UMD School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies presents

FEARLESS NEW PLAY FESTIVAL

Jennifer Barclay, Festival Director Dael Orlandersmith, Keynote Playwright



THEATRE, DANCE, &
PERFORMANCE STU

February 9–11, 2023

KOGOD THEATRE

AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

THEATRE DANCE

FEARLESS NEW PLAY FESTIVAL

Directed by Jennifer Barclay
KOGOD THEATRE
FEBRUARY 9-11, 2023

THE BOOK CLUB PLAY

by Karen Zacarías Directed by Fatima Quander KAY THEATRE FEBRUARY 24-MARCH 4, 2023

FACULTY DANCE CONCERT

Directed by Sara Pearson
DANCE THEATRE
MARCH 10–12, 2023

THE LATE WEDDING

By Christopher Chen
Directed by Kathryn Chase Bryer
KOGOD THEATRE
APRIL 21–28, 2023

UMOVES: UNDERGRADUATE DANCE CONCERT

Directed by Patrik Widrig
DANCE THEATRE
APRIL 28-30, 2023

SCHOOL OF THEATRE, DANCE, AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES

FEARLESS NEW PLAY FESTIVAL

Jennifer Barclay
Festival Director

Festival Director	Jennifer Barclay
Keynote Playwright	Dael Orlandersmith
Selection Committee	Sam Mauceri, Katie Arnold, April Monu, Lindsey Barr, Drew Barker, Amber Smithers, Jared Strange, Jasmine Mitchell, Leo Grierson, Van Ngoc Tran Nguyen, Maria Ortiz-Marquez
Playwrights	Mars Burggraf, Nelson Chen, Natalia Huitz Corvoisier, Josie Danckaert, Jordan Ealey, Katie Gallagher, Leo Grierson, Whitney Hill, Lyra Nalan, Ryan Nock, Amber Smithers, Brian Wilson
Festival Assistant Director	Aimee Dastin-van Rijn
Stage Manager	Jillian Harvey
Assistant Stage Manager	Lisa Meyerovich

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9-SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023 KOGOD THEATRE

The performance on the first night will last approximately 2 hours 15 minutes
The performance on the second and third night will last approximately 90 minutes

The life of new American plays is healthy and strong and, as we head into the next decade of theatre, University of Maryland's School of Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies (TDPS) is leading the charge. The support of new work requires an investment of time, resources, and a leap of faith that it will all come together in the end—and that is exactly what TDPS is committed to doing. TDPS champions the development and production of new plays, and commits to stories which are inclusive, diverse, empathetic, humane and wildly theatrical.

This festival is a labor of love that began as the brainchild of TDPS alumna playwright Ann Fraistat and Baltimore playwright Brent Englar. The 2023 Fearless New Play Festival is a three-week event involving more than 70 theatre artists, including directors, actors, dramaturgs, stage managers and playwrights. Our collaborators are undergraduates, graduate students, faculty and working professional alumni. Our 12 playwrights have been rewriting and reworking, deepening and sharpening their plays, and learning from their generous and rigorous collaborators. The festival has included a panel on new play development with local professionals, and interactive events with internationally renowned Keynote Playwright Dael Orlandersmith.

There is a lot happening in our country and world right now; social injustice, a global pandemic, a political divide, and a planet in peril. The plays you will hear in the festival are written for the here and now. These playwrights have strong voices and use bold, theatrical storytelling. These plays are diverse and inclusive. They are formally inventive with a powerful mix of the intellectual and the emotional. Some are bizarre, some are hilarious, some are political, some are furious—and all of them are coming from a personal, authentic creative voice.

The continued life of American theatre is alive and well—our students are leading the way, and here we are in the midst of their beautiful, astonishing tsunami of truth and talent. Welcome.

Special thanks: Ann Fraistat, Brent Englar, Jared Mezzocchi, Caitlin Marshall and the wonderful School of Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies.

-Jennifer Barclay, Festival Director

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023
Keynote Playwright Reading
Dael Orlandersmith, Keynote Playwright
7:00 pm
Kogod Theatre

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023
Playwright Showcases
7:00 pm
Kogod Theatre

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023
Playwright Showcase
7:00 pm
Kogod Theatre

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023 Keynote Playwright Reading Dael Orlandersmith, Keynote Playwright A reading of a new play, Spiritus/Virgil's Dance, written and performed by Dael Orlandersmith 7:00 pm Kogod Theatre

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023 Playwright Showcases 7:00 pm Kogod Theatre

The Witches You Couldn't Burn: a WitchTok LiveStream

By Leo Grierson Director
Cast:Jordan EmbrackGoodie AbbySabrina LenettGoodie BettyKarenna FoleyStage DirectionsCianna Lucy
Difficult By Brian Wilson Director
Cast: Indi Stephen Lyons II Lo Sophia Cichetti Test Preston Jones
Eggs and Tomatoes By Nelson Chen Director
Cast:Chris LeeJack
Les Petits Rats By Josie Danckaert Director
Cast:Wendy SaltsbergEmily

Half of my DNA is Yours

By Mars Burggraf Director	Mars Burggraf
Cast: Reece Cameron Aspen/Stage Directions	Leah Packer
Ra Ra By Ryan Nock Director	Ryan Nock
Cast: Alex	Matthew Cruser

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023 Playwright Showcases 7:00 pm

Kogod Theatre

Roots	
By Natalia Huitz Corvoisier Director Playwright Dramaturg	Natalia Huitz Corvoisier
Cast: Mami Graciela Stage Directions	Ema Rajala
Proskeno By Amber Smithers Director Playwright Dramaturg	Amber Smithers
Cast: The Living Well/Stage Directions The Women The Serpent/Trolls/Toxic Mirror/Stage Directions	Gabrielle Ryan
The Complications of a Binary System	
By Katie Gallagher Director Playwright Dramaturg	Katie Gallagher
Cast: Celestine Meredith Stage Directions	Emma Callagy
Subtext	
By Whitney Hill Director Playwright Dramaturg	Whitney Hill
Cast: Man Women Stage Directions	Sophia Cichetti

Moving Out

By Lyra Nalan DirectorPlaywright Dramaturg	Lyra Nalan
Cast: Alia Beth Stage Directions	Amberley Kuo
Silhouettes By Jordan Ealey Director	Matré Grant
Playwright	Jordan Ealey
Cast: NaimaAshleyNurse/Stage Directions	Cianna Lucy

Katie Arnold (Director, *Les Petits Rats; Half of my DNA is Yours*) 2020 graduate of UMD theatre & anthropology dual-degree. With her background in theatrical directing of over nine years, Katie directed, assistant directed, and has been the playwright for shows across Maryland and California—working with notable places such as the Kennedy Center, Ojai Playwrights Conference, and of course, UMD. Outside of directing, Katie is an Arts Education Theatre Teacher at Joe's Movement Emporium. Directing credits: *Cucumbers and Bananas, I Have An Idea For A Play.* Assistant Director credits: *Noises Off, The Visit, The Heidi Chronicles.* Katie would like to thank Jennifer Barclay and Scot Reese for their amazing mentorship.

Jennifer Barclay (Festival Director) is a TDPS Associate Professor of Playwriting and Performance. Her plays have been produced and developed by Woolly Mammoth, Steppenwolf, La Jolla Playhouse, The Old Globe, Ojai Playwrights Conference, The Kennedy Center, Center Stage, The International Theatre of Vienna, The Edinburgh Fringe, among others. Residencies and Fellowships include: MacDowell Colony, Hawthornden Castle, South Coast Rep, Center Stage and Arena Stage. Awards include: Smith Prize, Dramatists Guild Fund Writers Alliance Grant, Samuel Goldwyn Writing Award and the Kennedy Center National Science Playwriting Award. She is an alumna of Northwestern University and UC San Diego. She loves being a part of TDPS and is thrilled to be a part of the massive, rewarding, multi-pronged collaboration that is FNPF!

Lindsey R. Barr (Dramaturg, *The Witches You Couldn't Burn; Silhouettes*) 5th year Ph.D. candidate in theatre and performance studies. UMD credits: *Machinal, I, Don't, Finding Help*. Outside dramaturgy credits include work at Everyman Theatre, Baltimore Center Stage, Single Carrot Theatre, The Capital Fringe Festival, the Goethe Institut, among others. Her published work can be found in journals and anthologies like *Studies in Musical Theatre*, *The Routledge Companion to Musical Theatre*, and *(M) Other Perspectives*.

Mars Burggraf (Playwright, *Half of my DNA is Yours*) sophomore theatre and dance major. Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. College Park Arts Scholar. UMD Credits: *As You Like It* (Dukes u/s), Experimental Performance Series: *Sacred Spaces* (Claire), *Fefu and Her Friends* (Camera Operator), EPS: *Chiffon* (Ronnie).

Emma Callagy (Meredith, *The Complications of a Binary System*) sophomore theatre major. UMD credits: *As You Like It* (Charles/Silvius u/s). Outside Credits: *Sister Act* (Sister Mary Patrick), *Mamma Mia!* (Sophie Sheridan), *Frozen* (Princess Anna), 9 to 5 (Dancer).

Nelson Chen (Playwright, *Eggs and Tomatoes*) is a junior theatre performance major, Asian American studies minor, and Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. Nelson investigates the power of food, family, and identity through his play. Special thanks to Jennifer Barclay Newsham for her mentorship. UMD credits: *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (Slasvick/Brad), Spring Dance Concert (Assistant Stage Manager), Fearless New Play Festival (Jie). Outside credits: *What We Will Be*, Kennedy Center (Son).

Natalia Huitz Corvoisier (Playwright, Roots) is a theatre major, Latin American and Caribbean studies minor. UMD credits: Fefu and Her Friends (Fefu), The Revolutionists (Olympe de Gouges), What To Do When You're La Virgen (Stage Directions). Experimental Performance Series: Keep On Swingin' (Director), TBD: A Devised Theatrical Celebration (Director), Chiffon (Director). Outside credits: Keegan Theatre: Boiler Room Series (Dramaturg). Adventure Theatre-MTC: Jingle in July (Actor/Dramaturg), Camp Confetti Collective (Co-founder/Manager).

Josie Danckaert (Playwright, *Les Petits Rats*) senior theatre and environmental science double major. UMD credits: *Aquatic Void* (Writer and Director), *Fefu and Her Friends* (Cecilia), *Sacred Spaces* (High Priestess).

Jordan Ealey (Playwright, *Silhouettes*) Ph.D. candidate in theatre and performance studies. UMD credits: *The Revolutionists* (Dramaturg), *I Don't* (Playwright), *I've Been A Woman* (Playwright). Outside credits: *Jeannette* (Co-bookwriter), *Women Without Virtue*, Single Carrot Theatre (Playwright), *lift every voice*, Out of Hand Theatre (Playwright).

Karenna Foley (Goodie Betty, *The Witches You Couldn't Burn*) senior theatre performance major. UMD credits: *By The Way, Meet Vera Stark* (Gloria), *Little Women* (Amy March), *New Beginnings: A Musical Revue* (Performer). Outside credits: *A Court of Thorns and Roses*, Graphic Audio (Voice of Elain Archeron).

Katie Gallagher (Playwright, *The Complications of a Binary System*) is an actor and writer based in Washington DC. She loves developing new work and has been an actor and director in that process several times, but this is her first time in the role of playwright. Local acting credits include: *Marjorie is Dead*, Keegan Theatre; *The Power of Light*, Endangered Species Theatre Project; *Klecksography*, Rorschach Theatre; and *Illyria*, Avant Bard Theatre. She sends her love to all theatre artists who are reevaluating their relationship to their craft in the midst of this pandemic.

Matré Grant (Director, *The Witches You Couldn't Burn; Silhouettes*) second-year theatre and performance studies Ph.D. student researching Blackness in Broadway musicals from 1990-present. UMD credits: *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (Assistant Director) and *Little Women* (Associate Music Director). Outside professional credits: *tick, tick... BOOM!*, Monumental Theatre Company (Marketing Manager); Outside Directing Credits: *Dido & Aeneas, The Old Maid & The Thief, Once On This Island.* Outside Music Directing Credits: Pauline Viardot's *Cendrillon, Once On This Island, Memphis* (Assistant). M.A. Musicology, Princeton University; B.A. Music, University of Pennsylvania.

Leo Grierson (Playwright, *The Witches You Couldn't Burn*) 1st year media design MFA. UMD Credits: *As You Like It* (Assistant Media Design). Outside Credits: *Section 230*, HEREarts Center; *Cabin 12*, New American Theatre Festival; *The American Girl Cycle*, Oregon Fringe Festival; *Oedipus*, Isolation Theatre Company. Artistic Director of The Juvenilia Collective.

Mirsa Oporta Hernandez (Mami, Roots) senior theatre major. UMD credits: Fefu and Her Friends (Paula u/s). Outside credits: Good Kids (Diedre), She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms (Agnes), MUSEUM (Docent/Liv Saroyen), Legally Blonde the Musical (Delta Nu Girl).

Yani Hill (Director, Difficult; Subtext) B.A., theatre, business minor. UMD Credits: Keep On Swingin' (Stage Manager), As You Like It (Assistant Director), Stick Fly (Taylor), Fall Dance Concert 2021 (Assistant Stage Manager), Chiffon (Playwright), Kreativity Diversity Troupe Artistic Director (2020-2022). Outside Credits: Willy Wonka Jr. (Director), Shrek Jr. (Director) Excited and honored to be part of introducing two marvelous new plays with the strides they've made. Yani has previous experience acting in and writing new plays. They are extremely grateful for every chance to fill out their skills in the new play development process.

Aiden Hu (Stage Directions, *Les Petits Rats*; Reece, *Half of my DNA is Yours*) freshman theatre performance major. UMD Credits: *Half of my DNA is Yours* (Reece). Outside Credits: *History in the Making* (Gavin).

Aliyah Jackson (Dramaturg, Difficult; Subtext) TDPS alumna. UMD credits: A Short Film: Never A Slave (Director), Flyin' West (Minnie), Hamlet Replayed (House Ghost), Lost Sons (NeNe). Outside credits: TAJ Chronicles (Director, actor, producer, and writer), Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead (Tricia), Black Comedy (Clea), Stop Kiss (Nurse).

Amberley Kuo (Violet, *Eggs and Tomatoes*; Beth, *Moving Out*) freshman theatre performance major.

Sabrina Lenett (Goodie Abby, *The Witches You Couldn't Burn*; Nurse/Stage Directions, *Silhouettes*) sophomore theater major. UMD credits: *As You Like It* (Corin).

Hayden Lipczenko (Stage Directions, *Ra Ra*; The Living Well, *Lipczenko*) is a junior theatre performance major. UMD credits: *As You Like It* (Audrey/Hisperia u/s). Outside credits: *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms* (Vera), *Social Darwinism* (Jane), *Animal Farm* (Mollie), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Yente).

Lisa Meyerovich (Assistant Stage Manager) senior year theater performance and psychology major. UMD Credits: *As You Like It* (Rosalind), *Stick Fly* (Kimber u/s), *Hookman* (Jess u/s). Outside Credits: *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Molly Aster), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Conrad).

Lyra Nalan (Playwright, *Moving Out*) TDPS alumna. UMD credits: *The Goldfish*. Outside credits: *The Roadless Travel*, upcoming Silk Road Rising Theatre; *The Flood in The Future*, Adventure Theatre; *Cousins and Soup*, Strand Theatre; *The World Outside the Fence*, Nothing Without a Company; *The Peachlanders*, reading at Avant Bard; *Paper Dream*, reading at Cherry Lane, Spooky Action, Chicago Three Cats, West Washington University. Incredibly grateful and thrilled to be a part of FNPF!

Ryan Nock (Playwright, *Ra Ra*) is a DC based actor and playwright exploring the nuances of performance and passion. Recent performances include *A Chorus Line* (Zach), *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (Max/Peter), *Hookman* (Sean/Hookman) and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Don Pedro). UMD theater BA candidate 23', UMD history BA candidate, 23', CAPA Scholar and Presidential Scholar.

Maria Ortiz-Marquez (Director, *Roots; The Complications of a Binary System*) is an actor and director currently working in the DC area. A UMD alumna, Maria's latest project was Squidsbury with Truepenny Projects. Maria also participated in two short films for Small Doll Productions, *Alone* and *Diabolus Ex.* Maria has worked with several theatre companies in DC, New York, and North Carolina. Maria's main interests include documentaries, history, playwriting, and film. She hopes that one day her work will inspire other Latinx artists to share their stories, hopes, dreams, and culture.

Leah Packer (Helene, *Les Petits Rats*; *Cameron, Half of my DNA is Yours*) senior theatre performance major. Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. UMD: *As You Like It* (Adam), *Fefu & Her Friends* (Emma), *Hookman* (Chloe u/s). Outside: *10 Ways* (Jules), *Santa's Got Talent* (Holly), *She Kills Monsters* (Gabbi), *Kindertransport* (Faith).

Dion Denisse Peñaflor (Director, *Eggs and Tomatoes*; *Moving Out*) Denisse is a local DMV actor/multi-hyphenate artist. As a TDPS alumna '2020, she is delighted to direct for FNPF again—and in person this time! During undergrad, she was Kreativity Diversity Troupe's Co-Artistic Director (2018-2020) and earned an Irene Ryan Nomination for her performance in *The Visit* (Claire). Since graduating, she has performed in her first Off-Broadway show, *Highlighter Girl* (Anna) and was the Assistant Director on Arena Stage's *Holiday*. Other Outside Credits: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hermia) at NextStop Theatre.

Ema Rajala (Graciela, *Roots*; Stage Directions, *The Complications of a Binary System*) sophomore architecture major. Outside credits: *Twelfth Night* (Officer, Musician), *Beauty and the Beast* (Chip), *Cinderella* (Ensemble).

Aimee Dastin-van Rijn (Festival Assistant Director) senior theatre, economics double degree. Staged Plays: *Harlem's Badge*, OutWrite DC 2022; *Cepheus*, The Pandemic Players. Stage Management and Arts Administration: *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (Stage Manager), *Stick Fly* (Assistant Stage Manager), *The Revolutionists* (Assistant Stage Manager), Opera Artistic Administration Intern, Wolf Trap.

Gabrielle (Gab) Ryan (The Women, *Proskeno*) junior theatre and journalism double major. UMD credits: *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (Anna Mae/Afua), *Fefu and Her Friends* (Julia u/s) Outside Credits: *Heathers: The Musical* (Dance Captain, Ensemble), *A Chorus Line* (Choreographer, Sheila Bryant).

Wendy Saltsberg (Emily, *Les Petits Rats*; Aspen/Stage Directions, *Half of my DNA is Yours*) freshman theatre performance and communications major. UMD Credits: *As You Like It* (Jaques/Le Beau u/s). Outside credits: *The Addams Family* (Pugsley Addams), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Petra Quince), *She Kills Monsters* (Narrator), *Mean Girls* (Karen), *The Little Mermaid* (Featured Ensemble), *Annie* (Grace Farrell).

Amber Smithers (Playwright, *Proskeno*) alumni of the School of Theatre. Professional Credits: National Player Tour 73: *Much Ado About Nothing* (Beatrice/Borachio) at Olney Theater Center, Cinderella (u/s) at Synetic, Q-fest (Playwright) at Adventure Theatre. UMD Credits: *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realm* (Evil Gabbi), Fearless New Play Festival 2021 *Loving in the Age of Social Distancing* (Playwright), Fearless New Play Festival 2019 *Szia Ruth* (Playwright), and *The Heidi Chronicles* (Heidi). Life Verse: John 13:34.

Jared Strange (Dramaturg, Ra Ra; Proskeno) Ph.D. candidate, theatre and performance studies. Mary Savage Snouffer Fellow. FNPF: Delilah Revisited (Writer), The Ice Room (Director). UMD: The Visit (Dramaturg). DC: Three Histories of the Future, Rorschach Theatre Company (Writer); Waiting for Iggy Pop and Sometimes the Rain, Sometimes the Sea (Dramaturg); dramaturg, Teens Behind the Scenes at The National Theatre (2019-2022); teaching artist, Young Playwrights' Theater; critic, Washington City Paper and DC Theatre Arts.

Amelia Talbot (Stage Directions, *Roots*; Celestine, *The Complications of a Binary System*) sophomore computer science and theatre major. Banneker/Key Scholar. UMD credits: *As You Like It* (Rosalind u/s, Assistant Fight Captain). Outside credits: *Twelfth Night* (Olivia).

Brian Wilson (Playwright, *Difficult*) senior theatre and dance performance major. UMD credits: *Doubled Bodies* (Dancer), *Triumph of Horus* (Horus), *Orlando* (Chorus, Captain), *Hookman* (Adam u/s), *Stickfly* (Flip), *A Love Letter to Musical Theatre* (Ensemble).

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

Production Manager

Jennifer Schwartz

FACUITY Jennifer Barclay Amith Chandrashaker Andrew Cissna Dan Conway Sam Crawford Crystal Davis Adriane Fang Leslie Felbain Marielis Garcia James Harding Franklin J. Hildy Helen Huang Misha Kachman Maura Keefe Kate Ladenheim Caitlin Marshall Alvin Maves Jared Mezzocchi Lisa Nathans Sara Pearson Kendra Portier Fatima Quander Scot Reese KenYatta Rogers Van Tran Nguyen Patrik Widrig

STAFF

Gabrielle Ching Crystal Gaston Isiah Johnson Susan Miller Renee Nyack Jennifer Schwartz Catalina Toala Teri Zillmer

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Ronya Lee Anderson **Lindsey Barr** Zerihun Birehanu Kevin Clark Nicole Clockel Christina Collins Deja Collins Atiya Dorsey **Eran Eads** Jordan Ealey Britney Falcon Lauren Farnell Mary Kate Ford Luis Garcia Matré Grant Leo Grierson **Bailey Hammett** Amanda Henney Christian Henrriquez Rebecca Janney Shartoya Jn. Baptiste Casey Kaleba Mher Kandoyan Mina Kawahara Timothy Kelly Marissa Kennedy Jerran Kowalski Gerson Lanza Ruiz

Margaret Lapinski Kaela Lawrence Rashonda Lazar Gianina Lockley Lin Luo Alex Miller **Daniel Miramontes** Scott Monnin **Gavin Mosier** Tori Niemiec Sofia Oliviar Javier Padilla Stephanie Parks Peter Pattengill Kristopher Pourzal **Heather Reynolds** Mike Riggs Brandon Roak Christina Smith Rebecca Steinberg Jared Strange Melissa Sturges Margarita Syrocheva Sophia Terpermeister Carlo Villanueva Cody Von Ruden Cyrah Ward Mark Williams

AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

ON SALE NOW



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND