Theatre UAB 2017-2018 Season

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
by William Shakespeare
Directed by Dennis McLernon
October 18-21 at 7:30pm
October 22 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

WORKING
Book by Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso, music by Schwartz, Craig Carnelia, Micki Grant, Mary Rodgers, and James Taylor, and lyrics by Schwartz, Carnelia, Grant, Taylor, and Susan Birkenhead.
Directed by Valerie Accetta
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
Movement Direction by Roy Lightner
November 8-11, 15-17 at 7:30pm
November 18 at 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

SILENT SKY
by Lauren Gunderson
Directed by Karla Koskinen
February 21-24 at 7:30pm
February 25 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

STANDING ON CEREMONY: THE GAY MARRIAGE PLAYS
by Mo Gaffney, Jordan Harrison, Moisés Kaufman, Wendy MacLeod, José Rivera, Paul Rudnick, and Doug Wright, conceived by Brian Shnipper
Directed by Brandon Bruce, Jack Cannon Mel Christian, Cheryl Hall, Karla Koskinen, Dennis McLernon
Feb 27-28, March 1-3 at 7:30pm
March 4 at 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

HAIRSPRAY
Directed by Valerie Accetta & Roy Lightner
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
Choreography by Roy Lightner
April 11-14 at 7:30pm
April 15 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

ASC Box Office: 975-ARTS.
Show information at http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/productions

The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Department of Theatre
Frank and Joan Dawson,
Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman
Lanny and Darlene Gray
Mary and Kyle Hulcher
and
W.B. Philips, Jr.

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directed by Karla Koskinen
UAB DEPARTMENT
OF THEATRE

in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center
OVATION THEATRE UAB

Opening nights at Theatre UAB are OVATION nights. OVATION UAB features refreshments and conversation with the director and designers before the show, as well as a post-performance meet & greet with the cast and crew.

But that’s not all. OVATION’s mission is to support and sponsor our students working backstage and performing in Theatre UAB productions. Membership dues ranging from $40 - $1500+ help offset the cost of tuition for each student to participate in the productions.

Join us! Park early, socialize, learn about the show and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, desserts, coffee and light refreshments before an evening of great theatre. OVATION THEATRE UAB is a perfect way to assist our talented students and have lots of fun!

OVATION THEATRE UAB Memberships are in our Theatre UAB Season Brochure or contact Program Manager, Mel Christian at 934-3237 or cmel@uab.edu. We’d love to see you at our next OVATION!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT OVATION UAB MEMBERS

Founding Members
Russell Drummond, Col. Daniel D. Hall, Patty McDonald, Carol Odess, Chandler S. Smith, Jane Paris Smith, BBS Martha Moore Sykes Fund

2017-2018 Members

THE KENNEDY CENTER

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) is the only national arts organization providing opportunities in the performing arts for college-level theatre programs. The KCACTF is committed to excellence in theatre education and the development of the arts through its programs in the performing arts. The KCACTF is a non-profit organization and is supported by The National Endowment for the Arts, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and the Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation.

Positively supporting our students and the theatre program at Theatre UAB, Kelly Dean Allison is a proud member of the KCACTF and is a member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). Theatre UAB is a proud member of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) and is a proud member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). Theatre UAB is a proud member of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) and is a proud member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).
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Silent Sky
by Lauren Gunderson
With original incidental music by Jenny Giering
Presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

Scenic Design
Kelly Allison

Sound Design
Katherine Montgomery

Stage Manager
Spencer Webb

Costume Design
Kimberly Schnormeier

Lighting Design
David Page

Properties Design
J. Marc Quattlebaum

Vocal & Dialect Coach
Marlene Johnson

Projection Artists
Courtney Lassiter Mila Oliviera Elisabeth Pellathy

Directed by
Karla Koskinen

Assistant Directors
Roxana Munoz & Hayley Procacci

CAST
Henrietta Leavitt................................................Alicia Batterson
Margaret Leavitt...............................................Victoria Cruz
Peter Shaw......................................................Chance Novalis
Annie Cannon..................................................Katie Strickland
Williamina Fleming..........................................Lew Williams

SETTINGS:
1900-1920
Star Field
The Harvard Observatory, 2nd Floor Offices
Leavitt Home, Wisconsin
Ocean Liner on the Atlantic
Henrietta’s Home, Cambridge, MA

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

Silent Sky was first produced by South Coast Repertory with support from the Elizabeth George Foundation.

From The Director of Silent Sky...
This production is dedicated to Connie Koskinen, Ann Schnormeier, and Mary L. Violi, all strong, intelligent women who lived rich, meaningful lives in a world that often does not encourage women to reach their full potential. We can only wonder at what that world would be like if women had always been afforded equal opportunities. Sharing women’s stories, like that of Silent Sky’s Henrietta Leavitt, is one way to foster a different and brighter future.

- Karla Koskinen

Opening Night: Wednesday, February 21, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

The videotaping or other video, photography or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.
Dramaturgical Notes: Breaking the Silence

In October 1923, the New York Times made the announcement, “Doctor Hubble confirms view that they are ‘island universes’ similar to our own.” Astronomer Edwin Hubble had just discovered that spiral nebula in the sky were actually stellar systems—other galaxies in our universe. This discovery, however, depended upon the work of a little-known astronomer, Henrietta Leavitt, a member of a group of women working at Harvard College in the early 1900s, who mapped the stars in our sky. Lauren Gunderson’s Silent Sky (2011) broke the silence of Leavitt’s significant contribution to science, while also revealing the work and passion of Harvard’s human “computers,” who created the star classification system still used in modern astronomy.

Hailed by the American Theatre Magazine as the most produced living playwright in America for the 2017 season, Gunderson enjoys writing about science, or what she calls “the stories of discovery, the unfolding of human knowledge, the democracy of method.” Her science-inspired work includes Ada and the Engine, The Amazing Adventures of Dr. Wonderful (and her dog!), Emilie: La Marquise Du Chatelet Defends Her Life Tonight, and By and By. She feels that scientists make great dramatic characters because their lives and work resemble the journeys of real heroes. They have a clear objective (the goal of their investigation), an antagonist or obstacles they struggle against (cultural prejudice, lack of time, or nature’s unpredictability), and hopefully, arrive at a climactic moment of discovery that not only changes their scientific perspectives but also the way in which we understand our world. More importantly, Gunderson finds that female scientists are “doubly tested,” so their stories are “far richer in struggle, and far greater in triumph.” In Silent Sky, she beautifully uses dramatic oppositions between the individual and family, science and religion, men and women, work and passion, computation and interpretation, and sound and silence in order to illustrate the inner conflict between the head and heart.

Silent Sky explores the theory of relativity not only as a scientific principle but as a metaphor of how people navigate their world and relationships. By reminding us that we are in constant motion in our continually expanding universe, it sparks our wonder and charges our curiosity, encouraging us to look up at the starry sky.

For more dramaturgical information about the play, explore: http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/on-stage/current-season/silent-sky.

- Ben Lundy
Dramaturge
Katherine Montgomery (Sound Design)
Home Town: Stuart, FL
Education: South Fork High School

Roxana Munoz (Assistant Director)
Home Town: Hoover, AL
Education: Spain Park High School. Transfer: The University of Alabama
Recent Production Work: Acting: Women of War (UAB,) Agnes of God (The Company Acting Studio.) Dancing: The Nutcracker, Alice in Wonderland, Cinderella, Giselle, Sleeping Beauty, Swan Lake (Alabama Dance Academy.)

Chance Novalis (Peter Shaw)
Home Town: Madison, AL
Education: Bob Jones High School

Mila Oliveira (Projection Artist)
Home Town: Birmingham, AL
Education: B.A., UAB, Jefferson County International Baccalaureate School
Recent Work: Photography and videography for UAB Digital Strategy & Marketing.

Farryn Owens (Assistant Stage Manager)
Home Town: Seymour, TN
Education: Seymour High School
Recent Production Work: Running Crew: Working (UAB.) Acting: The Drowsy Chaperone (SHS.)

David Page (Lighting Design)
Home Town: New Orleans, LA
Education: BA in Theatre, Louisiana Tech University
Recent Production Work: A Chorus Line (Virginia Samford Theatre), The Tragedy of Carmen (Opera Birmingham), The Jungle Book (Birmingham Children’s Theatre), Rock of Ages (Virginia Samford Theatre, BroadwayWorld Birmingham Best Lighting Design 2015), Pinocchio (Birmingham Children’s Theatre), Damn Yankees (Virginia Samford Theatre), Next to Normal (Red Mountain Theatre Company), Mary Poppins (Red Mountain Theatre Company), The Producers (Virginia Samford Theatre), 42nd Street (Red Mountain Theatre Company), Babes in Toyland (Birmingham Children’s Theatre), Hairspray (Red Mountain Theatre Company.)
www.davidpagedesign.com

Hayley Procacci (Assistant Director)
Home Town: Hoover, AL · Education: Hoover High School
Recent Production Work: Acting: A Midsummer Night’s Dream, 2016-17 Bookends Touring Company, You Can’t Take It With You (UAB,) Antigone (Hoover High School,) The Miracle Worker, Eleemosynary (South City Theatre.)

J. Marc Quattlebaum (Properties Design)
Home Town: Lexington, SC

Kimberly Schnormeier (Costume Design)
Home Town: Gambier, OH
Education: MFA in Scenography from Northwestern University. BFA in Graphic Design, Miami University
Silent Sky Production Biographies

Kathryn Strickland (Annie Cannon)
Home Town: Scottsboro, AL
Education: Scottsboro High School/Northeast Alabama Community College
Recent Production Work: Sound Board Op: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UAB.)

Spencer Webb (Stage Manager)
Home Town: Madison, AL
Education: Bob Jones High School
Recent Production Work: Directing/Stage Management: *14th Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB.) Assistant Stage Management: *Working* (UAB,) *A Chorus Line* (Virginia Samford Theatre.) Scenic Construction: *Willy Wonka, Jr., A Christmas Story, Spamalot* (VST,) *Spring Awakening* (UAB.)

Anna Whitlock (Assistant Stage Manager)
Home Town: Alabaster, AL · Education: Thompson High School

Lew Williams (Williamina Fleming)
Home Town: Scottsboro, AL
Education: Scottsboro High School, Northeast Alabama Community College

With Special Thanks to Carolyn Violi.

Theatre UAB Production Staff

Production Manager/Technical Director...........................................Ed Zuckerman
Costume Studio Supervisor..............................................................Sharon Morgan
Stage Electrics Director.................................................................Sean Allan Doyle
Properties Master.................................................................J. Marc Quattlebaum
Assistant Technical Director..................................................David Page
Scenic Studio Assistants.........................................................Joseph Baude, Emily Harris, Ben Johnson, Ben Lundy, Ashley Cobb
Electrics Assistants..............Katherine Montgomery, Noah D. Parsons, Lew Williams
Costume Assistants........Olivia Bowles, Elana Brooks, Emily Harris, Marissa Hebson, Josie Jackson, Sam Mathews, Phoebe Miller, Rita Pearson-Daley, Kayli Porter
Properties Assistants........Lauren Edwards, Allie Nichols, Noah Parsons, Anna Whitlock
Media Relations.................................Shannon Thomason
Videography.................................................................Mel Christian
ASC Manager of Patron Services.................................................Jeremie Kirkwood
ASC House Management........Noah Andrews, Joel Corley, Jeremie Kirkwood
ASC Associate House Managers...........John Bryan, Terrie Entrup, Mary Washburn

Staff for this Production

Assistant Stage Managers..........................Farryn Owens, Anna Whitlock
Assistant Costume Design..................................................Phoebe Miller
Dramaturg..................................................Ben Lundy
Sound Coordinator.................................................Sean Allan Doyle
Scenery/Lighting Construction/Electrics..............Anna Baehr, Tanier Dutton, Nia Evans, Devin Franklin, Nadia Harden, Royal Keeton, Jr., Mel McComber, Joseph McKinley, Meredith Morse, Morgan Newton, Kierra Price, Jeremy X. Richardson, Jacob Salathe, Lew Williams
Scenic Painter..................................................Ashley Cobb
Scenery/Properties Running Crew..........................Megan Smith
Costume/Craft Construction..........................Courtney D. Emmons, Austin Helmers, Ellen Macklin, Erin Murphy, Kaylee Radney, Lauren Smith, Megan Smith, Tricia Swann, Alex Wallace, Alyssa Wilke
Dressers..................................................Savannah Faulkner, Evan Wilson
Properties Construction............................Lauren Edwards, Allie Nichols, Noah Parsons, Rita Pearson-Daley, Anna Whitlock
Light Board Operator..................................................Marissa Hilton
Sound Board Operator.................................................Diamond Carson
Cover/Poster Design..............................................Cliff Simon