

# SET

SPRINGS ENSEMBLE THEATRE

SPRINGS ENSEMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

# WHITE

BY JAMES IJAMES

DIRECTED BY KALA ROQUEMORE

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 11, 2020

STREAMING ONLINE ONLY

FOR TICKETS VISIT [SPRINGSSEMBLETHEATRE.ORG/SHOW](https://springsensembletheatre.org/show) OR CALL 719.357.3080



SEASON 11

— 2020 —

# SET COMPANY MEMBERS

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Justin Anderson  
Emory John Collinson  
Carley Crowder  
Warren Epstein  
Max Ferguson  
Taylor Geiman  
Bethany Kuçana

Jenny Maloney  
Desireé Myers  
Jodi Papproth  
Jillmarie Peterson  
Brianna G. Pilon  
Matt Radcliffe  
Kitty Robbins

Sarah Sheppard Shaver  
E. Amber Singleton  
Micah Speirs  
Marie Verdu  
Christine Vitale  
Jeremiah Walter

# SET BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*President* • Matt Radcliffe | *Vice-President* • Emory John Collinson | *Secretary* • Carley Crowder | *Member-at-Large* • Justin Anderson

# SET MISSION STATEMENT

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Springs Ensemble Theatre produces intimate, live theatre in collaboration with artists throughout the Pikes Peak Region. By telling diverse stories on our stage, we explore problems and examine choices central to the human condition. We believe that theatre should engage its audience and build community by exercising the conscience, entertaining the mind, and inspiring the imagination.

*White* is presented under Special Arrangement  
with Dramatists Play Service Inc.

Developed at the PlayPenn New Play Conference

The development of this play was supported by Philadelphia Theatre  
Company through the Terrence McNally New Play Award.

***This play is dedicated  
to anyone and everyone  
who has ever been  
silenced  
held back  
pushed down.  
You are enough;  
You have always been enough.***

Kala Roquemore , Director

# CAST

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\* SET Member

**Gus:** Dana Kjeldsen

**Vanessa:** Desireé Myers\*

**Balkonaé:** Desireé Myers\*

**Tanner:** Christopher Dong

**Jane:** Bethany Hernandez

**Special Guest Star:** Desireé Myers\* as St. Diana

**Audience:** Lori Duncan, Bethany Houk, Mandy Houk, John Hauser, Natalie Koontz, Benjamin King, Michael Jones, Audrey Alltop-Durgin, Lizzy Mackiewicz, Dave Sisson, Jessica Hernandez, Matt Hernandez, Ryan Hegler, Nathan Yantis, Ryan Zaugg, Danielle Proffitt, Katrine Rhea, Ashe Medina, Sarah Shepard Shaver\*, Viola Shaver, Bérengère Maquet, and Miriam Roth Ballard

# PRODUCTION TEAM

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**Executive Producer:** Jodi Papproth\*

**Director:** Kala Roquemore

**Assistant Director:** Dante Finley

**Stage Manager:** Grant Langdon

**Producer:** E. Amber Singleton\*

**Scenic Designer:** Michael Dewar

**Lighting Designer:** Brianna G. Pilon\*

**Lighting Operator:** John Gillis

**Sound Operator:** Kitty Robbins\*

**Camera Operators:** Dan Robbins, Marie Verdu\*

**Editor:** Matt Radcliffe\*

**St. Diana Video Production:** Kitty Robbins\*

**Costume Designer:** Sarah Sheppard Shaver\*

**Wigs and Makeup:** Porsha DeMarco-Douglas

**Props and Special Effects:** Cyndi Parr

**Photos:** Emory Collinson\*

**Running Crew:** Amaya Egusquiza

# CAST BIOGRAPHIES

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**Dana Kjeldsen** (Gus) is so excited to be returning to the Springs Ensemble Theatre stage, last appearing as Dorian in *Opus*. Dana graduated with his B.A. in Theatre Performance from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs in 2013. Favorite roles include *Hamlet*, Joe Pitt in *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* and *Perestroika*, Clark Davis in *Short Eyes*, George Tesman in *Hedda Gabler*, Jack in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Anne in *Richard III*, Salarino in *The Merchant of Venice*, and both Jesus and Satan in the national tour of *The Thorn*. He directed Sam Shepard's *Eyes for Consuela* at UCCS and most recently wrapped production on his first feature film, *Babylon*. Thank you for watching. Mark the music.

**Christopher Dong** (Tanner) is a Space Operations Officer in the United States Air Force. That is all.

**Bethany Hernandez** (Jane) has been thrilled to be a part of this team, in which people of color and women are abundantly represented. She's thrilled to be part of a story that's told and controlled by those who live it, the rarity of which is appalling. This process has been so creatively stimulating and fun thanks to her talented castmates and director and stage manager. This is Bethany's first show with SET and second show since returning to Colorado Springs. While she hopes to be able to participate in more Springs theatre in the future, her main focus will be an animated film project depicting a road to sobriety. Be on the lookout for that in the next few years. Bethany thanks you all for supporting the unique, hilarious, and soul-piercing work that is *White*.

**Desireé Myers'** (Vanessa, Balkonaé, and St. Diana) past shows include SET's *Julius Caesar* (Casca) and *The North Plan* (Shonda), TdA's *Angels in America* (Belize), and Funky's *Matt & Ben* (Ben Affleck). She is a new SET company member and is scared yet proud to be a part of this personal and meaningful art that needs to be seen and maybe further help people understand that BLM and that we are more than what you see.

# PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

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**Brianna G. Pilon** (Lighting Design), who goes simply by "Bri" has been a member of SET since 2014. Her recent designs include *By The Bog of Cats* (lighting), *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* (scenic), *The Last Rabbit* (lighting), and afterlife: *A Ghost Story* (lighting). She also recently directed *The Laramie Project*. You'll even find her on the stage in a rare moment: most recently in *Irreversible* with Counterweight Theatre as Kitty Oppenheimer. Bri received her BFA in Technical Theatre and Design in 2012 from ENMU and moved to Colorado in 2013.

**Sarah Sheppard Shaver** (Costume Design) has her MFA in Theatre Arts and is the chair of the Theatre Department at Pikes Peak Community College. She is a founding member of Springs Ensemble Theatre, where she produces, performs, directs, and designs. Some favorite costume design credits at SET include *By the Bog of Cats*, *Liberty Valance*, *Heir Apparent*, *Elephant Man*, *Titus Andronicus*. In 2013, the Colorado Thespians honored her for Distinguished Service within the Profession, and in 2018 she was awarded PPCC Faculty of the Year for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Special thanks to Jodi Papproth for bringing this timely show to SET, and to Kala and Desirée for the emotional labor spent to help me tell this story in an appropriate way.

**Michael Dewar** (Scenic Design) is still THRILLED that Jodi (his HS drama teacher from many moons ago) asked him to come and help make the physical world of this important play come to life! Even though he technically is a current resident of NYC, he has now returned to the Springs to wait out COVID: he is also currently living in his childhood bedroom, a fact which Jodi leads with whenever introducing him to literally anyone. National tour: *Elf The Musical* (Buddy U/S). Favorite regional credits include: *Seussical The Musical* (The Cat in the Hat), *Singin' in the Rain* (Don Lockwood), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Robert Martin), *Sense and Sensibility* (John Willoughby), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Jack Worthing), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Peter Pan), *Meet Me in St. Louis* (John Truitt), *Crimes of the Heart* (Barnette Lloyd). Proud member of AEA. BFA in Musical Theatre, Webster Conservatory. To keep up with Michael, visit [www.Michael-Dewar.com](http://www.Michael-Dewar.com) and follow him on Instagram at @michaeldewar.

**Jodi Papproth** (Producer) is a founding member of SET where she produces, performs, directs, builds, paints, creates, empties the trash cans and cleans out the fridge in the office. Jodi has a BFA in Theatre Education from Drake University in Des Moines, IA and an MA in Theatre Directing from Roosevelt University in Chicago, IL. Jodi has been the one-woman Theatre Dept. at Cheyenne Mountain High School since 1994 where she teaches Drama, Advanced Acting, Improvisation, Theatrical Makeup, and Technical Theatre and directs between 3 and 5 shows a year. Jodi has also coordinated Theatre Camps for young people through SET, CMHS, and Green Box Arts as well as presented workshops and classes at the Co. Springs Fine Arts Ctr. Youth Rep, and through BEMIS at La Foret. For Jodi, the conversation around *White* was started a few years ago in her Advanced Acting class at CMHS. Jodi has a habit of bringing challenging material to her students to elicit discussion and to confront her own and her students' world view. Much of her understanding of the play would not have been possible without the brave kids in that class, specifically Stephanie, Nevaeh, Ava, Rachel, Maggie, Cameron, and Josh. Thank you for your willingness to say and hear hard things and for doing the work necessary to make change in this world. When Jodi was too afraid to even pitch the show as a possibility for production at SET, she was nudged (pushed? shoved?) by the wonderful people at SET, namely Matt, Sarah, and Jenny. Thank you for pushing me to do hard things. Thanks also to Laurel Justice for talking about art and *White* fragility with me and to my brother for our conversations about privilege and systemic racism. And thank you to the amazing Kala for saying yes to directing this show and navigating a way to amplify these voices ... even through a global F@#king PANDEMIC!! You are forever my hero!

**Cyndi Parr** (Props and Special Effects Design) is thrilled to be doing props and special effects for *White* at SET! With SET she has also acted in *Julius Caesar*, *Holiday Shorts*, and *Gnome in the Room*, and previously did props and special effects for *Clown Bar*. She is the program director for Dragon Theatre Productions, in their 12<sup>th</sup> year providing roles to any actor who can make the performance commitment. More info on Cyndi at [cvparr.wixsite.com/cyndiparrcreations](http://cvparr.wixsite.com/cyndiparrcreations).

# \$26,085 RAISED!



## THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED THROUGH INDY GIVE!

Patrons of SET, The Radcliffe Family, Joan & Fred Burtzos, Warren Epstein & Jane Turnis, Chris McGarry, Sol & Eve Tilley Chavez, Judeth & Doug Comstock, Joan & Harley Ferguson, Sandra & Richard Hilt, Nan & Theodore Rubley, Jensina & Maurice Sheppard, Christine Vitale, Members of SET, Virginia Gatz, Angie Adams, Terri & Cecil Harrison, Judith Brisbois, Joni Speirs, Clayton Schroer, Amber & Mitch Carlton, Lori & Richard Randall, Sarah Sheppard Shaver & David Shaver, Les Baird, Ann & Tom Christensen, Emory John Collinson, Jamie & Lynn Foster, Kathleen Fox Collins, Cathy & John Gillis, Mary & Dave Kirks, Cliff McCullough, Anne Marie Picitto, Paula D. Pollet, Joni & Rich Swinford, Suzanne & Richard Vitale, Sandra Wallace, Benjamin Wood, Kaolin Tomlinson, Kaitlin & Brandon Montalvo, Ann Brooks, Pat Hill, Eileen Reilly & John Bolin, Laurel & Bret Wright, Max Ferguson & Claire Swinford, Paula & Pete Seuffert, Charles Ammen, Lauri Armstrong, Carrie Baatz, Sue & Sy Bachman, Amy Brooks, Lesa & Andy Brown, Rae Collar, Catherine Cotton McGuire, Bliss & Dylan Dijulio, Carroll Fabning, April Frost, Lynn & Jeffrey Jacobs, Steve Jennings, Dan Kay, Kari & Chris Kilroy, Bethany Kucana, Zach Lebetter, Karrie & Steve Lincoln, Mark Lovelace & Colleen Ryan, Beverly Luedecke, Christa & Jim Mahoney, Mary & Wayne Mashburn, Carrie McKee, Debbie Meldrum, Wendy Neal, Anne Marie & Mike Pacitto, Christine & Bob Peloso, Brooke & Sebastian Sassi, Cheryl & David Schwartz, Danielle & Shannon Shayne, Lisa & Chad Siebert, Julia & Steven Swonger, Erica Walter, Vicki & Robert Wolfson, Arlene & James Wood, Kelly Gallegos, Jackie Kozdras, Erik Mattson, Alma Shipp, Francesca Volpe, Jonathan Andujar, Edie Greene & Alan Siegel, Angela & David Seals, Richard Sebastian-Coleman, Rebecca Sickbert & Justin Trudeau, Phyllis Smith, Mary & Peter Sprunger-Froese, Irvin Rynning, Cate & William Boddington, Natalie Cantrell, David Corder, Jen & David DeFranco, Elizabeth Dorman, Melissa & Matt Edwards, Sarah Jane Fromme, Olivia Hatton, Patricia Holley, Melissa Hubbard & Keith Simon, Anna Hunter, Carla & Jon Kenyon, Teri & Ty McClintock, Beth Norton, Gail Pelican, Vanessa & Samuel Rankin, Jeanette Roes, Greg Sallee, Jill Spear, Barbara Summerville, Dorothy Turner, Beth Piver & Andy Vick, Kristin & Joseph Wehde, Vernon Salter, Mallory & Ethan Everhart, Megan Fossinger, Jennifer & Mark Heinecke, Roxanne Rankin, Tobi Steinberg, David Barre, Melissa Hafter & Greg Johnson, John Weiss, Nathaniel Bourne, Emily Christensen, Julie & Michael Christopher, Bernard & Don Harris, Alexis Jakuszeit, Linda Kittiel, Linda & John Longo, Sharon & Joe Mullally, Cyndi Parr, Margaret Poulton, Tim Royston, and Barb Van Hoy

And a special thank you to all other donors, SET loves you immensely.

**This season is dedicated to the memory of Millie Harrison.**

## ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

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**Christine Flores** was born in 1991 in Colorado Springs. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Visual and Performing Arts from the University of Colorado Colorado Springs in May 2020. In 2017, Flores exhibited her first solo show *Space: new works on paper* at The Proof Gallery at Lady Fingers Letterpress. Flores' work was featured in The Modbo's exhibitions *Young Hot Sh\*t's* in 2017 and *Rule Number 1* in 2018. Flores was awarded the Pikes Peak Art Council's Rising Star Award in 2018. She most recently exhibited her work in the group show *Gratitude* at Kresuer Gallery in February 2020.

Untitled - \$150 - SOLD

Instagram: @christinewiththehair

**Ollie Gielas** just graduated from Cornell College with a Bachelors in Studio Art and Theatre. Ollie loves combining art with theatre to make interesting creations. Some of their favorite things are puppet making, stage makeup, and costume design. Ollie has been professionally painting for the past seven years and is currently working on creating individualized lessons for anyone who wants to develop and grow their art skills.

BLM - \$225 - Sold

New America or Fuck America - \$225

Untitled - \$225

gielas.wixsite.com/website

Instagram: @fiery\_determination

**Ravyn Martinez** is a 21 year old cis female. She currently lives in Denver with her girlfriend, their two dogs, guinea pigs, and frog. She originally started painting about 2 years ago when she was in an abusive relationship. "Painting was my escape." She loves sitting down with her emotions and just painting away. For this painting in particular, "I painted how it feels to be in the lgbt community and having to feel silenced."

Untitled - \$175 -SOLD

Instagram: @rgm.artt

**Elise Neal** is a multi-medium artist who loves fantasy, dragons, and watercolor. She loves making art that makes other people happy and shares a story. She plans to continue to participate in creating art as a regular hobby, but right now prefers to focus on school. This piece is an acrylic painting of a hand holding a burning match in a dark room. It was inspired by a passing thought. It doesn't have a specific meaning and was created to be interpreted by the beholder.

A Spark in the Darkness - \$50

Instagram: @onionenofficial

**Elly Siebert** is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Eagleview Middle School in the Academic Arts Academy (AAA). In 4<sup>th</sup> grade, National Geographic Kids selected her Halloween drawing for publication. In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Elly won the AAA Visual Arts award and had her watercolor collage selected for the D11 Young Peoples Art Expedition. In addition to art, Elly's other interests include dancing, singing, acting, reading and basketball. Her works for WHITE include *Neowise*, an acrylic painting inspired by her recent trip to Arches National Park and *Elly*, an acrylic self-portrait which she had never attempted before. "Thank you Jodi Papproth for inviting me to contribute my paintings to the play!"

Elly, \$25

Neowise, \$25

**Muji Rieger** is a local Colorado artist, born and raised in Manitou. As a young artist he studied Arabic calligraphy and Sufism throughout the Middle East and Southeast Asia under the tutelage of Sheikh Abu Saifullah Mujahideen where he acquired Ijaza in the five major calligraphy styles. Upon returning to the US, he became the executive director of the Knob Hill Urban Arts District who's mission is to bring art to the public and revitalize a neglected area. He is an enigma into himself.

Dana #2, \$600

Lovers, \$1,200

Figure Study #21, \$600

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DIRECTED BY TAYLOR GEIMAN

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**SEASON 11**  
— 2020 —

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# SET

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## \$27,000 FOR 2021?

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We hope you're as excited as we are about next year's season!

We're partnering with Indy Give! again this year to raise the funds we need to make these productions happen.

**Last year, patrons like you donated over \$26,000!**

Between November 1 and December 31, donate online at [indygive.com/SET](https://indygive.com/SET)

Join our email list on [springsensembletheatre.org](https://springsensembletheatre.org) to stay up-to-date on everything happening at SET.

**OUR CAMPAIGN BEGINS NOVEMBER 1**