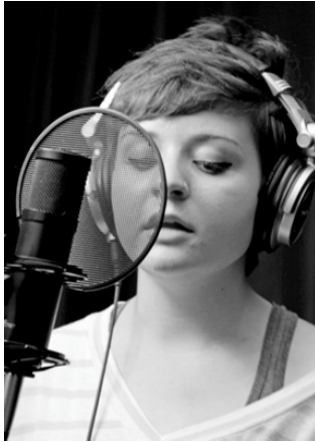


All
Out
Arts

presents . . .

radioPLAY




**FRESH
FRUIT
RADIO**



**Spring 2021 “The RadioPLAY Series”
4 works newly developed for Radio**

March through June, 2021

From New York City

As part of the 2020-21 season of



**FRESH
FRUIT
FESTIVAL**

premiers March 29, 2021



Written by Doug DeVita
Directed by Dennis Corsi
Produced by Jay Michaels

In this fast-moving caustic comedy, Kyle, an art director in a high-powered New York ad agency, tries to discover his real self amid power struggles and stereotypes. He finds an ally in Dodo, who understands his plight - being that she became a lady-living-legend in an era of "Mad Men."

AUTHOR'S NOTE: While I was in the process of turning *The Fierce Urgency Of Now* into a radio play for the Fresh Fruit Festival's new series I gained a deeper insight into my own work, as I had to rely on the words (and sound effects) alone to tell my story. I learned so much about my script, and many of the changes made for this upcoming podcast have now been incorporated into the script for the stage version, and in a very interesting way have informed how I'm approaching the coming screenplay.

Press: **Arts Stage – Seattle Rage**

"The writing is fresh, funny, and smart without striving for hilarity. It hits where it's meant to hit."

Press: **Outer-Stage**

"A rapid-fire, well-timed character study filled with terrific one-liners, deep and even tearful relationship moments, and sage wisdom for the texting generation."

cover photo: © Candace McDaniel, courtesy Freerange

1 hour 19 minutes . . . presented in 3 Acts

Cast in order of appearance

NEIL	Joe Moe
KYLE	Matthew Jellison
KATE	Lisa Viertel
DODO	Laura Crouch
MERYL	Brittane Rowe

additional voices:

Victoria Daly as GOLDFARB

Ellen Dressler as ANITA

Stephen Weisbrot as PILOT & CONTROL TOWER

sound design: Louis Lopardi

additional music:

Sam LaFrage; Bill Laswell, *courtesy BandCamp*;



Doug DeVita, Author - A two-time O'Neil Semi-Finalist (Fable and Just A Rumor), Doug's other honors include: Semi-Finalist for Barrington Stage Company's Burman New Play Award (Phillie's Trilogy), Semi-Finalist for B Street Theatre's New Comedy Festival (Goddess Of The Hunt and Upper Division), and Semi-Finalist for We Screenplay's Diverse Voices Competition (The Fierce Urgency Of Now). In addition, he has won Fresh Fruit Awards of Distinction for Outstanding Play (The Fierce Urgency Of Now) and Outstanding Production (Fierce... and Phillie's Trilogy.)



Dennis Corsi, Director

Dennis Corsi is the Artistic Director of the Fresh Fruit Festival. He is the Director of New Works at Live & In Color, a creative incubator developing new plays and musicals celebrating diversity. Select 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), *NELL DASH* (Winterfest - winner Best Director), *Junie B. Jones* (Theatreworks USA), *Dust and Ash* (Samuel French OOB), and *bare* (Michigan State University). –SSDC www.denniscorsi.com

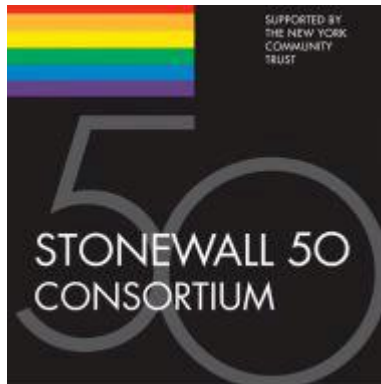


Joe Moe - is a performer, screenwriter, FX artist and designer of dark rides for international theme parks. As a voice actor, Joe has worked in Disney projects *The Brave Little Toaster*, *The Book of Pooh*, etc., and on Fangoria's "House of Blood" with Malcolm McDowell. Joe produced the film feature *Red Velvet* and designed elements for a David Lynch Coffee commercial. As a studio singer, Joe has worked with Van Dyke Parks, and many others. Joe is a figure in horror genre fandom and is a host at *Days of the Dead* conventions nationally. He edits an ongoing series of anthologies, published by Black Bed Sheet Books, to encourage fledgling writers to find and share their storytelling voices. More info at GoJoeMoe.com



Brittane Rowe is thrilled to be joining this wonderful production! A proud graduate of Michigan State University with a BFA in Theatre. Brittane is a former member of The Bats Acting Company at The Flea Theatre where you last saw her in "Take Care" Dir. Nigel Smith, "A 24 Decade History of Pop Music" by Taylor Mac and "The Mysteries" Dir. Ed Iskandar. Other credits include "Exposed Bone" at The PIT, "American Mill" at A.R.T NY, "I'll Never Love Again" at Bushwick Starr, and "The Christians" at Playwrights Horizons. Brittane is also a digital influencer focusing on natural hair care and will be launching a conversation card game called "hella awkward" this February 2021! - BrittaneRowe.com

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A
PROUD
member

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. – SDC

For more on all our programs,
including the annual
developmental play readings in June,
visit FreshFruitFestival.Com



STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY, a national theatrical labor union.

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

Premiers April 26

Tip of the Tongue

by Allison Moon

“A young artist seeks mentorship from a veteran famous for her risqué’ photographs. As their relationship grows into more intimate - and dangerous - territory, their individual secrets threaten to destroy their bond, their reputations, and their careers.”

1 hour 30 minutes . . . presented in 2 Acts

Cast, in order of appearance

LYDIA	Jennifer Lanier
CHARLOTTE	Kiah Hart
HENRY	James R. Dixon

Production: Allison Moon

Sound Design: Louis Lopardi

Additional music: FicusProSound, courtesy 123rf.com;
Ruby, Bill Laswell, *courtesy* Bandcamp; Louis Lopardi.

author’s note: “I love theater that inspires questions, not answers. With *The Tip of the Tongue* I seek to tease out the complexity in sexual dynamics through the lens of queer— and particularly queer female— sexuality. What do power, privilege, and predation look like when told through a female lens? Can one be a villain and a victim simultaneously? How is the traditional, and almost cliché, narrative of problematic sexuality shift when there are no men involved? Do we as queers play by different rules? If so, why? I’m thrilled to share *The Tip of the Tongue* with Fresh Fruit’s thoughtful, engaged audience to discover all the questions we can ask.”



Allison Moon, Author-Director is a sex educator and the author of 5 books including the critically acclaimed queer sex-ed guide *Girl Sex 101*. Inspired by her education work, Moon writes screenplays, stage plays, and teleplays that explore the complexities of human sexuality, identity and desire. She has a degree in Neuroscience and Theatre from Oberlin College.

Read her work at alliedmoon.com



Jennifer Lanier (LYDIA) grew up in Greensboro NC and received her classical acting training at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. While in North Carolina, Jennifer founded the Lesbian Thespians theatre company and produced a number of independent projects. Her production company Many Horses Productions produces variety shows, drag events, and theatre. Lanier is a member of several boards including Portland Area Theatre Alliance and Vancouver USA Pride. She is active on the PDX Artistic Directors Roundtable and the Southwest Washington Central Labor Council. Co-Artistic Director of Original Practice Shakespeare Festival (OPS Fest) in Portland Oregon, she has worked in regional theatre (Portland Center Stage, American Stage, Profile Theatre) touring theatre (People's Art Action, Artists Repertory Theatre, United Stage), television (Leverage, Hawaii, Grimm), commercials, and film (Thin Skin, Scrapper, Last Champion). Lanier lives in Vancouver WA with her wife, two sons, a costume-loving dachshund, a tornado of a kitten, and an anorexic tortoise. - jenniferlanieracts.com



Hailing from Oregon, **Kiah Hart (CHARLOTTE)** received her BA in Theatre from Willamette University and performed out of Portland, OR for several years before recently relocating to Atlanta, GA where she is currently creating. Kiah is thrilled to be in her first radio play! kiahmahalahart.com



James R. Dixon (HENRY) is a Portland-based director and actor, and so excited to be one of many creators for the Fresh Fruit Festival. He focuses on creating through an equity lens to bring people closer to the stories telling the beauty of the human condition. Favorite acting credits include Bakkhai with Shaking the Tree, Two Trains Running and No Niggers, No Jews, No Dogs with PassinArt, James and the Giant Peach at Oregon Children's Theatre, Equus at Post5 Theatre, Parade with Staged! and On the Edge: Trifles and Dutchman at Defunkt Theatre. James is also a Fuse Theatre Ensemble member curating the Portland debut of BlaQ OUT which is a Black queer theatre festival partnered with OUTwrite. jamesrdixon.com -SDC

Premiers May 23

The Switch

by Charlie O'Leary

Direction & Sound design by Ivey Lowe

"Curious? Just Ask Dr. Tess! THE raciest podcast this side of the podcastverse.... Best place to find all THOSE answers, or just sit back and muse on your fellow callers." O'Leary's play brings audience participation to a new (sometimes frightening) level. After all, we never know who is going to "call in."

A gay playwright adapts the 2003 Jamie Lee Curtis star vehicle Freaky Friday into a solo show podcast.

*** Warning: contains graphic descriptions of sexual violence.**

1 hour 5 minutes . . . presented in 1 Act

Featuring: Charlie O'Leary as Dr. Tess, and others

Additional Voices: David Diaz,
Genevieve Eckelaert, Jivani Rodriguez,
Brett Stone, and Brandon Trevino

Dramaturgy: Meg Mechelke

Stage Manager: Taylor Leigh Jackson



Charlie O'Leary is an alumnus of the Project Y Playwrights Group, the Brooklyn Generator. His plays have been developed and presented by the Flea Theater, Middle Voice at Rattlestick, Jersey City Theater Center, Dixon Place, Crashbox Theater Company, Pipeline Theatre Company, Project Y Theatre, Theatre Now New York, Loading Dock Theatre, the Tank, the PIT, the Habitat, the Artist Co-op, the Dare Tactic, and the

University of Notre Dame. A semifinalist for the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference and Ars Nova Play Group, Charlie is a recipient of a New York Innovative Theatre Award and an Iowa Arts Fellowship. Published by Methuen Drama and Theatre Now New York.



Ivey Lowe - Director

A Brooklyn based director, fight director, and educator with a focus on new works development, Ivey is a former 2018 Drama League Hangar Directing Fellow, as well as alumni of The Williamstown Theater Festival Directing Corps and the Lincoln Center Directors Lab. She is currently doing Graduate work at Brooklyn College and CUNY's School of Labor and Urban studies. Recent directing includes: Six Scenes in a Theater (Kate Walat, SUNY Albany), Providence (Nancy Bleemer, Summer Shorts at 59E59), Spring Awakening (Yale University), Through her directing and development projects Ivey aims to create work that provides a space to imagine achievable alternatives for our world through highly theatrical containers that empower her collaborators as generative artists. iveylowe.com

Meg Mechelke - Dramaturg

Meg is a second-year undergrad at the University of Iowa studying theatre arts and English. Her previous credits with the department include Ten-Minute Play Festival 2021, Skeleton Closet, Losing Faith, and Essential Workers: A Portrait. She feels incredibly lucky to have had the chance to work on this project and is excited to share it with you!

PROGRAM NOTES:

"Role-playing! Her idea. New therapeutic technique. Switching points of view." - Freaky Friday (2003)

"This is terrifying; I am capable of anything." - Sarah Lunnie, for Salon

The Switch is a work of fiction inspired by the writing of Steve Almond, John Paul Brammer, Daniel M. Lavery, Dan Savage, and Cheryl Strayed; as well as by Sarah Lunnie's 2016 Salon piece "Maybe the word 'rapist' is a problem," Susan Choi's novel Trust Exercise, Davey Wreden's game The Beginner's Guide - and of course, Freaky Friday.

Premiers June 16

Benedictions on the Escapes

by Benjamin V. Marshall
directed by John Pietrowski

“While waiting for her son to return from a Black Lives Matter demonstration, Esper wonders about his safety and about her husband who has returned home early from work.”

Esper **Jennica Carmona**
Manny **Walter F Rodriguez**
Diego (Jimmy) **Claudio Venancio**

Sound engineer: Jeff Knapp. **Additional sound fx:** Tim Kahn, *freesound*.



Benjamin V. Marshall's plays have earned recognition from HBO New Writers Workshop, New York's Theatre for a New City, Chicago's public radio station WBEZ and in play festivals from Alaska to Australia. Awards: Five Playwriting fellowships from NJ State Council on the Arts, Fellowships from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, VCCA, NEH, and the Robert Chesley/ Victor Bumbalo

foundation. Recently he received the Bauer-Boucher Award and the Stanley Drama Award for his play Incident at Willow Creek. Currently online: Extended Play (Warner's International Playwright Festival) White Gloves (L.B. Williams Festival New Circle Theatre) Beasts and Cakes (A.D. Players, Houston). He is a member of the Dramatists Guild, the New Play Exchange, and the 9th Floor, a collective of writers & actors. He is a professor of English at Middlesex County College and teaches playwriting at Wagner College.

John Pietrowski, Director. - For 35 years John was the Artistic Director of Writers Theatre of New Jersey, directing over 30 new plays and hundreds of readings. His most recent production of The Gospel of John with Ken Jennings at The Sheen Center for Thought and Culture was nominated for Best Solo Play by the Off-Broadway Theatre Alliance, and he is currently working on a solo show with Actor/Musician Zara Philips. For WNYC's Radio Stage he directed two half-hour radio play features. As an AEA actor, most recent productions include roles at Shadowland Stages, NJRep, Dream-catcher Rep, Writers Theatre of NJ, and InterAct Theatre in Philadelphia. He is a two-time recipient of a NJ State Arts Council Playwriting Fellowship.

Author's Note: *I wrote the play last year after the pandemic lock-down was in full swing. While there were demonstrations and marches in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, medical issues prevented me from participating. Yet, I noticed that a wide range of people participated in*

those demonstrations. I wondered why someone who has no direct stake in a cause would join a protest. As a community college professor, and as someone who grew up financially limited, I knew of different situations in which the people had to juggle political ideals and practical considerations. Can you join the protests if you are worried about paying the light bill? Paying the rent, losing a job, School classes on zoom . . . A local theatre had a call for plays to be performed on fire escapes, and that prompt was enough of a spark to ignite my writing engine.



Jennica Carmona (Esper) - is New York City based Puerto Rican filmmaker, actor, and activist, born in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico and raised in Rochester NY. A graduate of NYU, she is a proud co-founder of Sí Se Puede Productions, a theatre and film production company focusing on social justice themes. Jennica played the leading role of Carmen on the Emmy Award winning educational tv series, “WE ARE NEW YORK,” helping the immigrant community learn English. She currently plays Clara Ventura in the new radio series, “TIME STORM”, an educational children’s radio show by PRX celebrating Puerto Rican history and visionaries. Other favorite roles: Marela in “Anna in the Tropics” (Hippodrome State Theatre) and Female Storyteller in ‘Mi Casa, Tu Casa’- (Luna Stage). - www.jennicacarmona.com



Walter F Rodriguez (Manny)
A professional Puerto Rican/American artist and stage, tv, and film actor who has been working in New York City for many years. He worked on The Onion News Network for several seasons, including the show’s Peabody Award-winning season and its Comedy Central and IFC incarnations. He’s been seen on stages in off-Broadway and regional productions. Walter’s editorial and fashion photography has been seen on billboards and in magazines and on book covers for MacMillan and other major book publishers.



Claudio Venancio (Diego) is excited to be sharing this amazing and relevant story with the audio drama world! Off-Broad-way: With a Song In My Fists; Tour: Albert Porter: Boy Explorer (Albert Porter); Regional: In the Heights (Sonny); The Wizard of Oz (Tinman); 9 to 5: The Musical (Josh/Bob); She Loves Me (Mr. Keller/ Viktor); Arsenic and Old Lace (Brophy); A Few Good Men (PFC Santiago). As an Actor, Singer, Producer, Director, he seeks to spark the minds of the people who will change the world through creating diversity in Theatre, TV, and Film. - www.claudiovenancio.com



“Fighting Prejudice Through The Arts”

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Chairman, Fresh Fruit Festival - Jeffrey G. Leeds

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