

This event is funded in part with public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York City Council.





A MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Our 10 minute play competitions get better every year! The competitions started around 2010 and took place at the Nuyorican Cafe on the lower east side during one long evening of fun and frivolity [well, the Cafe does sell alcohol!]

This year the Fresh Fruit Festival is at the prestigious Theatre For The New City and you all are part of this special event that helps nurture playwrights in the LGBTQ world. We are calling this week a Developmental Week for not only do we have the 10 minute competition but we have an evening of new short works and a staged reading of an exciting new LGBTQ Sci-Fi play.

Thank you all for coming. Especially, now more than ever, we need to support our community.

Frank Calo, Artistic Director



Wednesday, March 26th starting at 7:00 PM.

COMPETITION 1

The Ball, by Emily Turner: A man impulsively adopts a shelter dog after a bad break-up and begins to identify with its lost state-of-mind.

The Ice Queen, by Jack Rushton: The A.D. of a small theater company faces a mutiny.

A Planned Spontaneity, by Scott Sickles: The night before the final day of shooting, two male actors of a certain age rehearse their impending love scene.

Dad Acting 101? by Gregory Marlow: Two dads bond at the back of a school auditorium. When their reminiscing continues into an empty classroom, this budding friendship takes an interesting turn.

The POEM, by Risa Lewak: Lifelong best friends discover a new dimension to their relationship.

Hot, by Noah T. Parnes: Two young gay men awkwardly sit in a sauna. An older gay man arrives, wondering "Why are they not having sex yet?"

Waiting for Gal Gadot, by Katharine McNair: A dark comedy about Birdie and Bear and their quest for freedom.

Thursday, March 27th starting at 7:00 PM.

COMPETITION 2

Comfort and Joy, by Dana Leslie Goldstein: Every few years, Christmas and the first night of Hannukah fall on the same day. This can be a problem for interfaith families.

Portugal, by Virgo: A queer couple tries to make plans, then realize it's nearly impossible due to how much they travel.

The Unexpected Fetish, by John Plausse: A recently married man struggles to accept his husband's unexpected fetish.

Ask Me Anything, by Philip Middleton Williams: A young man in a corporate job interview faces questions which take on a highly personal and somewhat twisted tone.

Maricona, by Riki Alberto Colon: The matriarch of the family loves her arrogant but innocent grandson. As they sit for their weekly talk and hair braiding, the word maricona suddenly bears discussing.

Astronauts, by Evan Brodsky: Exploring the complexities of friendship and how some bonds, like stars, stay visible even across light-years of silence.

The List, by Eleanor Evans-Wickberg: Lily had two best friends, Angela and Cori. eight years later, they have completely fallen out of touch. When Lily suddenly commits suicide, Angela arrives at her funeral only to be greeted by Cori who tells her she is on The List—and she can't come inside.

An Ex-Gay Act of God, by Bruce Deveau: A bizarre ex-gay organization is causing trouble in the neighborhood. An absurd comedy.

Friday, March 28th starting at 7:00 PM.

COMPETITION 3

The Children's After-Hour, by Louise Schwarz: What happened to Rosalie Wells after the events of Lillian Hellman's 1935 drama The Children's Hour?

The Squirrel watchers, by Katie Kirk: Alex got dumped by her long-term girlfriend. Brook's being ignored by the person she hooked up with. Chloe just wants to watch squirrels, you guys. The Squirrel Watchers Club is now in session.

On Delivery, by Timothy Bryant: A retired gay couple in West Hollywood packs their recently sold home for a move to Palm Springs, until something unexpected arrives with their dinner delivery.

Swish Sesh, by Solomon LeBlanc: On a basketball court in small-town Michigan, Nessy, a nonbinary teen, and See, a cocky but well-meaning player, face off in a playful yet charged encounter.

Number Up? by Katherine Vellis: Four minority inhabitants of Planet Earth embark on a journey to Planet Diversity, where they hope to be free.

The Cocktail Bench, by John Harney: An elderly man confronts a young college professor who has taken lithographs from the trash outside his house in Washington, D.C. The lithographs belonged to his husband, who's been institutionalized with dementia.

Is He Gay? by Lauren Silverstein: Two teenage girls talk about the boys they like. While trying to find someone available to crush on, they speculate that a lot of guys they know are gay.

Dress Still Fits, by Peter Pasco: Ruby and Tanya are celebrating Tanya's birthday away from their families and city. The good times and jokes come to a halt when a nerve gets hit.



FREE ENTRANCE, **DONATIONS ONLY**

TIME: 4PM



IUDE CRAMER PLAYWRIGHTER



GAVIN PETERSEN DIRECTOR

Arthur has a miraculous ability to travel through time. Unfortunately for him, so does Reid, a stranger from the present desperate to keep the timeline intact. As they race through iconic eras in queer history, the two find connection where they least expect it, and wonder if it's worth losing your future for a chance to change your past. In this sci-fi melodrama, the legacy of gay men's sexuality comes face to face with its ugly present in an epic, expansive, and romantic adventure across time.



WALKER STOVALL **ARTHUR**



HUNTER ANDERSON REID



DECLAN COLLINS THE MARK

The Saturday Specials, March 29

ALL THAT GLITTERS An Evening Of Short Plays

STARTING AT: 7PM

Star-Crossed Rebound, by Maeve Chapman: Juliet has taken the poison, Romeo is ready to take his life, all is going to the Bard's plan. Rosaline, however, has something to say about all that. Walking through the audience, stopping the play, Rosaline awakens Juliet who realizes she has a decision to make. To Romeo or not to Romeo...Or, to Rosaline? That is Juliet's question.

Pride & Prejudice: Or a Queer Person's Guide to Surviving The Rigenci, by William Meurer: Anna is a hardcore Austenite. So much so that she attends an immersive regency ball every year in the heart of NYC...or she did until she transitioned. For her first year back as an eligible young lady, she ropes in her best friend Kate to come as moral support.

Robert Pattinson is A Faggot, by Elizabeth Salmon & Mads Weiss: A shitty corporate attempt at a DEI-inspired healing circle, this show satirizes office politics and performative allyship. After a homophobic workplace incident, the office gays are stuffed into a conference room and forced to share their 'LGBT experiences' and engage in absurd conflict resolution. "Robert Pattinson is a Faggot" examines the role of accountability in an environment where optics trump action.

Living The Dream, by Dylan Horowitz: Lem is a trans man married to Damien, a cis man. Their life, while imperfect, seems fairly stable and - from an external perspective - happy. This all changes when Bina, a stranger who has looked into Damien, visits Lem at their home. Bina reveals that Damien is not just a loving husband - he's also a monster. Lem has to make a decision - is he going to confront the truth? Can he stop living the dream?

COMPETITION 1

The Ball by Emily Turner

Emily Turner (Playwright) makes her NYC debut this week with an excerpt from her full-length play "Little Boxes," celebrating the beauty of family in all its forms. Special thanks to Eli, Macy, Simon, and Liv!

Simon Tosenovsky (Director), IG: @simon.tosenovsky

Eli Lane (Zak), www.orianang.com, IG: @eliwlane 02

Macy Foster (Dog), IG: @_macy_foster_

Liv Allan (Costumes/Set), IG: @livallan_

The Ice Queen by Jack Rushton

Jack Rushton (Playwright, Walt) Forty of Jack's plays have been produced at more than 200 theaters worldwide. He's thrilled to be performing in this Greenwich Theatre Company production at The Fresh Fruit Festival. greenwichtheatrecompany@gmail.com

Stephanie Hazard (Director/Sam), trecompany@gmail.com

Alex Kroll (IB)

Sachi Parker (Priscilla)

Kyle Silver (Benji)

A Planned Spontaneity by Scott C. Sickles

Scott C. Sickles (Playwright) is an internationally produced LGBTQ/neurodivergent/Mixed Korean American writer. Fresh Fruit debut! Hellish Delights opens May 2 at The Chain. Emmy Award: General Hospital. www.ScottCSickles.com

Jon Okabayashi (Director), www.jonokabayashi.com

Pradanya Subramanyan (Intimacy Director), pradanyasubramanyan.com

C.K. Allen (Wallace), www.cka118.com

Chad Anthony Miller (CHARLIE), www.thechadanthonymiller.com

Dad Acting 101 by Gregory Marlow

Gregory Marlow (Playwright/Neil), The Saintly Beggar, published at fleasonthedog.com, 2/2023. Finalist: Carlo Annoni, DUAF, All Out Arts. Bayard Among Us, semi- NBTF. PartiTime, Fresh Fruit. MFA, The Theatre School at DePaul University. marlowgregory@gmail.com

Tony Melson (Orlando), tmelson77@gmail.com

Joshua Bennett (Voice/understudy), jojabe@gmail.com

THE POEM by Risa Lewak

Risa Lewak (Playwright) has had plays produced across the country and abroad. Most recently, she won, "Best Play," for the, "Something Funny Happened on the Way to Inner Growth" showcase in Phoenix, Arizona. Her work has been published in international anthologies.

Director (Isa Mellody), isapmellody@gmail.com

Margo (Sasha Henriques), henriques.sasha@gmail.com

Becky (Jacklyn Collier), jacklyncollier@gmail.com

Hot by Noah T. Parnes

Noah T. Parnes (Playwright) is a Brooklyn-based playwright, screenwriter, and drag artist. A recent graduate of Yale University, he is interested in exploring new modes of queerness and experimenting with conventional structure.

Elka Wade (Director)

Jerome Walker (Chip)

Jordi Bertrán Ramírez (Vinny)

Kevin Jones (Dill)

Waiting For a Gal Gadot by Katharine McNair

Katharine McNair (Playwright/Director)

Rebecca Kinard (Birdie)

MK Guinen (Bear)

Marine Léa Thomas (The Man)

BIOS

COMPETITION 2

Comfort and Joy By Dana Leslie Goldstein

Dana Leslie Goldstein (Playwirght) work has been seen at MTC, Cherry Lane, Culture Project, WP, York, Theatre80, New Dramatists, Ellis and Liberty Islands, the UN, and internationally. Member: BMI, PlayGroundNY, Dramatists Guild. danalesliegoldstein.com, danalesliegoldstein@gmail.com

Eva Burgess (Director), burgess.eva@gmail.com Julia Crowley (PIA), juliacrowley16@gmail.com Sarah Guilbault (Helen), sarah.guilbault@gmail.com

Portugal by Virgo

Virgo (Playwright)
Billy Luce-Murray (Director), LuceMurray.com
Seth Retzlaff (Rowan), Retzlaffseth@gmail.com
Kory Merten (Seth), Kory.Merten@gmail.com

The Unexpected Fetish by John Plausse

John Plausse (Playwright/Director) Award winning film maker. Film: Bravo, Giorgio! played in 40 festivals, won 13 awards. Playwright: Numerous one acts including Good to the Last Drop performed at various Off-Off Broadway theatres.

Mark Schall (Damien), justjack@markschall.com John Plausse (Mischa), jplausse@msn.com

Ask Me Anything by Philip Middleton Williams

Philip Middleton Williams (Playwright) His plays are published by Next Stage Press. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild. www.pmwplaywright.com, 305-807-9339

Jamisen Dowdy (Steve), Jamisend@outlook.com, 206-552-3893

Jochem Smeding (Martin), jochem.smeding@gmail.com, 332-217-6262

John Sannuto (Leo), jsannuto@gmail.com, 917-837-6029

MARICONA by Riki Alberto Colon

Riki Alberto Colon (Playwright/Director)
Saarah Medrano (Tata)
David De Merineye (Ricardo)

Astronauts by Evan Brodsky

Evan Brodsky (Playwright) is interested in telling queer stories that explore metaphysics, outer space and intimacy. His full length plays include The Glass Between Stars, For(e)bear, and The Memory Centre, evanbrodsky.com

For(e)bear, and The Memory Centre. evanbrodsk

Nile Harris (Director), nileharris1@gmail.com

Sterling Gates (Sammy), w.sterlingates@gmail.com

Lolo Rosado (Matt), lorenzor@me.com

The List by Eleanor Evans-Wickberg

Eleanor Evans-Wickberg (Playwright) Eleanor is a Brooklyn based playwright whose work has been developed and produced with Playground-NY, 938collective, The Secret Theater, and The Theater Project.

Natalie Thomas (Director), nataliethomas598@gmail.com

Nina Samaan (Angela), ninasamaan@gmail.com

Grace Bardsley, gc.bardsley@gmail.com

An Ex Gay Act of God by Bruce Deveau

Bruce Deveau (Playwright) is a member of The Playwrights Collaborative of Newburyport, MA. He has playwright credits in the UK, Canada, and across the US.

RI VerChaud (Director), Director@roaringepiphany, IG:@rjverchaud

Tara Nicole Murphy (Character: A), TaraNicoleMurphy.com, IG: @TaraNicoleMurphy

Ellie Mae Miller (Character: B), IG: @elliemaemillerr

Jay LaMar (Character: C), backstage.com/u/jay-lamar / IG: @thejay.la.mar / Jarrell.simon@gmail.com



COMPETITION 3

The Children's After Hour by Louise Schwarz

Louise Schwarz (Author) Productions/development: Mark Taper Forum, Cherry Lane Alternative, New York International Fringe Festival, New Perspectives Theatre, and more. Fellowships/residencies: Edward Albee Foundation, Blue Mountain Center. M.F.A. Columbia University. louiseschwarz.org

Timmy Gage (Director), timothygage.com

Lauryn Savela (Rosalie Wells), laurynsavela.com

Elly Kouri (Florence Wells)

The Squirrel Watchers by Katie Kirk

Katie Kirk (Playwright) Katie Kirk is a playwright whose work's been published by Concord Theatricals and recognized by Theater Masters and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, among others. MFA: Carnegie Mellon University, katiejkirk.com

Cecilia Bracey (Director), cecilia.bracey@gmail.com

Liana Runcie (Chloe), lianaruncie@gmail.com

Lulu Fairclough-Stewart (Brook), Julufaircloughstewart.com

Blessid NiaYemi (Alex), blessidniayemi.com

On Delivery by Tim Bryant

Tim Bryant (Playwright) Based in LA, Tim is a member of Playground-LA's writers pool. His comedy Hot Beef was one of six finalists in Playhouse on the Square's NewWorks@TheWorks in 2023. timbryant net

.F.A. Columbia University. louiseschwarz.org

Timmy Gage (Director), timothygage.com

Lauryn Savela (Rosalie Wells), laurynsavela.com

Elly Kouri (Florence Wells)

Swish Sesh by Solomon LeBlanc

Solomon LeBlanc (Playwright) As a playwright, he explores the intersections of reality, science, and technology, uncovering hidden moral dilemmas while writing for characters often overlooked on stage yet deeply present in his own community.

Stefanie Sertich (Director)

Jason Rodriguez (SEE), jasonrod8080@gmail.com

Mouhamadou Ndiaye (NESSY), mndiaye@uagreencareers.org

Number Up? by Katherine H. Vellis

Katherine H. Vellis (Playwright) is an English professor and playwright. She's a member of Dramatists Guild, New Play Exchange, South Florida Theater League. Recent productions: Canine Confidential; Pandora 2.0; Thanksgiving Eve; and Wattage. Kathvellis@gmail.com

Lydia Ruth Dawson (Director), www.lydiaruthdawson.com

Mauricio Gonzalez (Romeo), mgonzalez141222@gmail.com, IG: @m.g._.j.k

Kaleb Justin (Ronald), Kalebj36@gmail.com, IG: @Kaleb.Justinn

Franca Rosenblatt (lax), www.francarosenblatt.com, IG: @francarosenblatt

Lena Adele Wolfe (Juliet), www.lenawolfe.com, IG: @merlena19

The Cocktail Bench by John Harney

John Harney (Playwright) is a journalist in Washington, D.C. His plays "Ezra Pound Couldn't Sleep Here" and "Love West of Dupont Circle were staged in the Capital Fringe Festival, breastworkspoint@gmail.com

Oriana Ng (Director), www.orianang.com

Alex White (Pierre), 212alex@gmail.com

Gabrielle DuBrul (Willow), gabrielledubrul.com

Is He Gay? By Lauren Silverstein

Lauren Silverstein (Playwright/Director) Lauren is excited to be making her NYC theatrical debut. Lauren directed her play A Classic Love Story at Muhlenberg College. Her play Blind Dancing was also performed at Muhlenberg

Airen Guevara (Madi), Airenguevara@gmail.com, Airenguevara.com

Ashley Poulin (Livi), ashleypoulin6@gmail.com

Andrew Leary (One Dash/Thomas/Three), andrewleary@comcast.net

Bronwyn Bailey (Stage Manager), bronwynbailey17@gmail.com

Octavius Maurice (Two/Girl 1/Four), octaviusxmaurice@gmail.com

Danilo Zepeda (Seven), zepeda.danny@ymail.com

Dress Still Fits by Peter Pasco

Peter Pasco (Playwright) Actor Peruano. NYU grad. Yeeeeeer. Yankees fan.

Chicken connoisseur. Cheese lover. Karaoke aficionado. Saw Paddington 3 in the theaters. Blah, blah, blah. He always hungry hungry. Facts.

Paula Ali (Director)

Vitoria de Oliveira (Tanya)

Alessandra Ruiz (Ruby)



ALL THAT GLITTERS

A Star-Crossed Rebound by Maeve Aurora Chapman

Maeve Aurora Chapman (Playwright/Director) Maeve has directed her original work Home's Kitchen (World Premiere, NOCCA, Broadway DNA), A Woman of No Importance (Central Square Theater Cambridge), & Vera, or the Nihilists (Emerson College.) Her film credits include Coda (Actor, Oscar Winning Best Picture).

Tarina Milo (Rosaline) tarinamilo@gmail.com

Ethan Williams (Romeo) ethanwilliams355@gmail.com

Maggie Blake (Juliet) maggieKblake@gmail.com

Pride & Prejudice: Or a Queer Person's Guide to Surviving the Regency Era by William Meurer

William Meurer (Playwirght) An LGBTQ+/neurodiverse writer who loves sharing queer stories. Thank you to Alex, and our incredible cast. Y'all are incredible, now go kick some ass! @williammwrites

Alexandra Munroe (Director), IG: @alexmunroewrites

Ronni McAllister (Anna), IG: @_veronica_anne

Tara Nicole Murphy (Kate), IG: @taranicolemurphy

Allison Grace Furlong (Gwendolyn), IG: @soallie43

Ariela Pineda Salgado (Charlotte), IG: @arielapinedaa

Robert Pattinson is a Faggot by Elizabeth Salmon and Mads Weiss

Elizabeth Salmon & Mads Weiss (Playwrights/Directors) met at NYU while studying drama, and quickly realized they wanted to collaborate. Special thanks to our parents, teachers, cast, and gay people everywhere. elizabethgsalmon23@gmail.com & madeleineberweiss@gmail.com

Brynn Ayoob (Grace), brynnayoob@gmail.com

Sydney Barnes (Janet), sydneybarnes2715@gmail.com

Lizzie Buller (Sharon), lizziebullerdance@gmail.com

V Giorgione (Casey), 646-678-3848

Justin Berman (Justin), justberm@gmail.com

Adam Fallick (Brendon), adamjfallick@gmail.com

Khairi Agie (Adam), kiddkhairidean@gmail.com

Living The Dream by Dylan Horowitz

Dylan Reed Berman Horowitz (Playwright/Director) - Dylan Reed Berman Horowitz (He/Him & She/Her) is a Jewish, Genderqueer playwright based out of NYC. Her works include one acts "Seance" and "Boat Spotting" as well as full lengths "What Goes Up" and "Cuckoo?".

Eddie Thompson (Lem)

Jayme Pacheco (Bina)

Christopher Hanks (Damien), X: @chrismhank

STAGED READING

Quantum Gravity

Jude Cramer (Playwright) (he/him) is a Brooklyn-based playwright whose work focuses on queer masculinity. Outside of theater, Jude is also an NLGJA Award-winning and GLAAD Media Award-nominated journalist.

Gavin Petersen (Director) Hunter Anderson (Reid) Declan Collins (The Mar) Walker Stovall (Arthur)





THANKS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS!

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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HELP & SUPPORT

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