

**DOBAMA
THEATRE**



WHAT WE LOOK LIKE

Written By
B.J. Tindal

Directed By
Darius J. Stubbs

APRIL 21 — MAY 14, 2023

WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM





LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In recognizing the land upon which we reside, we express our gratitude and appreciation to those who lived and worked here before us; those whose stewardship and resilient spirit makes our residence possible on this traditional homeland of the Lenape (Delaware), Shawnee, Wyandot Miami, Ottawa, Potawatomi, and other Great Lakes tribes (Chippewa, Kickapoo, Wea, Pinakshaw, and Kaskaskia). We also acknowledge the thousands of Native Americans who now call Northeast Ohio home. Dobama Theatre and the greater Cleveland area occupy land officially ceded by 1100 chiefs and warriors signing the Treaty of Greenville in 1795.

SOLIDARITY STATEMENT

Dobama Theatre is committed to anti-racism action and a culture of authentic inclusivity. This effort is ongoing and will not end anytime soon. Our work is divided into three parts: The People, The Work, and The Process. The People come first, as they also do in our core values. We care for the whole person and create a larger, more equitable table for all to pursue our mission together. The Work are actions being taken to root out white supremacist, misogynistic, homophobic, transphobic, ableist, and other oppressive structures so that we might replace them with organizational tools built on consensus, transparency, and trust. The Process is how we will move forward in equitably representing and investing in the community we serve, and how we will continue to assess our progress, remain accountable, and determine further action in years to come.

For more information on these and other efforts, visit dobama.org/antiracism

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



When playwright B.J. Tindal first popped up on my computer screen to start a zoom call sometime well into the pandemic shutdown, I was welcomed with a joyful smile and a warm spirit. During that first conversation, we started by sharing how we were doing and talked about what we had been up to personally and professionally during the difficult and uncertain time. I remember laughing a lot. So, when we finally began to discuss B.J.'s playwriting, it was immediately apparent that the joy, warmth, and humor that I had experienced in reading *WHAT WE LOOK LIKE* were things I was now experiencing while spending a little virtual time with its author.

The stories we tell and how we tell them matter. One of the many things I enjoy about this play is that it explores nuanced and challenging material through the vehicle of a true comedy, with sitcom-inspired dialogue and situations that are as American as the issues it comments on. This play looks like America in a number of ways, and to spend a couple of hours with these families is a ton of fun because we can see ourselves in the characters we meet.

The title *WHAT WE LOOK LIKE* is full of meaning. The Hodges are dealing with some of the obstacles they encounter because of, in part, what they look like and what the people around them look like. On another level, this is what we all look like – families trying to make their way the best they can, striving to be authentic to our individual selves, while loving and caring for the parents, siblings, and children with whom we walk through the world. Amidst all the laughs generously scattered throughout this performance, I hope you recognize the moments when you identify with the Hodges so that, when you leave the theatre, it's with both a meaningful experience and a smile on your face.

We are honored to be producing the professional World Premiere of *WHAT WE LOOK LIKE*. This play was birthed at Oberlin College almost a decade ago and has been further developed at Dobama over the past two years in anticipation of this production. This development was an important part of the work we did at Dobama Theatre when we were unable to produce live, in-person theatre onstage. Now, we look forward to finally enjoying an audience response to this fantastic play and seeing what the future holds for this hilarious, timely, and extraordinary script.

With Love and Respect,

Nathan Motta



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ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



DARIUS STUBBS (he/him) is a poet, playwright, performer, vocalist and educator who has been living and working in Cleveland, OH since 2006. He has collaborated with many creative thinkers across the city in the creation of over a dozen original performance pieces spanning the genre spectrum from performance art to fully-staged production at local theatres including Cleveland Public Theatre and Near West Theatre. Darius has been a featured speaker in an array of venues and events, including TedXCle 2015 “Untold” series, City Club of Cleveland’s Forum on Transgender Identity in Northeast Ohio, CPT’s Station Hope and Guide to Kulchur’s “Uncanny Voices” series. Darius has also been highlighted among Scene Magazine’s “Cleveland People” series, and was awarded the Greater Cleveland Community Shares Rising Activist Award in 2016. He is also the Vice Chair of the board of TransOhio, a non-profit dedicated to education and advocacy in order to better the lives of transgender Ohioans.

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ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

B.J. TINDAL (they/them) is a Black queer playwright, teaching artist, cartoon-supremacist and sour candy enthusiast. They recently moved back to their hometown of Philadelphia after completing their MFA in Writing for the Screen and Stage at Northwestern University. Since moving back to Philly, BJ has been working with a number of organizations devoted to Arts-Education, including Philly Young Playwrights and After-School Activities Partnerships. BJ's play *Goodnight*, Tyler received its world premiere in February 2019 at the Alliance Theater and has been published with Concord Theatricals. BJ is also a member of Azuka Theatre's Rising Writers cohort in Philadelphia, PA. Their new plays *What We Look Like* (Dobama Theatre in Cleveland, OH) and *The Queer Couch* (The Wayward Artists in Santa Ana, CA) will both premiere in 2023.



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- Use code JFED for \$12 discounted tickets; regular price is \$24.
- For groups of 10 or more, tickets are \$5 each. Call group sales at 216-640-8600.

DOBAMA THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENTS
The Professional World Premiere of

WHAT WE LOOK LIKE

BY B.J. TINDAL

DRAMATURGY BY MAANSI SAHAY SETH
DIRECTED BY DARIUS J. STUBBS

APRIL 21 - MAY 14, 2023

THE CAST

AAMAR-MALIK CULBRETH
EDMOND HODGES

DIWE AUGUSTIN-GLAVE
ANGIE HODGES

ROB GRANT III
BRIAN HODGES

ALEXA FATHERINGHAM
ZOE BECKSONS/
SALLY-MAE HOCKENBERRY

KATRICEMONEE HEADD+
JEAN HODGES

KATIE BOOZE-MOONEY
MARTHA HOCKENBERRY/
SARAH BECKONS

ANDREW GORELL*
ROBERT HOCKENBERRY/
STEVEN BECKONS

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



Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 49,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. actorsequity.org

THIS PLAY WILL BE PERFORMED WITH A 15 MINUTE INTERMISSION
Patrons who exit the theatre will only be allowed re-entry at the discretion of the Stage Manager.

WHAT WE LOOK LIKE was created and first performed at Oberlin College under the mentorship of Caroline Jackson Smith.

WHAT WE LOOK LIKE was developed by Dobama Theatre (Cleveland, OH) and received its professional world premiere there on April 21, 2023. Nathan Motta, Artistic Director / Colin Anderson, Director of Production

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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

Darius Stubbs

STAGE MANAGER

Barbara Kozlov

ASST. STAGE MANAGER

Cali Parey

ASST. DIRECTOR

Bridgette Martinez

DRAMATURG

Maansi Sahay Seth

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Marcus Dana

SCENIC DESIGNER

Cameron Michalak

SCENIC PAINTER

Justine Schneider

Jamie Cohen-Kiraly

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Adam Ditzel

SOUND DESIGNER

Derek A. Graham

COSTUME DESIGNER

Suwatana Rockland

WARDROBE

Lady Jen Ryan

PROPS DESIGNER

Dred Geib

INTIMACY DIRECTOR

Casey Venema

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Colin Anderson

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Bea Shakow

DOBAMA STAFF

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Nathan Motta

DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION

Colin Anderson

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

Erin Dolan

CONNECTIVITY DIRECTOR

Elise Kuklinca

EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Carrie Williams

DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT

Mariah Burks

RESIDENT LIGHTING DESIGNER

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

Elizabeth Cammett

BOX OFFICE STAFF

Owen Schneider

DOBAMA THEATRE INTERNS

Esma Eddeb (Directing)

Cali Parey (Directing)

Michael Glavan(Directing)

DOBAMA FOCUS APPRENTICE

Jasmine A. Golphin
(Projections)

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Bill Newby

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CAST



**AAMAR-MALIK
CULBRETH**

(EDMOND) is thrilled to be back at Dobama after making his regional debut in Kill Move Paradise last season as TINY. He is from Charlotte, NC and is a second year Music Theatre Major at Baldwin

Wallace University. His favorite roles include Everybody in Everybody, Walter Lee Younger in Raisin and the Sun, Will Rogers in Will Rogers Follies, Roger in Rent, Anthony Hope in Sweeney Todd and Benvolio in Romeo and Juliet. Thank you to everyone in the cast, crew and creative team for making this show happen and thank you to everyone for coming out and supporting! Hey Mom! Thanks for everything! Love you! Instagram - @aamarmc



ANDREW GORELL*

(ROBERT HOCKENBERRY/ STEVEN BECKONS) returned to Cleveland after a few years away performing in Disney's THE LION KING as Zazu (National Tour). Previously at Dobama:

LIFE SUCKS (Aster) and PETER AND THE STARCATCHER (Smee). Local: Cleveland Play House, Beck Center, Ohio Shakespeare Festival, and Seat of the Pants. Regional: Charleston Stage, The American Shakespeare Center, Philadelphia Shakespeare Theater, the Milwaukee Rep, amongst others. Film/ TV: DOWNWARD DOG (ABC), MY FRIEND DAHMER, BYE BYE MAN, and a Partner in g2h films. Education: MFA, Case Western Reserve University, housed at the Cleveland Play House; BA, University of Minnesota. Andrew is a proud member of Actor's Equity and SAG-AFTRA. For Rune and J.



**ALEXA
FATHERINGHAM**

(ZOE BECKSONS/ SALLY-MAE HOCKENBERRY) is beyond blessed to make her Dobama debut with this production of *What We Look Like*. Alexa is a Cleveland State graduate,

Class of '18 with a BA in Theater Performance. After graduation, she was a part of a handful of Cleveland Public Theater performances, most notably Bedroom Culture (Test Flight 2022), as well as, Labyrinth (Pandemonium 2018), Coyote (Entry Point 2020), and When The Seed Opens (Pandemonium 2021). Currently, Alexa is teaching art/performance to children K-2nd at Rainey Institute while continuing to perform and work on her craft. She would like to thank her parents for their unconditional support.



**DIWE AUGUSTIN-
GLAVE**

(ANGIE) is an actor, poet and educator. They are overjoyed to be making their professional debut at Dobama theater located in their hometown, Cleveland Heights. Diwe received

their BA in Theater from Oberlin College in spring of 2022 with a concentration in performance and a minor in Africana Studies. They are currently a Teaching Artist and Site Coordinator at Cleveland Public Theater in their CMHA CAN program. They are an alum of Beaumont School and The Aspire Program at Hathaway Brown where they taught as a

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.

Junior Teacher and Core Teacher for four summers. In addition to acting, writing and performing poetry, and teaching, Diwe enjoys singing, dancing, shopping and dressing up, dyeing and cutting their hair, improvisation and stand-up. They recently had the privilege of originating the role of ARES, god of war, in OLYMPUS, a new musical written by Cyril Amanfo about young Black Greek gods and goddesses battling familial trauma and each other. This was directed by Caroline Jackson Smith and Ti Ames at Oberlin College in 2022. Diwe knew they wanted to work with these phenomenal artists after seeing their work in a production of BJ Tindal's What We Look Like when they were a freshman in college in 2018. It is truly a blessing to be invited to play ANGIE HODGES in this professional debut of What We Look Like in the beautiful city of Cleveland Heights. Endless thanks to all the family, friends, professors and peers who encourage me everyday. I hope you enjoy the show!



ROB GRANT III
(BRIAN HODGES)

Cleveland-bound, Rob Grant III is excited to be in his first Dobama production and a world premiere. He is looking forward to working with talented peers and a talented playwright. You

last saw Rob in Year of the Rooster at None Too Fragile theater in 2021. You will also be able to see him in two theatrical productions: One is called Shirley starring Regina King which will be on Netflix soon. The other film is called Shelby Oaks with Keith David. I want to thank Dobama theater for allowing me to play again. I want to thank my Lord and Savior for blessing

me with the health I need to keep going. Lastly, I want to thank Mariah Burks for being with me from day one. And now...enjoy the show.



KATRICEMONEE HEADD†

(JEAN HODGES) previously at Dobama Theatre, AN OCTOROON (Minnie), WAKEY, WAKEY (Lisa), and A CIVIL WAR CHRISTMAS (multiple roles). Katrice is both a professional actor and visual artist. For more information visit katricemonee.com



KATIE BOOZE-MOONEY

(MARTHA HOCKENBERRY/SARAH BECKONS) recently moved to the Cleveland area from New York City and is beyond thrilled to be part of this production

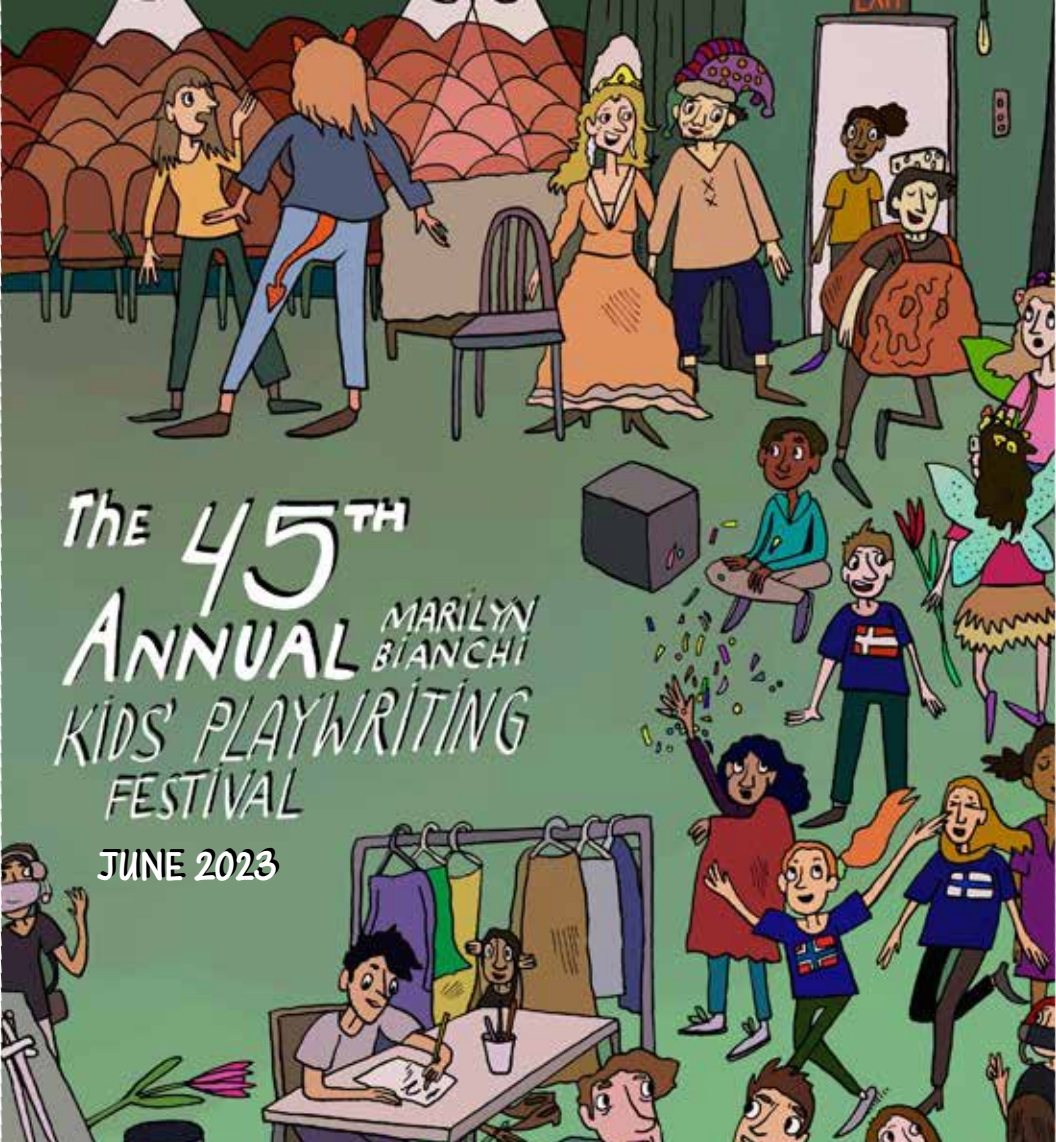
at Dobama Theater. She is an actor, writer, and arts educator, as well as the proud co-host of the Hallmark movie review podcast called One Kiss Means Forever. Katie has a BFA from The New School and plans to continue her education in theater and drama therapy. Besides performing, Katie is passionate about puzzles, vegetarian food, true crime podcasts, discovering what makes artists "tick," and her cat, Persephone. A huge, ginormous thank you to her family, because she would not be the person she is today without their love and support. A special thank you to her very soon-to-be husband, Billy. Proud AEA and SAG-AFTRA member.

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THE 45TH ANNUAL MARILYN BIANCHI KIDS' PLAYWRITING FESTIVAL

JUNE 2023

Dedicated to the memory of Marilyn Bianchi (actress, director and a founding member of Dobama) and the first playwriting festival of its kind in the United States, this Dobama tradition continues its long history with the 45th Festival in June 2023!

We receive hundreds of plays written by Northeast Ohio students grades 1 – 12 throughout the year. Select winning entries are performed as part of a FREE Kids' Fest weekend.

Email youngplaywrights@dobama.org for more information on how to participate.

PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR

DARIUS STUBBS
(see About the Director)

STAGE MANAGER

BARBARA KOZLOV
is proud to join Dobama once again, this time as a Production Stage Manager. Previous Dobama credits include STEW and the world premier of THE LAND OF OZ. She would like to thank her family and friends for their unwavering support, and Viewers Like You!

ASST. STAGE MANAGER

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! This season she served as Assistant Director and Props Master for The Thin Place here at Dobama. Hailing from Cleveland, she is a graduate of Cleveland State University. She Stage Managed Into the Woods, Marat/Sade

and worked as Assistant Director on Polaroid Stories while at CSU. 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!

ASST. DIRECTOR

BRIDGETT MARTINEZ
(she/her) is an actor, director, and teaching artist currently based in Chicago. She is a Cleveland native and has worked as a director and teaching artist at Near West Theatre, Cleveland Public Theatre, and Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center. At Dobama, Bridgett directed *The Devil Made Me Do It* as part of the 2022 Marilyn Bianchi Kids Playwriting Festival. Other credits include *COQUÍ* (Near West Theatre/BorderLight Festival) and *The River Bride* (Cleveland Public Theatre/Teatro Público de Cleveland). In 2021, she was a recipient of the Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center Support For Artists grant, which she used to

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Chow**



**Angela
Cheng**

piano faculty

Oberlin Conservatory of Music



**Olga
Kern**

piano



**Vladislav
Kern**

piano

IT'S ALL RELATIVE

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May 31 | 7:30pm



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DRAMATURG

MAANSI SAHAY SETH

is a new works dramaturg and a proud graduate of Oberlin College where Maansi had the honor of developing several esteemed pieces with B.J. Tindal, including *What We Look Like*. While Maansi enjoys both kale and collards, Maansi's first preference is for saag, and deeply recommends it to the unfamiliar. Lastly, Maansi is absolutely humbled and excited to be working with the integrous Dobama Theatre.

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.

SCENIC DESIGNER

CAMERON MICHALAK

SCENIC PAINTER

JUSTINE SCHNEIDER

is a freelance artist from the Cleveland area. She is happy to make her return to Dobama Theatre as their Resident Scenic Artist this season! Justine has previously painted many of Dobama's productions including, but not limited to; HAND TO GOD, THE FLICK, THE NIGHT ALIVE, AN OCTOROON, MARIE ANTOINETTE, PETER

AND THE STARCATCHER and THE REALISTIC JONESES. Justine has also painted for Great Lakes Theater, Cleveland Play House, Chagrin Falls Performing Arts Academy, Near West Theatre and Cedar Point's Halloweekends. She is always up for a challenge and enjoys how each production is a brand new experience! For more information and pictures from her various theatrical endeavors, visit www.facebook.com/artistjustineschneider/.

SCENIC PAINTER

JAMIE COHEN-KIRALY

is a contemporary artist in Cleveland. She graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Art in 2020, and has continued her career as a professional artist in the form of theater, tattooing, murals, and other painting projects. As a former Dobama Theatre intern, she is now working on many shows behind the scenes, building and painting productions around the Cleveland area.

LIGHTING DESIGNER

ADAM DITZEL

is a Cleveland based lighting designer, artist, and programmer. Recent Northeast Ohio theatre designs include: *The Liar* for CPH / CWRU, *Tuesdays with Morrie* for Magical Theatre, *The Addams Family* and *The Music Man* for Near West Theatre. Other N.E. Ohio design work includes: *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and *A Member of the Wedding* for the Beck Center, *A Little Night Music* and *Merrily We Roll Along* for Lakeland Civic Theatre, and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* for Heidelberg University. Recent dance designs include work for: Verb Ballets, Cleveland Ballet, and Inlet Dance. He holds a degree in Lighting Design & Technology from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM).

SOUND DESIGNER

DEREK A. GRAHAM

is a sound designer/composer based in North Carolina. Dobama Credits: *Kill Move Paradise*; *Skeleton Crew*; *Wakey, Wakey*; *An Octoroon*. Regional: *They Do Not Know Harlem* (Playmakers Repertory Company); *I Shall Not Be Moved/Your Negro Tour Guide* (Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati (Featured at 2022 Edinburgh Festival Fringe); *The Passion of Teresa Rae*

King, A Raisin in the Sun (Triad Stage). Recent composer credits: *Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help* (Asolo Repertory Theatre); *In Every Generation* (TheatreWorks Silicon Valley); *Toni Stone* (Milwaukee Repertory Theatre/Alliance Theatre); *Protocol* (Portland Center Stage); *The Chinese Lady* (Artists Repertory Theatre) Television/Live Stream: Front-of-House Mix Engineer for White House Event with VP Kamala Harris at AJ Fletcher Opera Theatre – Jan. 30, 2023 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNV1twnik5w&list=PLRJNAhZxtqH9BDCPh2jCFQakOTIaJ-br6&index=296&t=665s>. University: *Detroit '67* (Baldwin Wallace University Theatre); Education: BA in Music at Elizabeth City State University. MFA in Sound Design at Ohio University. Other: Co-Founder of Life by Design Media & Production, LLC Twitter: @DGrahamSound Instagram: @DGrahamSound

COSTUME DESIGNER

SUWATANA ROCKLAND

who also uses the nickname Pla, is delighted to join Dobama Theatre as Costume Designer for *What We Look Like*. She is currently resident costume designer, professor, and costume shop supervisor at The College of Wooster. SUWATANA is originally from Thailand. She is a former professional dancer, actress, director, choreographer, and designer. Suwatana has worked on Industrials, Commercials, Television Shows and Stage Productions. Before moving to Ohio, she worked in Thailand and Colorado and Arizona. In addition to her full-time employment, she finds time to freelance as a costume designer and guest lecturer for universities and theatres in the US and Thailand. She holds Master of Fine Art Degree (M.F.A.) focus on Costume Design and Technician from Kent State University and member of USITT. Her professional credits in Ohio have included Kent State, The Players Guild Theatre, Porthouse Theatre, Beck Center for The Arts, The Ohio Light Opera, Case Western Reserve University, MFA professional Acting program and the Cleveland Playhouse. She is currently designing the costumes for *Camelot* at The Ohio Light Opera and a collaboration with Dutch director Liesbeth

Coltrof for *10 Children Watching Butterflies* at the Cleveland Playhouse.
www.Plarocklanddesign.com

WARDROBE

LADY JEN RYAN

Lady Jen is beyond thrilled to return to Dobama. She has performed and worked from behind the curtain for over three decades. She majored in vocal performance and minored in musical theatre at Bowling Green State University. She is an operatically trained vocalist, a fully licensed cosmetologist, an experienced makeup artist, an accomplished dresser/stylist and a distinguished costume designer. Lady Jen would like to acknowledge her support system and theatre muses. LG, RB, RGS, - Special Thanks to Ms. Walker, My Beast, My Boo, My King – only you.

PROPS DESIGNER

DRED GEIB

is a 28-year-old Akron Native who is working as a production designer for film, theater, art installation, and live events in the Northeast Ohio Area. Some of his career highlights are working with Machine Gun Kelly, The Cleveland Cavaliers, and designing a show on Broadway.

INTIMACY DIRECTOR

CASEY VENEMA

is a freelance intimacy choreographer, actor, director, and devising artist focused on bringing unheard narratives to the stage. She is an alumna of Bucknell University, where she graduated summa cum laude with a BA in Theatre and Film and Media Studies. Her career as an intimacy choreographer started in college with her own directing projects, and since then, she has choreographed for several theatres in Northeast Ohio including Dobama Theatre, Karamu House, Seat of the Pants, Playwright's Local, and her own company, Nightbloom Theatre Co. She is absolutely ecstatic to be Dobama's first Resident Intimacy Choreographer. For more information about her artistic adventures, you can follow Casey on Instagram @caseyvenem8 and on her website: www.caseyvenema.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

BEA SHAKOW

Bea Shakow is a budding professional stage manager and a soon-to-be graduate of Case Western Reserve University, where she has majored in theater. She has experience as a stage manager, having worked on productions such as "Arcadia" (dir. Jerrold Scott), "Spring Awakening" (dir. Colin Anderson), and "Alice Tierney" (dir. Christopher Mirto). She is very happy to be working with Dobama again!

PRODUCTION MANAGER

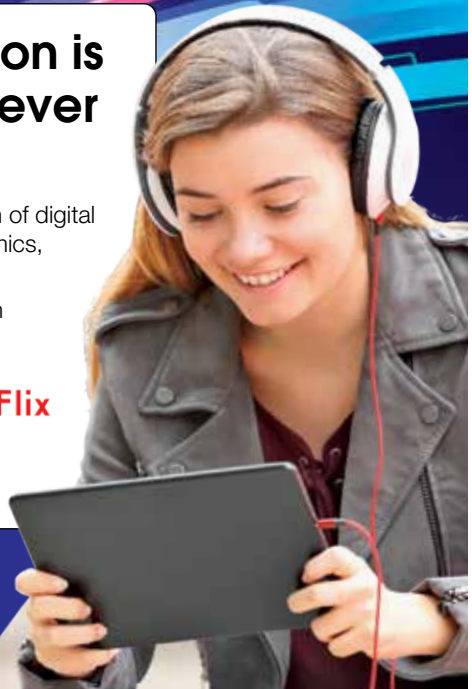
COLIN ANDERSON

(See Staff Director of Production)

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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 intimacy choreographer. 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 *The Thin Place*, *MBKPF - Your Final Night Alive*, *The Soliloquy Project - Significant Other*, *She Washed His Hands*, *DEAP - Spring Awakening: A Children's Tragedy* (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); *The Baltimore Waltz*, *Ordinary Days*, *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*, and *Next to Normal* (Oberlin College). Colin has also worked with Maelstrom Collaborative Arts, Cleveland Public Theatre, Harlequins Theatre, Olde Town Hall Theatre, Elyria Catholic High School, and BorderLight International Theatre + Fringe Festival, where he acted as Assistant Producer during its founding. He is a proud member of The Greenhouse, an ensemble of artists who work, play, and nurture creativity together. BA: Oberlin College. colintyleranderson.com
Email: canderson@dobama.org

MARIAH BURKS

DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT

is a Cleveland, OH native. For the past 22 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 *ANTIGONE* (Cleveland Play House).
Instagram: [@magical_mariahb](https://www.instagram.com/magical_mariahb)
Email: mariahb@dobama.org

ERIN DOLAN

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

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/



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WHAT WE LOOK LIKE

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. Email: edolan@dobama.org

ESMA EDDEB DIRECTING INTERN

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 endeavours.

MICHAEL GLAVAN

DIRECTING INTERN/TEACHING ARTIST (he/him) is an actor, director, and teaching artist originally from the greater Cleveland area. After graduating Kent State University, Michael moved to New York City and worked off-Broadway and regionally across the country as an actor for the better part of the last decade. His longest running off-Broadway role made appearances in Bravo Network's *The Shahs of Sunset* as well as *Watch What Happens Live with Andy Cohen*, which began a modest career in television and commercial work. As a director Michael has relished the opportunity to stage a pretty wide breadth of production. Directing credits include: *The Haunted Forest* featured in the 2022 Marilyn Bianchi Kid's Playwriting Festival, *She Kills Monsters* currently (fall '22) in rehearsal at Laurel School, *Godspell* and [title of show] at KSU's E-Z Blackbox, *Richard III* with The Mad Rogues (formerly Bard and Bourbon) in Milwaukee, *Macbeth* with a Chekhov-focused studio theatre company Name of Bird in NYC, *Joey and Ron* a 60s bubblegum pop musical at the Player's Theatre in NYC, as well as developing new short works within a performance series

DOBAMA EMERGING ACTORS PROGRAM (DEAP)

JULY 5-30, 2023

Having completed its 12th season and on to the 13th, DEAP is the only summer intensive program in the region that is focused on technique-based training for a small ensemble of high school and college students. Serious young actors receive training in Meisner, Laban, Michael Chekhov, and Alexander Technique. The program culminates with a blackbox production of a heightened text play.



For more information, visit dobama.org.

titled *Fast and Furious* which premiered monthly at the Tank in NYC. Since returning to Cleveland Michael has had the pleasure of getting more acquainted with NEOhio theatres: working with Rubber City Theatre's 2021 new musical development series; with Cleveland Playhouse as a teaching artist for John Adams High School, Stevenson, OLMC; with Dobama in the 2021 production of *Airness* as well as MBKPF; with Porthouse Theatre in the 2022 production of *Little Shop of Horrors*; with The Greenhouse as a prospective member of the actors' studio collective. Instagram: @mglavan425 Email: mike.glavan@gmail.com

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

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

Christopher Johnston
Meredith King
Lisa Langford
Claire Robinson May
Avery Pope
Eric Schmiedl
Amy Schwabauer
Faye Sholiton
Logan Cutler Smith
Greg Vovos
Dr. Mary E. Weems
Rachel Zake

For more information, visit dobama.org.

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

CALI PAREY DIRECTING INTERN

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.

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 Talespinner 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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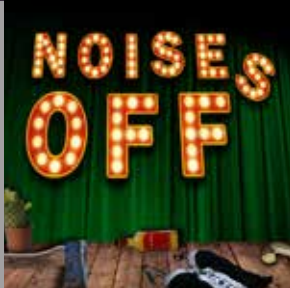
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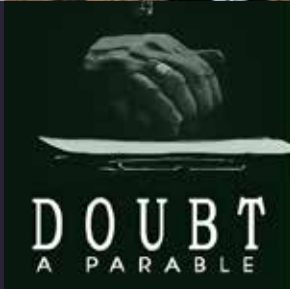
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