

**DOBAMA
THEATRE**



THE THIN PLACE

Written By
Lucas Hnath
Directed By
Colin Anderson

OCTOBER 7 — 30, 2022

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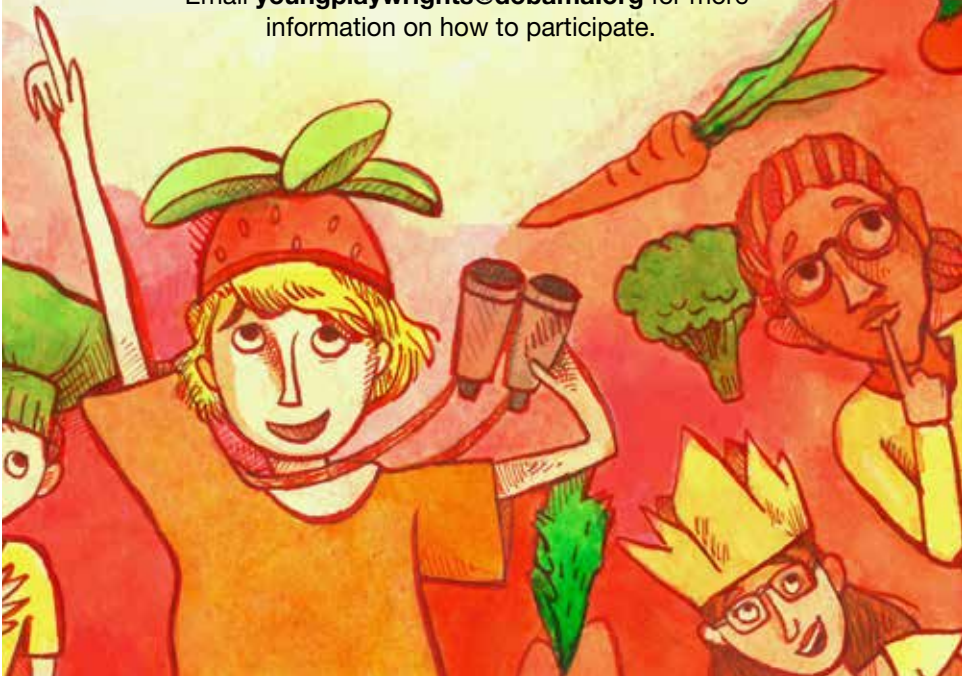
JUNE 2023

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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Everyone at Dobama is ecstatic to welcome audiences back to the theatre for the opening show of our dynamic 22/23 Season. After an eighteen month shutdown due to the pandemic, we continue to mount

productions that put the audience in the center of the action – offering experiences that only live theatre can provide. Such is the case in Lucas Hnath’s exceptional new play THE THIN PLACE.

Hnath is one of America’s most celebrated playwrights and with this script, he is at the height of his skills. The play is about the mystifying space between our world (the world of the living), and what lies beyond. Likewise, the line between the world of the play and the world that the audience inhabits is equally thin. The grey area that separates the action on stage from what is “real” is blurry

and often confounding. The audience is an active participant – not in word or action, but in psyche. As is often the case in great horror stories, the storytellers obscure enough that the observer is left to fill in the blanks. It’s then that their mind starts playing tricks on them, and the audience becomes immersed in the experience. Did something just move in that dark corner? What was that sound I just heard? What did I just see?

We hope THE THIN PLACE is an exhilarating experience that makes your heart pound and your mind race. We also hope that this production provokes thought and conversation about life, loss, faith, and family. Enjoy this first offering in the new year and, as always, thank you for supporting live, professional theatre.

With Love and Respect,

Nathan Motta



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ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



COLIN ANDERSON (he/him) has spent his life in Cleveland, which he now calls his artistic home as a director, producer, intimacy choreographer and administrator. He is proud to be openly gay and a fierce advocate for LGBTQ+ equity and access in the theatre industry and beyond. Select directing credits include *The Thin Place*, *She Washed His Hands*, *The Soliloquy Project - Significant Other*, *DEAP - Spring Awakening: A Children's Tragedy*, and several productions for the Marilyn Bianchi Kids' Playwriting Festival (Dobama); *Goodnight, Tyler* (reading), *I'm Alive You Bastards* and *I Always Will Be* (Nightbloom Theatre Co); *The Inside Story* (Playwrights Local); *Beyond Therapy* (Access Theatre Project); *Godspell* (Elyria Catholic High School); *The Baltimore Waltz*, *Ordinary Days*, *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*, and *Next to Normal* (Oberlin College). Colin has also worked with Cleveland Public Theatre, Maelstrom Collaborative Arts, Harlequins Theatre, Olde Town Hall Theatre, and The BorderLight Festival of International Theatre, where he acted as Assistant Producer during its founding. He is the Director of Production with Dobama Theatre and the Co-Executive Artistic Director of Nightbloom Theatre Company, Cleveland's newest theatre focused on stories of women and LGBTQ+ folks. This one is dedicated to Mary Ann Sword, who he would give anything to talk to one more time. BA: Oberlin College.



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ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

LUCAS HNATH is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Dramatic Writing. He holds both a B.F.A. and M.F.A. from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Hnath's work as a playwright includes *A Doll's House, Part 2*; *Hillary and Clinton*; *Red Speedo*; *The Christians*; *A Public Reading of an Unproduced Screenplay About the Death of Walt Disney*; *Isaac's Eye*; and *Death Tax*. His work has been produced nationally and internationally, including at Playwrights Horizons, New York Theatre Workshop, Soho Rep, Actors Theatre of Louisville/Humana Festival of New Plays, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, Steppenwolf Theatre, South Coast Repertory, Royal Court Theatre, and on Broadway at the John Golden Theater. He is a member of Ensemble Studio Theatre and a resident of New Dramatists. His plays are published by Dramatists Plays Service, Playscripts, Nick Hern Books, Overlook Press, and Theatre Communications Group. Hnath is a recipient of an Obie, Guggenheim Fellowship, Outer Critics Circle Award for Best New Play, Whiting Award, Kesselring Prize, two Steinberg citations from the American Theatre Critics Association, and a 2017 Tony nomination for Best Play. At NYU, Hnath has previously served as a Language Lecturer in the Expository Writing Program. Additionally, he has taught at Rutgers, University of Rochester, and the Southampton Writers Conference.

 A promotional poster for a homecoming event. The background is light blue with a border of colorful balloons (pink, yellow, green, blue) and streamers. The main text is in large, bold, blue serif font. Below the title, the date and time are listed in bold black font. There are three paragraphs of text on the left side, and a green starburst graphic on the right. At the bottom right is the Heights Libraries logo and website information.

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DOBAMA THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENTS
the Regional Premiere of

THE THIN PLACE

BY LUCAS HNATH

DIRECTED BY COLIN ANDERSON

OCTOBER 7 - 30, 2022

THE CAST

KELLY STRAND†
HILDA

DERDRIU RING*
LINDA

ANJANETTE HALL*
SYLVIA

JAMES RANKIN†
JERRY

CAROLYN DEMANELIS
SWING

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.
† Equity Membership Candidate



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THIS PLAY WILL BE PERFORMED WITH NO INTERMISSION

Patrons who exit the theatre will only be allowed re-entry at the discretion of the Stage Manager.

THE THIN PLACE premiered off-Broadway at Playwrights Horizons on November 22, 2019.

Directed by Les Waters, the production featured Randy Danson, Emily Cass,
Triney Sandoval and Kelly McAndrew.

THE THIN PLACE is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.
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Dobama Theatre is a proud member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre.



PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR

Colin Anderson

ASST. DIRECTOR

Cali Parey

SCENIC/LIGHTING DESIGNER

Jeremy Paul

SOUND DESIGNER

Richard Ingraham

COSTUME DESIGNER

Mark Baiza

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Marcus Dana

STAGE MANAGER

Faith Roush*

ASST. STAGE MANAGER

Yesi Real-Rivera

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Nathan Motta

ASM2/PRODUCTION ASST.

Esma Eddeb

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DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT

Mariah Burks

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Marcus Dana

RESIDENT SOUND DESIGNER

Richard Ingraham

RESIDENT COSTUME DESIGNER

Tesia Dugan Benson

RESIDENT PROPS DESIGNER

Vanessa Cook

RESIDENT SCENIC ARTIST

Justine Schneider

RESIDENT STAGE MANAGER

Joel Rathbone*

RESIDENT ASSISTANT SM

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Owen Schneider

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Cali Parey (Directing)

Michael Glavan(Directing)

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**indicates new board members for the 21/22 Season*

DOBAMA MISSION

Dobama Theatre is dedicated to premiering important new plays by established and emerging playwrights in professional productions of the highest quality. Through theatrical production, community engagement, and education programming, Dobama nurtures the development of theatre artists and builds new audiences for the arts while provoking an examination of our contemporary world.

CAST



ANJANETTE HALL* (SYLVIA) is delighted to be back at Dobama this season. Former Dobama credits; GROUNDED, THE NIGHT ALIVE, AN OCTOROON, BECKY SHAW, THE LYONS, and THE MOTHERF**KER WITH THE HAT. Other

regional credits include; Cleveland Play House; A CAROL FOR CLEVELAND by Eric Coble, Mamai Theatre Company; THREE SISTERS, HEARTBREAK HOUSE. Coach House Theater; BLITHE SPIRIT, Baltimore Centerstage; SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS, Two River Theatre; OPUS, Red Stage Theatre Company; J.B., SPRING'S AWAKENING. She has done a number of short films and commercials, and appeared as Gretchen Huber on NBC's Ed. Anjanette teaches and directs at Baldwin Wallace University. She holds a MFA in Acting from Rutgers University, and a BFA in Musical Theatre Performance from Western Michigan University. Her favorite roles to date are Mom to Jack (13) and Sebastian (4), and wife to Kryz Perry.



JAMES RANKIN (JERRY) is excited to be back on Dobama's stage. James is a Northeast Ohio Local professional EMC actor. James received training from Chicago College of the Performing Arts, Cuyahoga Community College,

Great Lakes Michael Chekov Consortium, but most of his experience comes from on the job. James has worked for over ten years in the area and with various different theaters around town. Some recent work includes: *Much Ado*

About Nothing with Great Lakes Theater, *Our Country's Good* with Seat of the Pants, *Venus in Fur* with None too Fragile, and *I Hate This* with Playhouse Square. James is beyond grateful to have the opportunity to work with such wonderfully talented people and he hopes you enjoy the show. He would also like to thank everyone he has ever worked with, there is something to learn no matter where you are.



DERDRIU RING* (LINDA) A graduate of The Gaiety School of Acting, Ireland, Derdriu was previously seen in *Molly Sweeney*, *Amy's View*, *Big Meal*, *God Of Carnage*, *The Effect* and *Marjorie Prime* at Dobama. Her first

equity role in Cleveland was as Lucy in *Dracula* at The Cleveland Playhouse, since then, she has performed in many local, national and international theaters. Some memorable roles include; Martha in *Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf* (Beck Centre) Slippy Helen in THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN (Geffen Playhouse), Catherine in A LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT (Hartford Stage), Catherine in PROOF (The Cleveland Playhouse), Josie in MOON FOR THE MISBEGOTTEN (Great Lakes Theater), Maggie in HOBSON'S CHOICE (Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre), Pegeen in THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN, (The Irish Rep, NYC) Rosie Redmond in THE PLOUGH & THE STARS (The Guthrie Theatre), Nora Reilly in JOHN BULL'S OTHER ISLAND (Geva Theatre), Maureen in Beauty Queen Of Leenane (None Too Fragile), La Forest in THE ILLUSTRIOUS INVALID (Kinetic Theatre). Television: Law and Order, C.I., Hope & Faith. Film: The Yank, Fortune, You Go First. Derdriu would like to dedicate her performance

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to the memory of her brother Diarmaid Ring and to the memory of her friends and acting giants Dorothy Silver and Michael Maudlin. “Do you not know that a man is not dead while his name is still spoken?” Terry Pratchett.



KELLY STRAND

(HILDA) is excited to be making her debut at Dobama Theatre. Recent credits include Romeo and Juliet (Barter Theatre), The Butcher of Baraboo (none too fragile), and Life Sucks (Contemporary American

Theatre Company). She has also performed with Beck Center for the Arts, Seat of the Pants Productions, and Ensemble Theatre of Cleveland, among others. When not on stage, Kelly spends 70% of her day thinking about ice cream. She would like to send a huge thanks to the cast and crew of The Thin Place, and of course, to Suds and Jers.



CAROLYN DEMANELIS

(SWING) is thrilled to be back in Northeast Ohio and collaborating again at Dobama. She holds her MFA in Acting from The University of Virginia and BA in Theatre from The University of Notre Dame. Ohio credits

include *Grounded*, *The Eight*, *In The Next Room* (Red Herring Productions), *Dance Nation* (Dobama Theatre), *Log Cabin*, *Neighborhood 3...* (convergence-continuum), *Jesus Hopped the ‘A’ Train*, *Noises Off!* (Short North Stage), *The Vultures*, *The View Upstairs* (Evolution Theatre Company), *Winnie-The-Pooh*, *Prima Donna* (CATCO), *Mamma Mia* (Renaissance Theatre). Other regional credits of note: *Alma in Summer & Smoke* (Virginia Repertory Theatre), *Lady Macbeth in Macbeth* (The Wit Theatre Company), and Stage Manager in *Our Town* (University of Virginia). All her love to Zach, Tiernan, Marlowe, and Ladybird.

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PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR

COLIN ANDERSON
(see About the Director)

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

CALI PAREY
(she/her) is a director, stage manager, and teaching artist. She is a determined and passionate student of the world. Cali is honored to be part of the Dobama team as an intern this year! Hailing from Cleveland, she is a graduate of Cleveland State University and recipient of the Reuben and Dorothy Silver Endowed Scholarship. She managed *Into the Woods* and *Marat/Sade* and worked as assistant director on *Polaroid Stories* while at CSU. She has had the pleasure of directing young artists in *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *Winnie the Pooh*, *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley*, *Singing in the Rain Jr.*, and *Pinocchio Jr.* at StageCrafters Youth Theatre. Cali has worked with Dobama and Cleveland Public Theatre in the past. Most recently, Cali directed a local cast in *Waiting For Godot*, in a fundraising effort for The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland. She is so grateful to be surrounded with such creative and talented minds here at Dobama. *Never Ever Give Up*.

SCENIC/LIGHTING DESIGNER

JEREMY PAUL
is director, designer, and interdisciplinary artist. As the founder and Executive Artistic Director of Maelstrom Collaborative Arts since 2006, Jeremy has led the creation of the original productions *Four Futures*, *The Wandering Inferno*, *Who We Used To Be*, *Don't Wander Off*, *Broken Codes*, *The Turing Machine*, *The Grand Celebration of the Celestial Mystery*, *TingleTangle*, *Code: Preludes*, *The Excavation*, and *Marble Cities*. He has directed the world premieres of *Tall Skinny Cruel Cruel Boys*, *Black Cat Lost* and *My Barking Dog* as well as the regional premiere of *Inoculations*, *Anna Bella Eema*, and *Stranded on Earth*. He recently joined Cleveland Institute of Music as the inaugural Interdisciplinary Artist in Residence.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

MARCUS DANA
has worked at Dobama Theatre since 2003 in various capacities including Technical Director and Lighting Designer. Recent shows are: *HANSEL & GRETEL* (Technical Director) with *Nightingale Opera*, *LD Dance Concert: Design Dancing On The Edge*, *Cleveland School of Ballet THE NUTCRACKER*. Previously Lighting includes: *Tri-C East/Metro* from 2000-2016 as Lighting Designer, *Laurel School* 2009-12, *Resident Lighting Designer at Near West Theatre* from 2001-06, *Guest LD at The Canton Players Guild* 2005-11, *Verlezza Dance* 2004-10, *Beck Center* 1995-2000, including *THE SECRET GARDEN*, where he won the 1995-96 Peggy Ezekiel "Award of Outstanding Achievement", *CSU Factory Theatre*, *Cassidy Theatre*, *Karamu House*, *Lake Erie College* 1997-06, *Willoughby Fine Arts Association*, *The Bang and The Clatter Theatre*, *Kalliope Stage*, *The Denver Center for the Performing Arts*, *Bonfils Theatre* and *The Changing Scene*.

SOUND DESIGNER

RICHARD INGRAHAM
first sound designed at Dobama Theatre just over 20 years ago. The *Laramie Project*, which opened the week of September 11, 2001. Since then, he has sound designed *Hand to God*, *Civil War Christmas*, *Middletown*, *Caroline or Change*, *Nightbloomers*, *A Number*, *10 Minutes from Cleveland* and *Ears on A Beetle*. Richard has worked at numerous theatres, schools and attractions in the Cleveland area and throughout the US including: *Ashland University*, *Beck Center for the Arts*, *Baldwin-Wallace University*, *Cain Park*, *Carnegie-Mellon University*, *Chagrin Falls Performing Arts Academy*, *The Cleveland Play House*, *The Cleveland Public Theatre*, *Cleveland State University*, *The University of Evansville*, *Great Lakes Theater*, *Hope Summer Repertory Theatre*, *Idaho Shakespeare Festival*, *Oberlin College*, *Playhouse Square Center*, and *Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines*. Richard is a theatrical consultant and AV systems designer for *About The Stage* and has worked



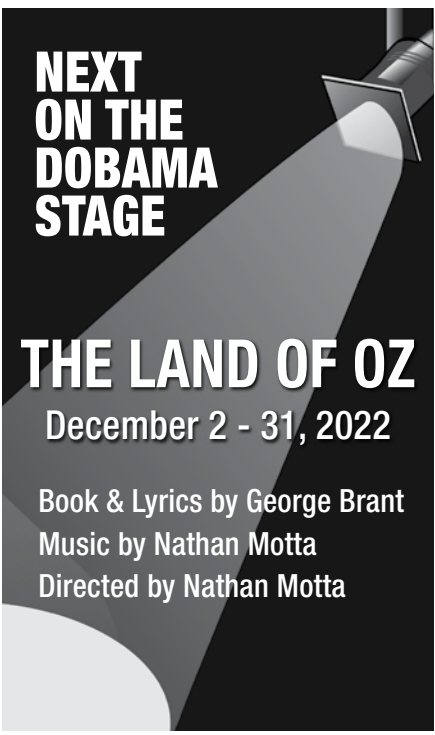
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A black background with a white spotlight beam shining from the top right corner onto the text below.

**NEXT
ON THE
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STAGE**

THE LAND OF OZ
December 2 - 31, 2022

Book & Lyrics by George Brant
Music by Nathan Motta
Directed by Nathan Motta

A black background with a central image of a beer bottle and a gold medal. The bottle is labeled "GREAT LAKES BREWING CO. Dort DORTMUNDER GOLD LAGER". The medal is gold with "Dort" written on it. The background of the image has red, white, and blue stripes.

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STAGE MANAGER

FAITH ROUSH

is a freelance stage manager primarily in northeast Ohio and is ecstatic to be making her debut at Dobama this fall. She earned her bachelor's degree from Kent State University in theatre studies, with a concentration in theatre management during the spring of 2020. Professional credits include *Plaid as Hell* (PM – Babes with Blades Theatre Company, Chicago IL), *The Revolutionists* (SM – Equality Productions, Cincinnati OH), *Godspell* (PSM – Porthouse Theatre), *West Side Story* (ASM – Porthouse Theatre), and *Little Shop of Horrors* (ASM – Porthouse Theatre). Some educational credits include *Parade* (PSM – Kent State University), *Disney's Newsies* (SM Intern – Porthouse Theatre), *Kiss Me, Kate* (ASM/Fly Chief – Kent State University), and many more theatre and dance productions through KSU. This is Faith's first year back to in-person theatre since 2020, and she could

not be more grateful to be a part of the team for this production. She would like to thank her wonderful partner and family for the continuous love and support as she continues her artistic journey. Special thanks to Ron and Alzana Nuzzolillo for inspiring her to pursue a career in the arts.

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

YESENIA REAL

is so excited to once again be part of the Stage Management team at Dobama! She has worked on several Dobama shows as a member of the Stage Management team and as a Prop Designer since 2013. Some shows include *COCK*, *THE BIG MEAL*, *SUPERIOR DONUTS*, *MARIE ANTOINETTE*, *HAND TO GOD*, and *THE THIN PLACE*. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Theater and is currently working on completing her Masters in Career Technical Education and hopes to imprint her passion for theater onto the next generation of artists! She would like to thank her friends and family for their support, and special shoutout to her dog Pickle for being such a good boy.

*Happy endings
begin with . . .*

TASTE

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ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER/ PRODUCTION ASSISTANT ESMA EDDEB

(Production Assistant/directing intern): Esma is honored to be working with Dobama! Her past credits include working at American Shakespeare Center, Playhouse Square, and Great Lakes Theatre. She'd like to thank her parents and her husband Hashim for being so supportive in all her endeavors.

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

ERIN E. DOLAN

(she/her) is an Actor, Director, Educator, Playwright, and Poet based in Northeast Ohio. Originally from western Massachusetts, Erin spent her later childhood in Lorain County. She studied theatre at Kent State University and Lorain County Community College, where she first discovered her great love of including children in the creative process. Her path led her to Houston, Texas, and later to Columbus and Akron, Ohio, where she focused solely

on her work in Early Childhood Education for several years. In 2017, Erin returned to Cleveland to rejoin the exciting and dynamic arts community here. Erin has over twenty years of experience as a classroom educator, the last eight of which included administration. She is the co-founder of Awesome Possum Theatre Company as well as Stratosphere, a performing arts collective. Erin was most recently heard



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DOBAMA EMERGING ACTORS PROGRAM (DEAP)

JULY 5-30, 2023

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For more information, visit dobama.org.

onstage as the voice of Val Fuego in Web of Deceit (Stratosphere/BorderLight Festival), an illustrated radio play. Recent directing credits include James and the Giant Peach (LCCC/Spark Theatre 4 Youth collaboration), Cupid & Psyche (Stratosphere), Burst of Thought (Cleveland Public Theatre's Pandemonium). Also a playwright, Erin has been commissioned to adapt children's classics for The Illusion Factory in Akron, Talespinner Children's Theatre in Cleveland, and most recently Spark Theatre 4 Youth in Elyria, Ohio. Erin is a proud and vocal advocate for artists and educators. She strives to nurture in all children, artists, and audiences an enthusiasm for learning and an appreciation for their own imagination.

COSTUME DESIGNER

MARK BAIZA

studied Design in Los Angeles at FIDM. Markie's had the pleasure of costuming at The Old Globe Theatre San Diego, Waterfront Playhouse Key West, Detroit Opera House and

is overjoyed and terribly excited to be working on this spooktacular production of The Thin Place with the amazing team at Dobama.

PRODUCTION MANAGER

NATHAN MOTTA

(SEE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR)

PLAYWRIGHTS' GYM

WHAT IS THE PLAYWRIGHTS' GYM?

The Playwrights' GYM is Dobama Theatre's playwrights' unit. The GYM is a program that provides local playwrights with the opportunity to workshop new work. GYM playwrights are area professionals who are given various resources to help further their work, including rehearsal space, collaboration with a director to assist the playwright, marketing and public events supported by the theatre. The GYM's goal is to nurture new work in a safe environment.

THE GYM HAS TWO PARTS

GYMreads: staged readings of full plays are conducted in the theatre. These are scheduled throughout the season.

GYMworks: a "showcase" where scenes from full length plays or shorter theatrical works by GYM playwrights are performed in an annual or bi-annual event.

THE PLAYWRIGHTS

Meredith King
Lisa Langford
Claire Robinson May
Avery Pope
Eric Schmiedl
Amy Schwabauer
Faye Sholiton
Logan Cutler Smith
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For more information, visit dobama.org.

DOBAMA STAFF

COLIN ANDERSON

DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION

(he/him) has spent his life in Cleveland, which he now calls his artistic home as a director, producer and administrator. He is proud to be openly gay and a fierce advocate for LGBTQ+ equity and access in the theatre industry and beyond. Directing credits include *Your Final Night Alive*, *The Soliloquy Project - Significant Other*, *She Washed His Hands*, *Spring's Awakening* (DEAP, upcoming), *Unicorn Lost in NYC* (Dobama); *I'm Alive You Bastards and I Always Will Be* (Nightbloom Theatre Co); *The Inside Story* (Playwrights Local); *The Last Five Years* (upcoming - Olde Town Hall); *Beyond Therapy* (Access Theatre Project); *The Baltimore Waltz*, *Ordinary Days*, *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*, and *Next to Normal* (Oberlin College). Colin has also worked with Cleveland Public Theatre, Harlequins Theatre, Elyria Catholic High School, and BorderLight International Theatre + Fringe Festival, where he acted as Assistant Producer during its founding. He is the Co-Founding Artistic Director of Nightbloom Theatre Company, Cleveland's theatre focused on stories of women and LGBTQ+ folks and a partner of Studio West. BA: Oberlin College. colintyleranderson.com Email: canderson@dobama.org

MARIAH BURKS

DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT

is a Cleveland, OH native. For the past 20 years she has collaborated with many theaters across greater Cleveland and more. As an actress, singer, director, and educator she thrives to gain even more versatility. Her work has mainly been seen at Cleveland Play House, where she is currently playing the titular role of Antigone. Other credits include: *Clue: A New Comedy* (The Cook); *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Logainne) and more. An alumni of the CWRU/CPH MFA Acting Program and a graduate of Bowling Green State University's Musical Theatre Program. Mariah was the recipient of the National Irene Ryan Acting Award at the Kennedy Center(ACTF) in Washington, DC. Other regional and local theatre work includes: AIRNESS (Dobama Theatre), *Caroline*, or *Change* (Tantrum

Theatre) and *RAGTIME* (Cain Park). Instagram: @magical_mariahb Email: mariahb@dobama.org

ELISE KUKLINCA

CONNECTIVITY DIRECTOR

began working at Dobama in 2015 in the box office before transitioning to the Patron Services Manager in 2018. In 2021, Elise became Connectivity Director, a role that encompasses fostering internal communication, connecting with artists, working with volunteers, and building deeper relationships with the greater community. Previously, Elise could be found in myriad places including La Jolla Playhouse, Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati, The Carnegie and Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis. Email: elisek@dobama.org

NATHAN MOTTA

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

is the 5th Artistic Director in Dobama Theatre's 60-year history, where he's directed productions of *The Flick* (2017 Best Director- Cleveland Critics Circle), *An Octoroon* (2016 Best Director- Cleveland Critics Circle), *Stupid Fucking Bird* (2019 Best Director- Cleveland Critics Circle), *The Old Man and the Old Moon*, *Ella Enchanted*, *This*, *Appropriate*, *John, Sherlock Holmes: The Baker Street Irregulars*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Superior Donuts*, *A Bright New Boise*, *The Lyons*, *Time Stands Still*, *The Aliens*, *A Civil War Christmas: An American Musical Celebration*, *Marie Antoinette*, and the World Premiere of *How To Be A Respectable Junkie*. A professional director, conductor, and composer/lyricist, Motta has worked with Cleveland Play House, Great Lakes Theater, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Oberlin College, Cleveland State University, John Carroll University, Baldwin Wallace University, Opera Cleveland, Ohio Light Opera, Cain Park, Cleveland Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Mercury Opera Rochester (NY), and Civic Light Opera (Pittsburgh). He is the Founding Artistic Director of the Dobama Emerging Artists Program (DEAP), Dobama's elite summer acting program. He has written two original musicals,

Little White Gloves and *Midsummer*. He holds a B.F.A. from Carnegie Mellon University and an M.M. from the Eastman School of Music. Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC), the national theatrical union that unites, empowers and protects professional Stage Directors and Choreographers throughout the United States. Email: nmotta@dobama.org

ERIN DOLAN

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

(she/her) is an Actor, Director, Educator, Playwright, and Poet based in Northeast Ohio. Originally from western Massachusetts, Erin spent her later childhood in Lorain County. She studied theatre at Kent State University and Lorain County Community College, where she first discovered her great love of including children in the creative process. Her path led her to Houston, Texas, and later to Columbus and Akron, Ohio, where she focused solely on her work in Early Childhood Education for several years. In 2017, Erin returned to Cleveland to rejoin the exciting and dynamic arts community here. Erin has over twenty years of experience as a classroom educator, the last eight of which included administration. She is the co-founder of Awesome Possum Theatre Company as well as Stratosphere, a performing arts collective. Erin was most recently heard onstage as the voice of Val Fuego in *Web of Deceit* (Stratosphere/BorderLight Festival), an illustrated radio play. Recent directing credits include *James and the Giant Peach* (LCCC/Spark Theatre 4 Youth collaboration), *Cupid & Psyche*

(Stratosphere), *Burst of Thought* (Cleveland Public Theatre's Pandemonium). Also a playwright, Erin has been commissioned to adapt children's classics for The Illusion Factory in Akron, Talespinners Children's Theatre in Cleveland, and most recently Spark Theatre 4 Youth in Elyria, Ohio. Erin is a proud and vocal advocate for artists and educators. She strives to nurture in all children, artists, and audiences an enthusiasm for learning and an appreciation for their own imagination.

CARRIE WILLIAMS

EDUCATION DIRECTOR

is a performer, director, scenic artist, and a fierce arts education advocate. After earning a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from Bowling Green State University, she moved to Cleveland to join Great Lakes Theatre's acclaimed School Residency Program as an Actor-Teacher. She has taught and created programming for a multitude of organizations, including Playhouse Square, Ensemble Theatre, French Creek Theatre, Brecksville Theatre on the Square, Fairmount Center for the Arts, Hawken School, and Talespinners Children's Theatre. Her artistic pedagogy focuses on exploring collaborative processes, fostering creativity, and empowering youth to step outside their comfort zone. Here she coordinates the Marilyn Bianchi Kids' Playwriting Festival, the longest-running celebration of young playwrights in the United States. Email: carrie@dobama.org

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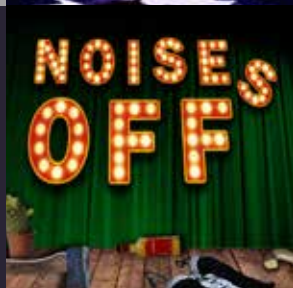
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