but, meeting all these talented designers and actors might take the cake. Everyone's skill and support has allowed me to place a lot of trust in them and offload this fake and narcissistic burden I carry as director. We've been a little ambitious with this project and I cannot be more excited to share our work.

Last year, we were abruptly sent back home without time for proper goodbyes before a backdrop of falling cherry blossoms. This year, as leaves of green take the place of those fallen blossoms, I hope we find comfort and joy in the tremendous life-long friendship between Bishop and Lowell as well as the hard work everyone involved has put in.

- Amy Li



Thumbnail illustrations inspired by the script, created by our graphic designer Elaine Wong.

A Note from the Producer

In my experience there are only a few things that can be successful during a pandemic: games that encourage you to kill one another and blame someone else, the 4th attempt to make copious amounts of bread AND get into the best shape you've ever been in, incredible feats of multitasking (such as taking a massive shit while some lanky white boy plays devil's advocate in class), and finally, Georgetown theater.

It is important for all of you to know that we didn't have to do this, nobody told us we had to put on a show and it had to be a full production with cohesive technical elements; it could have been a play reading or a live stream of me in therapy and it would have been just as entertaining as anything you can watch on a screen one year into a pandemic. So when you are watching this show I encourage you to think about that, that we didn't have to do this. And yet, we did.

Every single day I am awestruck by the extraordinary commitment and sheer talent of my peers who are students, siblings, friends, employees, volunteers, and human beings first. They are navigating this hellscape while also looking for sounds, props, and costumes, memorizing their lines, and learning how to "build a set" online. To the designers, thank you for not just being good at what you do but also for teaching others how to do it in their childhood bedrooms. To the cast, thank you for not just being stellar performers but for learning how to do so much more than just act. To the audience, thank you for choosing us to be one of the screens you look at today, you won't regret it.

It is not easy to think about art when black, brown, asian, and LGBTQ+ people are getting murdered, when family members are sick, and the forests are on fire, but we did, and I think that testifies to both the privilege some of us hold but also the immense resilience in this community. I am persistently inspired by my D-Staff who are relentless in advocating for issues that lie at the intersection of what this show deserves and underrepresentation in theater at Georgetown - Amy, Joseph, and Kennedy, you are incredible. Sarah Ruhl says it's difficult to write about friendships and yet I feel like I could write

A Note from the Producer

about mine forever, but perhaps I feel that way because Ruhl is right and it is easier to write about family than it is to write about friends - Margaret, Tim, and Jenny, thank you for being home.

We had an astounding 35 auditions for Dear Elizabeth, although we could only cast 10, some found home on our production staff and others elsewhere on campus. Nonetheless, we had 35 people say, I want to tell this story, and now we have 50 people working on the process that brought this story to life. This is a tale based on letters written by two educated middle class white people in the 1940s, but through this production I see myself. I encourage you to look for yourself too: your favorite poem, the last time you wrote or received a postcard or hand written letter, your friend or sibling working abroad or across the country, think about the one that got away, the one you hate that you never stopped loving, your most vocal critic and avid cheerleader, the one whose mental health journey you pray for, think about someone you haven't met yet, think about you, and all the things you didn't have to do this past year but did anyway.

Warmly, lovingly, affectionately, (a little bit salty),

Ashanee Kottage

Our d-staff has made it their goal to enhance nomadic's mission of social engagement throughout this process. They have compiled the following list of important causes that need your support:

Asian American Feminist Collective
Casa Ruby
Who Land Are We On?
Survived and Punished

Please visit linktr.ee/DearElizabeth to find links to each organization's website, and consider making a donation or finding another way to support the cause. Thank you!

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Elizabeth Bishop

Robert Lowell

Caroline Slater (COL '23)	Colum Goebelbecker (COL '21)
Calvin Engstrom (COL '24)	Nate Rowe (COL '21)
Mehek Thapar (COL '24)	Wynne Havranek (SFS '24)
Cameren Evans (COL '24)	Renny Simone (SFS '21)
Maddie Warner (COL '21)	Nate Weiland (COL '21)

DIRECTING STAFF

Producer.....	Ashanee Kottage (SFS '22)
Director.....	Amy Li (COL '22)
Stage Manager.....	Joseph Ravago (COL '23)
Technical Director.....	Kennedy Burroughs (SFS '23)
Assistant Producer.....	Karen Samy (SFS '23)
Assistant Directors.....	Panna Gattyan (COL '22)
	Daniela González Landero (COL '21)
	Madeline Wasson (COL '22)
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Alexandra Bowman (COL '22)
	Abby Hames (COL '24)

The showing will run for approximately one hour and 45 minutes, plus a five minute intermission. Please sit back, relax, and enjoy this virtual production.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Set Dresser.....	Kennedy Burroughs (SFS '23)
Lighting Designer.....	Paul James (SFS '23)
Assistant Lighting Designer.....	Nick Giotis (COL '23)
Sound Designer.....	Advait Arun (SFS '22)
Assistant Sound Designers.....	Megan Wee (SFS '22)
	Angela Nguyen (COL '24)
Costume Designer.....	Lily Brown (SFS '23)
Assistant Costume Designer.....	Ava Foster (COL '23)
Co-Properties Designers.....	Annemarie Cuccia (SFS '22)
	Han Miller (COL '23)
Graphic Designer.....	Elaine Wong (COL '21)
Hair & Makeup Designer.....	Julia Maenza (COL '22)
Publicity Director.....	Jenny Chung (NHS '23)
Assistant Publicity Director.....	Ava Gaus (COL '23)
Co-Cinematographers.....	Isa Martinez-Aleman (SFS '22)
	Daniela González Landero (COL '21)
Assistant Cinematographer.....	John Szieff (COL '22)
Co-Dramaturgs.....	Leigh Meyer (COL '23)
	Matt Phillips (COL '22)
Social Engagement Coordinator.....	Lauryn Ping (COL '23)
Asst. Social Engagement Coordinator.....	Angela Nguyen (COL '24)
Co-Cruise Directors.....	Annemarie Cuccia (SFS '22)
	Margaret Gleason (COL '22)
Co-Animations Designers.....	Panna Gattyan (COL '22)
	Jenni Loo (SFS '21)
	Valerie Ma (SFS '21)
	Margaret Neely (COL '23)
Co-Isadora Designer & Projections.....	Kennedy Burroughs (SFS '23)
	Olivia Martin (COL '23)
Asst. Isadora Designer & Projections.....	Marion Cassidy (COL '23)
Zoom Master.....	Abby Hames (COL '24)
Board Liason.....	Raphy Hupez (SFS '21)
Co-Curricular Artistic Advisor.....	Michael T. Williams, M.F.A.
Co-Curricular Technical Advisor.....	Tobin Clark, B.F.A.

CAST & CREW

Advait Arun (Sound Designer) Normally he'd be up in the booth pressing buttons. Before the Calamity, that was what Sound Designers like him did. But things have changed: Now other people are doing the button-pressing for him. (Huge thanks to the Isadora team!) In the meantime, he's learned too much about Purcell, Bossanova Jazz, the disadvantages of Windows, and poetry in order to give the new button-pressers a purpose in life. So that's something. (Special thanks to Angela for being an amazing assistant!)

Alexandra Bowman (Assistant Stage Manager) At Georgetown, I am a junior double-majoring in English and Art. I was also recently admitted to the English Department's AB/MA Program, where I hope to study satire. I am currently the political cartoonist for the political action committee, The Lincoln Project, and the environmental news platform Our Daily Planet. I am also the founder and host of the political comedy webseries based at Georgetown and made up of over 50 students from around the United States, The Hilltop Show.

Lily Brown (Costume Designer / Board 39 Social Engagement Coordinator) Hi All! I have been so honored to costume design for Dear Elizabeth, and I could not be more proud of all the work our actors, directing staff, and production staff have put into creating this show in the virtual space!

Kennedy Burroughs (Technical Director) is super excited to be participating in her second year of Georgetown theater, even if everything is online right now. This online format has been absolutely crazy, but she is super happy that theater has been able to move to the virtual format and that the theater community has been able to continue growing. With this new virtual landscape, Kennedy is just really eager to see everything come together and to have a great couple of shows!

Marion Cassidy (Asst. Isadora Designer & Projections) is so excited to be working on Dear Elizabeth and can't wait for everyone to see the show!

Jenny Chung (Publicity Director) is so excited to be a part of this production alongside so many wonderful people! She cannot wait to see the final product and show the rest of the Georgetown community how much work was put into it. She hopes that you enjoy it as much as everyone in the cast and crew enjoyed putting it together!

Kate Clark (Board 39 Associate Producer)

CAST & CREW

Sydney Cook (Board 39 Publicity Director) is so immensely proud of everyone involved with this process for making Zoom theater look so beautiful! A big shout-out to team publicity for being superstars, and to the board for all of their hard work<3

Annemarie Cuccia (Co-Properties Designer / Co-Cruise Director) is creating vibes, both on and off the zoom stage.

Calvin Engström (Elizabeth Bishop 1.2) is excited and honored to be a part of Dear Elizabeth! He's a freshman in the college hoping to major in linguistics and minor in Korean. Some of his favorite theatre memories include dancing in flippers and a wetsuit in Mamma Mia! and dressing up as a faun in The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. Calvin also loves baking, gardening, and especially writing letters, so this show occupies a special place in his heart.

Cameren Evans (Elizabeth Bishop 2.1) is a freshman in the college planning to major in English and Music. She is very excited for you all to see the show and hopes you enjoy it—even in this strange environment. She is extremely proud of all the hard work and dedication that the cast and crew have put in over these past few months and can't wait to see everyone be amazing!

Ava Foster (Assistant Costume Designer) reminds everyone to keep wearing masks, even if you're vaccinated!

Panna Gattyan (Assistant Director / Co-Animations Designer) is a Junior English major from Budapest, Hungary and Los Angeles. She likes iced tea, PC music, and she can't wait for the cicadas!

Ava Gaus (Assistant Publicity Director) is a sophomore in the College double majoring in Political Economy and Justice and Peace Studies. She is so glad to have gotten to work on this incredible process with so many talented individuals. Congrats to the amazing cast and crew!

Nick Giotis (Assistant Lighting Designer) cannot decide who he likes more, Amy Li or Paul James, but they're both pretty neat.

Margaret Gleason (Co-Cruise Director) enjoyed writing boat-themed emails and being overly enthusiastic in the GroupMe. She would like to celebrate Annemarie for creating "annemargaret" and for agreeing that Zooms are not fun and we should do other things. Additional thanks to the font and highlight options in Gmail.

Colum Goebelbecker (Robert Lowell 1.1)

CAST & CREW

Angela Nguyen (*Asst. Sound Designer / Asst. Social Engagement Coordinator*) In a galaxy not so far away, there lives a 160 cm powerhouse of fire (quite literally: Sagittarius sun, Leo moon, and Leo rising). When not dreaming of taking down the system, lil Angela is in the theatre doing everything but being on stage. When not being a theatre kid, they can be found creating elaborate spreadsheets to keep their life together, mindlessly crocheting while watching an obscure history documentary, or playing stardew valley.

Liz O'Hazo (*Board 39 Executive Producer*) is a senior in the college majoring in Sociology and Psychology. She originally hails from the Gilmore Girls town in Connecticut. Liz has been involved in nomadic since her freshman fall, and has loved watching this process adapt to the virtual landscape. This process stayed true to the nomadic mission, and gave us a creative outlet during this difficult semester. Huge shoutout to the directing staff, production staff, and cast for such a job well done!

Matt Phillips (*Co-Dramaturg*) still exists, baby!

Lauryn Ping (*Social Engagement Coordinator*) is a sophomore in the College majoring in Women's and Gender Studies. Dear Elizabeth is her third Georgetown production and first production with Nomadic Theatre. Lauryn has had a blast organizing social engagement activities such as a supportive video campaign for pediatric patients and a virtual social event with DC LGBTQ seniors. She is extremely grateful for the opportunity to work with such an amazing cast and crew!

Joseph Ravago (*Stage Manager*) Hello! For those of you who don't know me, my name is Joseph and I'm a sophomore in the College double majoring in African American Studies and Women and Gender Studies. I am so excited for you to see this show! It has gone through many different versions especially because of the little pandemic thing going on. Thank you for coming to the show and I will leave you with this important fact: Busta Rhymes voiced Reptar in Rugrats.

Nate Rowe (*Robert Lowell 1.2*) Born and raised in the suburbs of Los Angeles, Nate is a senior in the college studying History and minoring in Film/Media Studies and Jewish Civilization. After four years at Georgetown, he's excited to be moving back to Los Angeles to pursue a career in entertainment. This is his first time acting in a play since the sixth grade. He hopes to be much better than he was then!

CAST & CREW

Karen Samy (*Assistant Producer*) is beyond thrilled to have had the opportunity to work on this beautiful show with such kind and generous people. She is an IPOL major with an IDEV and REWA minor and also more acronyms. This is her second nomadic show, and she can be seen struggling to write for the Lab or trying her best to direct community engagement for M&B. She is incredibly grateful to Ashanee who has taught her so much, in theatre, and in life, but not quite in French. She hopes you enjoy this piece about the challenges of love and friendship and pain across what seems like insurmountable distance, challenges we are all too familiar with.

Renny Simone (*Robert Lowell 2.1*) is a senior and very grateful to be taking part in a production before he graduates. In May he will move to Montana for a summer conservation program. After that, who knows!

Caroline Slater (*Elizabeth Bishop 1.1*) Zooming in from Spokane, Washington, Caroline is a newcomer to Georgetown this year. Transferring in the Class of 2023, she is honored to join the inspiring group of students working on Dear Elizabeth for her first Georgetown performance. Caroline had the good fortune of participating in local theater, indie film and network television at a young age, influencing her decision to pursue a career in entertainment. She is a Theater and Performance Studies major and is minoring in Creative Writing.

John Szieff (*Assistant Cinematographer*) is from Los Angeles and is majoring in American Studies. He is a tried and true Amy Li stan and a cunning linguist at heart. #stanLOONA

Mehk Thapar (*Elizabeth Bishop 1.3*) is a freshman at Georgetown, and she is from Villanova, Pennsylvania. She is so excited to be a part of this unique virtual theater experience! She is in the college studying Spanish and on a pre-med track. She loves theater and has been involved in various productions since 2nd grade. This is her second show at Georgetown and she was in "Antigone" last semester. Enjoy the show!

Maddie Warner (*Elizabeth Bishop 2.2*) is a senior in the College studying Chemistry and Science, Technology and International Affairs (STIA). She has been involved in the theatre community since freshman fall and has worked on productions with Nomadic, Mask and Bauble, and the department as an actor, designer and directing staff member. She is thrilled to be spending her last semester at Georgetown with the incredible cast and crew of Dear Elizabeth.

CAST & CREW

Madeline Wasson (*Assistant Director*) transferred to Georgetown in the Spring of 2020, right before the pandemic hit. Dear Elizabeth offered her the opportunity to feel more included in the Georgetown community, even through a computer screen. She's so proud of her actors and is incredibly excited to share this project with you!

Megan Wee (*Assistant Sound Designer*)

Nate Weiland (*Robert Lowell 2.2*)

Martha Winslow (*Board 39 Business Manager*) is extremely proud of the cast and crew of Dear Elizabeth, and wants to thank them for their resilience and creativity throughout this process.

Elaine Wong (*Graphic Designer*) is a senior in the College double majoring in English and Chinese and minoring in Studio Art. On campus, she is an Executive Board Member and a Graphic Designer for Mosaic—an organization that promotes multi-cultural/multi-ethnic spaces in Georgetown. Although she became involved in theatre only last year, Elaine is grateful to everyone in Nomadic. She would like to thank Amy and the rest of D-Staff for giving her the opportunity to design for this show.

Want to get involved with Nomadic? Follow us on social media or check out our website to stay up to date on ways to get involved in our upcoming season!

Instagram: @nomadictheatre

Facebook: Nomadic Theatre

Website: www.nomadic-theatre.com

Email: nomadictheatre@georgetown.edu



Congratulations Abby on your hard work.

We couldn't be more proud.

(Love Mom, Dad, Sam, and Sadie)

Good luck Nomadic Team!



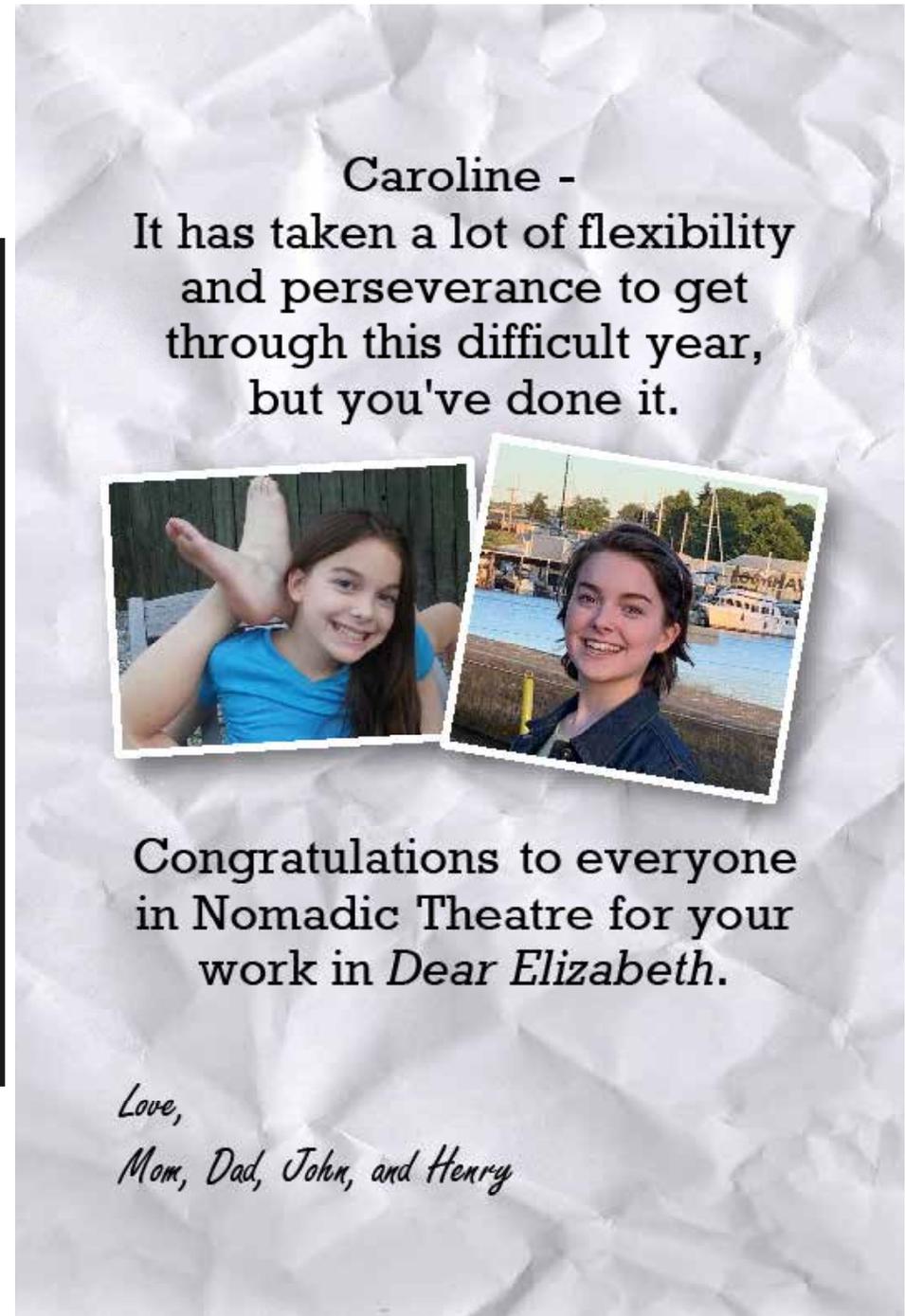
Dear
Mehek,

Time sure seems to fly. It is good to hear your news, that you are shining in the sky.

Enjoy the journey!



Love: Mom, Dad
and Kevin



Caroline -

It has taken a lot of flexibility and perseverance to get through this difficult year, but you've done it.



Congratulations to everyone in Nomadic Theatre for your work in *Dear Elizabeth*.

Love,
Mom, Dad, John, and Henry



Congratulations to **nomadictheatre's** newly elected
Executive Board!

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Board 40
2021-2022

Sydney Cook, COL '23
Executive Producer

Ava Gaus, COL '23
Business Manager

Paul James, SFS '23
Associate Producer

Lily Brown, SFS '23
Publicity Director

Pace Schwarz, COL '23
Technical Director

Joseph Ravago, COL '23
Social Engagement Coordinator

We are so excited to serve as **nomadictheatre's** Executive Board for this coming year! While we do not know exactly what this year will look like, we are excited to work with our peers and friends to create theatre in a safe and welcoming space. Our board is particularly interested in enhancing nomadic's mission of social engagement by increasing accessibility in our shows and consistently encouraging new members to join. We cannot wait for next season and hope to see you all there!

Interested in supporting **nomadictheatre** or the performing arts at Georgetown with larger initiatives such as capital improvements, instruments and equipment, or naming opportunities?

Please contact the Department
of Performing Arts
by writing to:

Administrative Director,
Department of Performing Arts
Davis Arts Center, Rm. 108, Box 571063
Washington, D.C. 20057-1063

Or visit our website at:
<http://performingarts.georgetown.edu>

Thank you for your continued support of
nomadictheatre!



Special Thanks

We couldn't have done it without you!

Tobin Clark
Michael T. Williams
Ron Lignelli
GU Pride
Hoyathon
Seabury Out & About

Our families and friends
who have continued
to support us,
even when virtual

Department of Performing Arts at Georgetown University

Derek Goldman, Ph.D. -- Chair, DPA; Director, TPST Program
Maya E. Roth, Ph.D. -- Artistic Director, DPAC; The Cheryl and Joseph
Della Rosa Distinguished Professor of Theater
Anthony R. DelDonna, Ph.D. -- Director, Music Program
Robynn Stilwell, Ph.D. -- Associate Professor, Music; Head of Dance
Ron Lignelli, M.A. -- Administrative Director
Tobin D. Clark, B.F.A. -- Technical Advisor, Co-Curricular Theatre
Michael T. Williams, M.F.A. -- Artistic Advisor, Co-Curricular Theatre
Haley Lentz -- Business Manager
Sarah Ginnetti -- Academic Administrator
Laura Mertens -- Public Relations and Special Events Manager
Vanessa Gilbert -- Community Engagement and Development Manager



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Georgetown College
Department of Performing Arts



The Executive Board of **nomadictheatre** proudly presents our 39th season.

Through these mainstage productions, in combination with our Square Pegs workshops, Nomadic continues to fulfill its mission by creating theatre that is both technically ambitious and socially engaged. In that spirit, Nomadic encourages designers and actors alike to create innovative productions that take artistic risks and engage with the Georgetown Community.

The **nomadictheatre** Board is extraordinarily lucky to collaborate with a fantastic ensemble of theatre artists, all of whom work together to make these endeavors so worthwhile. Furthermore, none of the exciting work we produce would be possible if not for the generous support of our patrons, to whom we are incredibly grateful.

Liz O'Hazo, COL '21
Executive Producer

Martha Winslow, COL '21
Business Manager

Kate Clark, COL '21
Associate Producer

Sydney Cook, COL '23
Publicity Director

Raphy Hupez, SFS '21
Technical Director

Lily Brown, SFS '23
Social Engagement Coordinator