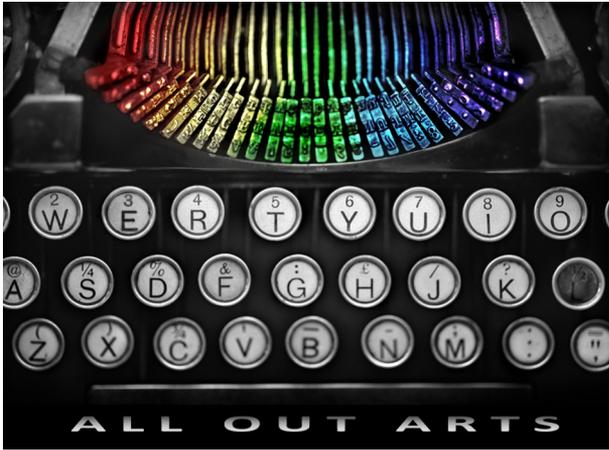


OUT-WRIGHT

continues . . .

the Fresh Fruit Festival MONOLOGUES PROJECT



Fall 2020 “The Ache for Home”
Developmental LGBTQ filmed solos

Curated by Rachel Kara Perez

October 16th to 31st, 2020

New York City

Public viewing & voting



“The ache for home lives in all of us, the safe place where we can go as we are and not be questioned.”

– Maya Angelou

The iconic Maya Angelou quotation gave us the given theme for the project: “*The Ache for Home*.” Sixty writers submitted projects from which ten semi-finalists were chosen.

The Festival provided dramaturgical advice and post production editing. A final eight, working under strenuous “virtual” conditions imposed by the current epidemic, are now presented on the Festival’s YouTube Channel for public viewing and voting. In alphabetical order by title:

the 2020 Monologues Project

ado (a remix of my name)

by olaiya olayemi

A moment of darkness. Then the bright light of the sun. A figure dancing in all white on the beach . . .

“A brief excerpt of a longer performance art piece combining text, sound, movement, and visual installation, this monologue explores a black trans woman's return to her homeplace. She has been a warrior in the wilderness battling heartache and disappointment, and now she is returning to the roots of who she really is.”

written, directed, & performed by olaiya olayemi

video by Ian Chen

music by Pictures of the Floating World

olaiya olayemi is a blk/trans/femme/womxn/artist/educator/and activist who centers womxn of the african diaspora in her performative/ literary/ cinematic/ and sonic works of art that explore love/ sex/ relationships/ family/ history/ memory and radical joy/ pleasure. her work is informed by blk/ queer/ feminist theories/ aesthetics/ and politics and african indigenous and diasporic spiritual traditions. she holds a bachelor of arts in english/creative writing (with a minor in african/black diaspora studies) from depaul university and a master of fine arts in creative writing from emerson college where she was a recipient of the Dean’s Fellowship. she is a 2019-2020 Performance Fellow in Queer Art’s mentorship program. she is also a Fall 2020 Brooklyn Arts Exchange Space Grant recipient.

Christmas Cantata

written and directed by Craig Winberry

A re-imagined flashback from the cabaret "Executive Order."

Examines the relationships we have with our immediate family and the traditions kept alive in the home. It also explores a coming of age for young gay men when first experiencing sexual desires. In addition, this piece looks at the power of using sexuality for gain and the inevitable set backs endured because of those tactics.

produced & directed by Craig Winberry

Craig Winberry is an NYC actor, singer and songwriter. Star of Executive Order at the iconic Duplex Cabaret, and recently at Broadway's altar Feinsteins/54 Below debuting his original Holiday show Christmas Spirits: Neat Edition. He has recently played dramatic and comedic roles in Off Broadway productions of Global Gay at LaMama ETC and Thank You For Being A Friend at HERE Arts Center. Craig's stories encourages audiences to head down a road with no signs. If you can't laugh at yourself, laugh at Craig. He's a highly trained professional pearl clutcher. Never offended and always triggered. www.craigwinberry.com

How Cold Is The Snow

by Nathaniel Foster

Abstractly about the time we have, and how we give that time to others. At what point in our lives do we realize we are the only ones who get to be in charge of time that we are gifted to live - the moment we as Queer have to make the necessary sacrifices to live

directed by Carly Nazaryk
video, Alison Sullivan

Nate is a New York City-based Playwright, Performer, and Dramaturg. He is a 2017 Kennedy Center New Play Dramaturgy Fellow, 2018 ASTEP Artist as Citizens Fellow, a 2018 Cape Cod Theatre Project Kennedy Center New Play Development Fellow and a 2019 New Play Development Apprentice at The Public Theater. A recipient of the 2018 Kennedy Center Ken Ludwig Young Playwright Award, his plays have been seen or developed at The Kennedy Center, New York Theatre Festival, The Brick, The Workshop Theatre, Fort Collins Fringe Festival, Southern Utah University, Pharmacy Theatre, Permafrost Theatre, and The Tank

Nigel, Guys and Dolls

by Doug DeVita

“About mothers, martinis, and death. 50 year-old Nigel deals with his childhood the only way he knows how. Given his rather unorthodox upbringing, it’s a rather unorthodox sort of not-quite-eulogy.”

fearing Joe Moe as Nigel
directed by Jay Michaels
video post by Jack Ultrata

Doug DeVita has had work produced in New York, Los Angeles, Seattle, New Jersey, Connecticut, and London. His play *Fable* was recently named one of the top ten plays on Tony Award-Winning Producer Ken Davenport's "Broadway Producer Pick List 2019." Additionally, *Just A Rumor* (co-written with Gary Lyons) was an O'Neill Semi-Finalist; and *Phillie's Trilogy* was a Semi-Finalist for Barrington Stage Company's Burman New Play Award, Normal Avenue's New American Play Series, and Campfire Theatre Festival, as well as winning Scrap Mettle Arts Inaugural Emerging Playwrights Competition and four Fresh Fruit Festival Awards of Distinction; it is currently the third most recommended full-length play on the New Play Exchange. His play *The Fierce Urgency Of Now* won Fresh Fruit Awards for both Outstanding Play and Production. Doug is a member of the Dramatists Guild, and his work is published by Smith Scripts UK.

One Night in Lisbon

by Manuel Igrejas

“There will come a time in our lives when we realize what really matters. We might even be far from home when it happens.”

featuring Gary Martins
directed by Cheryl Katz

Manuel Igrejas' fiction is included in *Men on Men 4*, *34th Parallel* and *Chelsea Station* and poetry included in *A New Geography of Poets*. His plays *Shrinkage*, *Kitty* and *Lina*, were both favorably reviewed in the *NY Times*. *Miss Mary Dugan* and *Hassan* and *Sylvia* won Best Play Awards at the 2010 and 2011 Fresh Fruit Festivals. *Margarita* and *Max* was named Best Short Play in 2013 Midtown Festival. *NSA* was an O'Neill semi-finalist 2013. Other plays include *Instimacy*, *Doofus*, *Chair*, *How To Make A Million* and *Pittsburgh!*

Red or White

by Rachel Herron

An excerpt from a short play entitled Red Red Wine, about a bisexual Black woman, who learns that her sommelier mentor creates a best-selling red wine by incorporating the blood of her foes.

Mel questions the hypocrisy of the homebase around her. In the world of wine, people accept varying notes and nuances in red and white wines and don't feel compelled to choose between the two, but when it comes to understanding her bisexuality, they don't dive in with the same gravitas or acceptance.

produced & directed by Rachel Herron

Rachel is a playwright, performer, and freelance editorial writer living in Harlem. She received her BFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, where she studied drama as well as dramatic writing. Her first short play "She Came to Tea" was workshopped as part of the Venus/Adonis Theater Festival. She was a 2019 finalist for the CBS Writer's Mentoring Program. In 2021, her short play Red Red Wine will be featured in The Fire This Time 10-minute play festival. Her editorial writing can be seen in BET, Elite Daily, McSweeney's, Bustle, The Cut, and TV Guide.



The Festival is grateful to the representatives of the Screen Actors' Guild, American Federation of Television & Radio Artists, and the Actors' Equity Association for their understanding and guidance during this time of national health emergency.



SAG-AFTRA.

**: Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 45,000 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. www.actorsequity.org*

Stay as Long as You Like

by Sebastian Timpe

“A back story to a longer play - this monologue is about not knowing how to let someone into the home you've had to make for yourself.”

The question is never easy, and the answer may hit with a power not expected.

performed & directed by Alex Mayben

Sebastian Timpe is a playwright, illustrator, and maker of books living among the redwood trees of Northern California. He holds a BA in art and a BA in Film with a production concentration in digital media from the U.C. Santa Cruz. His first play *Winter* won the Dharma-Grace Foundation Creative Writing Award (2018) and awarded a full production at the University. Additionally *The House on Mulberry Lane* received a public rough read at the Felix Kulpa Gallery in 2019. He enjoys watching sappy romance movies while cooking during these times of quarantine.

Uncovered

by Sydney Haas

Adapted from a poem written for a collection focusing on the relationship between Safety and the queer experience, the monologue explores the complicated relationship between a newly independent queer person and the sheltered home they grew up in.

“An outdoor summer evening at the park. The beginnings of dusk where JESSE is sitting in the park, their thoughts ruminating nervously as they ponder the question of their tattoo-artist-turned-lover: will they be leaving her?”

featuring Becca Silva
directed by Jasmine Ritter

Sydney Haas is a writer and theatre artist from Seattle, Washington. She is a recent graduate of Seattle University's Theatre and English Literature programs. Her theatrical background is primarily in costume, scenic, and dramaturgy, giving her a great appreciation for all angles of theatre, and she particularly loves to explore immersive and experimental work that stretches creative boundaries.

Rachel Kara Perez - Program Curator

Rae (she/they) is an award-winning Queer, Black, Indigenous, and Latinx multi-disciplinary artist, educator, and adoptee advocate who views the arts as an invaluable vehicle for healing and building community. A theatre artist, vocalist, mover, writer, and poet, her work spans multiple genres, contexts, and locales. Rae was an EMERGENYC artist with The Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics, and a recipient of the Innovative Cultural Advocacy Fellowship at the Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute (CCCADI). @__rachelkara__



Dennis Corsi - Artistic Director, All Out Arts

Dennis is the Director of New Works at Live & In Color, a theatre company developing new plays and musicals celebrating diversity. He is the Creative Director of Script Match, a web app connecting playwrights and producers - and the video director at B • OUT, an LGBTQ media company. Dennis was a dramaturg for NYMF and was on their selection committee for new musicals. Select theatrical directing credits: *The Commedia Cinderella* (Theatre Row – winner of Off Broadway Alliance Award), *The Phillie Trilogy* (Fresh Fruit Festival – winner Outstanding Production 2018), *The Fierce Urgency of Now* (Fresh Fruit Festival – winner Outstanding Production 2017), *Gruesomely Merry Adventures* (Winterfest – winner Best Director), *The Turing Test* (Gallery Players), *Siren's Den* (Gene Frankel), *Junie B. Jones* (Theatreworks USA), *Dust and Ash* (Samuel French OOB), and *bare* (Michigan State University). –SSDC

Louis Lopardi - Executive Director, All Out Arts

Artistic Director of the 30-year-old Company Of Players, Louis has directed such staples as *Equus*, *Wozzeck*, *Three-penny Opera*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Don Giovanni*, considerable Shakespeare, Brecht, and Dutch, German, & Russian theatre & opera, both here and in Europe. At the Chekhov Theatre he has directed Fassbinder's *Petra von Kant*, *Lysistrata*, *Cyrano*, and his own plays *The Frankenstein Journals* and *Visiting Grishka*. Louis has received OOB & other awards for Lighting, Sound Design, Original Music, Playwriting, Direction, and has been awarded by the AFM Musicians' Union for "promoting live music for the dance." Better known as a Director, Louis is a published poet and author whose other stage works include Buchner's *Woyzeck* and the nationally acclaimed *Purgatory Project*, in which we examine current mores by visiting great figures of the past in purgatories of their own creation. –SSDC



“Fighting Prejudice Through The Arts”

Executive Director - Louis Lopardi
Artistic Director - Dennis Corsi
Chairman, Fresh Fruit Festival - Jeffrey G. Leeds

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