



PRESENT

NORTH CAROLINA
PLAYWRIGHTS
LAB

THEATRE RALEIGH STUDIO THEATRE
SEPTEMBER 17, 24, 25, AND OCTOBER 1

Featuring

The Weight of Everything We Know

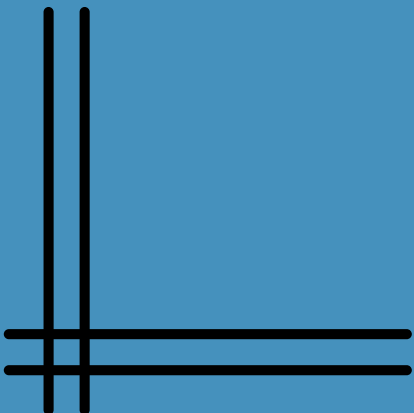
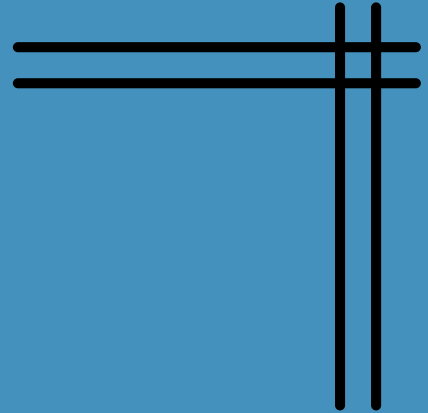
by Allan Maule

Leaving Watermaine

by Nan-Lynn Nelson

2 FULL-LENGTH ORIGINAL PLAYS BY
NORTH CAROLINA-BASED PLAYWRIGHTS

PLAYWRIGHTS



PLAYWRIGHTS

ALLAN MAULE

THE WEIGHT OF EVERYTHING WE KNOW

This science-driven romantic comedy explores what happens when the unchangeable changes, and we fall in love with someone we never could have predicted.

Allan is a North Carolina-based playwright and game writer who's been writing for the stage and screen since 2004. Favorite productions of his plays include EverScape (NYC Fringe 2015 and Sonorous Road Theater), Two Late (Carrboro Arts Center 10x10 Festival), Tales and Fermentations (Seed Art Share), and Framing the Shot (Sonorous Road Theater). Allan also worked as a video game writer and voice director on the MMORPG Fallen Earth and the Serious Games GE2050 and Uptick. Allan is a graduate of Duke University and holds a masters in performance studies from UNC Chapel Hill

PLAYWRIGHTS

NAN-LYNN NELSON **LEAVING WATERMAINE**

An All-African-American cast will breathe life into a time back in 1942. Watermaine. GA. 3 sisters of a middle-class Black family albeit, educated, are challenged by the limitations of their time, search to find their own identity, among broken hearts, shame, ambitions, colorism and triumphant spirits. Struggle as they might, they eventually all resolve to **LEAVING WATERMAINE.**

Nan-Lynn Nelson aka N.N. Ewing, has been in the theatre for over 40 years in New York City. As an actress, Nan-Lynn's Broadway credits include: the TONY nominated musical, RUNAWAYS; OPEN ADMISSIONS; as well as the replacement for Angela Bassette in August Wilson's JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE. Nan-Lynn has been a principle performer in many television commercials; films, as well as primetime and daytime television, including VIKKI on the critically acclaimed THE BLOODHOUND GANG, NBC's HOT HERO SANDWICH, Vivienne Roxbury- Barnes on ALL MY CHILDREN, and several features on LAW AND ORDER,

AS A PLAYWRIGHT: Nan-Lynn Nelson has been a finalist in the prestigious Susan Smith Blackburn international women's playwriting contest in London for her play: LEAVING WATERMAINE. An Artist-in-Residence at the Tribeca Performing Arts Center where she developed her play entitled: ENEMY OF THE B.R.E.A.D. Garnered a 2020 Individual Playwright's Grant from N.C. Arts and Science Council for a ZOOM presentation of A TOWN CALLED WITNESS: An Urban Afro/Greek Tragedy. Her play GLORY! premiered in 2019 at the iconic Dixon Place; And many other titles. She holds a Bachelor's degree in English/Theatre. She is also a playwright member of The iconic Actor's Studio in New York City. Happy to now be a resident of North Carolina.

PANELISTS



VIVIENNE BENESCH



ROY DICKS



TRIZA COX



JEFFREY SWEET



**NATHAN ROSS
FREEMAN**



DANI JESSANT



**LAUREN
KENNEDY
BRADY**

PANELISTS

JEFFREY SWEET

Jeffrey Sweet was part of the wave of writers, actors and directors who transformed Chicago's off-Loop theater scene beginning in the Seventies. Chicago hosted more than 20 productions of his works, including premieres of *Flyovers* (Jeff Award), *The Action Against Sol Schumann* (ATCA Award), *American Enterprise* (ATCA and Kennedy Center Awards, Best Play Citation), *Court-Martial at Fort Devens* (Audelco Award), *Bluff* (Jeff nomination), *With and Without, Porch* and his solo show, *You Only Shoot the Ones You Love*. His most-produced play, *The Value of Names*, was a particular favorite of Jack Klugman, who starred in it in six theaters, including the George Street Playhouse and the Falcon where it was an LA Times critic's choice. Jeff's most recent play, *Kunstler*, played off-Broadway in 2017 at 59E59th Street after runs at Hudson Stage and in the NY Fringe (where it was named a Time Out critic's choice); it moved to an extended run at Barrington Stage.

He wrote the book of the musical *What About Luv?* (a/k/a *Love*) starring Nathan Lane and Judy Kaye (based on Murray Schisgal's comedy, music by Howard Ashman and lyrics by Susan Birkenhead) and the book and lyrics of *I Sent a Letter to My Love* (based on the novel by Bernice Rubens, music by Melissa Manchester, directed by Patricia Birch). *What About Luv?* had an extended run in London and played two years in Tokyo.

For TV, Jeff wrote for Norman Lear, was executive story editor of an ABC series starring Michael Learned called *Hothouse*, wrote two years of soap opera (*Another World* and *One Life to Live*) and wrote the shooting script for the Peabody Award-winning TV movie version of Hugh Whittemore's *Pack of Lies* starring Ellen Burstyn and Alan Bates.

He also has written two books on dramatic technique (*The Dramatist's Toolkit* and *Solving Your Script*) and books on Second City (*Something Wonderful Right Away*) and the O'Neill Theater Center (*The O'Neill*). His newest book is *What Playwrights Talk About When They Talk About Writing*, featuring 18 interviews with major contemporary American and British playwrights, published by Yale. He has taught or guest lectured at dozens of universities and professional schools including NYU, Rutgers, the New School, the University of Richmond and Wagner College. His articles have appeared in *American Theatre*, *Newsday*, *The Dramatist* and *Dramatics*, for which he wrote a column for three decades.

He is an alum of the Lehman Engel BMI Musical Theater Workshop, New Dramatists and the O'Neill, a member of Ensemble Studio Theatre, a Tony voter, and a lifetime member of the Council of the Dramatists Guild. He is a graduate of NYU, where he studied film with Martin Scorsese, songwriting with Paul Simon and critical writing with Clive Barnes.

He currently teaches classes and runs seminars through his website, *The Negotiating Stage* (thenegotiatingstage.com).

PANELISTS

VIVIENNE BENESCH

Vivienne Benesch - Vivienne is in her sixth full season as a company member and Producing Artistic Director at PlayMakers, where she has helmed productions of "The Skin of Our Teeth," "The Storyteller," "Dairyland," "Life of Galileo," "Leaving Eden," "The May Queen," "Three Sisters," "Love Alone," "RED" and "In The Next Room." In her six seasons with the theatre, she is particularly proud to have produced ten world-premieres and launched PlayMakers Mobile, a touring production aimed at reaching underserved audiences around the Triangle. For 12 seasons, she served as Artistic Director of the renowned Chautauqua Theater Company and Conservatory, presiding over the company's transformation into one of the best summer theatres and most competitive summer training programs in the country. Vivienne has also directed for the Folger Shakespeare Theatre (Helen Hayes nomination for best direction 2019), The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, Trinity Repertory Company, NY Stage & Film, and Red Bull Theatre, among others. In 2018, she directed the world premiere of Noah Haidle's "Birthday Candles" for Detroit Public Theatre and will be directing it again on Broadway in 2022, starring Debra Messing. As an actress, Vivienne has worked on and off-Broadway, in film and television, at many of the country's most celebrated theatres, and received an Obie Award for her performance in Lee Blessing's "Going to St. Ives." Vivienne is a graduate of Brown University and NYU's Graduate Acting Program. As an educator, she has directed for and served on the faculty of some of the nation's foremost actor training programs, including The Juilliard School, UNC-Chapel Hill's Professional Actor Training Program, Brown/Trinity Rep MFA Program, and at her alma mater, NYU's Graduate Acting Program. She is the 2017 recipient of the Zelda Fichandler Award given by the Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation.

LAUREN KENNEDY BRADY

Lauren spent 20 years in NYC and appeared on Broadway in Spamalot (Lady of the Lake), Les Miserables (Fantine), Side Show (Standby for Daisy Hilton, original cast), Sunset Blvd. (original cast). Off-Broadway: Vanities (Mary/Second Stage) and Good Ol' Girls. Lauren was the original Cathy in Jason Robert Brown's The Last Five Years before departing the show to star in South Pacific as Nellie Forbush at the Royal National Theatre in London. National Tour: Sunset Blvd. (Betty Schaefer). Solo recordings include The Songs of Jason Robert Brown and Here and Now, both are available on the PS Classics. 14 years ago Lauren founded Theatre Raleigh and has served as the Producing Artistic Director where she has directed such shows as Drift, Vanities, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, The Bridges of Madison County and City of Angels.

PANELISTS

TRIZA COX

Triza Cox is a playwright, screenwriter, and theatre artist. She is currently the South Carolina Ambassador for the Dramatists Guild and is an associate member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers. Her research and creative work center on playmaking using Jungian archetypes, motifs and symbols of the collective unconscious. Triza holds an MFA in Theatre Performance from the University of Louisville and has trained with Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre. Triza's book, *How I Make Transcendent Theatre*, examines the implementation of community-based techniques and psychological theories in the creative process. Her original plays include *A Last Supper; The Willing*, which recently received a staged reading with Triad Stage in Greensboro, NC; *God in the Midst of it All* and *Lil' Bard* which was a semi-finalist in NYU's New Plays for Young Audience 2018 and premiered at Charlotte's Children Theatre in a staged reading. She also has received a Kentucky New Voices grant for her playwriting. Triza worked in Kentucky and in the Northeast as a Teaching Artist. Her work included Arts Literacy Programs with Hartford Performs; teaching playwriting with Northeast Children's Theatre Company; and *Journey: A Trip on the Underground Railroad* with Walden Theatre in Kentucky. As artistic director and founder of The Drama Lady Theatre Group (thedramaladytheatregroup.org), Triza has shown dedication to creating new and classical productions. Through this organization, Triza has implemented and facilitated many workshops and programs including *Shakespeare Behind Bars*, *Peer Educational Theatre* and *Forum Theatre*.

ROY DICKS

Roy C. Dicks – Roy's experience with new scripts comes from a range of theatrical activities in the Triangle. He recently finished a 21-year run as theater critic and performing arts writer for the *Raleigh News & Observer*, covering more than 1,200 productions, including over a hundred new works. Before that, Roy directed three dozen plays, a third of which were original works. As an actor in over 60 plays, Roy created roles in eight area premieres. He also has original writing experience in creating two commissioned opera librettos adapted from novels by N.C. writers, Allan Gurganus and Angela Davis-Gardner. Roy's undergraduate degrees in English and in Theater gave him a firm grounding for approaching original material. He is a member of the American Theatre Critics Assoc., the Music Critics Assoc. of North America, and the Dramatists Guild. Currently, Roy works on new scripts with area playwrights who have come to him through the Sips & Scripts service.

PANELISTS

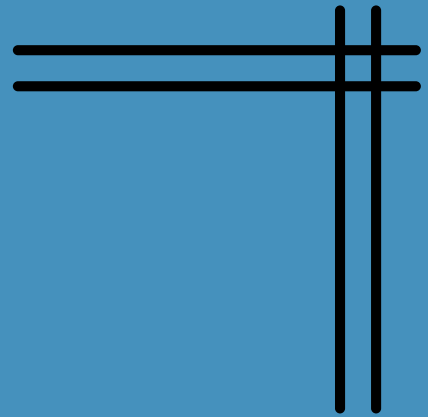
NATHAN ROSS FREEMAN

Nathan Ross Freeman is the Co-Founder and Artistic Director of Authoring Action, developing teen authors as impact communication specialists, authors, orators and filmmakers. He is Winston-Salem's 2015 Arts Council Award recipient, Faculty member of the Intensive Writing Faculty during his 14 years of teaching Screenwriting and Playwriting at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (1994-2008). Freeman's 2 feature films, Mr. Bones (narrative) and Authoring Action (documentary) were screened at over 20 international film festivals, and together were awarded 5 first place awards and 5 invitations. Freeman's new Feature Film, Gem, is currently scheduled. To tour international film festivals. Freeman Wrote, Produced, Directed, Filmed and Edited Gem. Mr. Nathan Ross Freeman has conducted Authoring Action workshops at elementary, middle and high schools throughout the state of North Carolina, and around the nation. He is a co-developer of the NCEdTA state-wide curriculum for Playworks in the Schools (K4-12). Nathan Ross Freeman co-founded many artistic organizations, including Authoring Action, Montage Showcase Ensemble, Assegai Film Group, Bushfire Theatre and Pen & Voice, each representing a powerful vehicle for discovering one's authentic voice and expressing it with impact. Mr. Nathan Ross Freeman is a graduate of St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA. Has 5 grown children and 7 Grands, 1 Great Grand and another grand in the oven.

DANI JESSANT

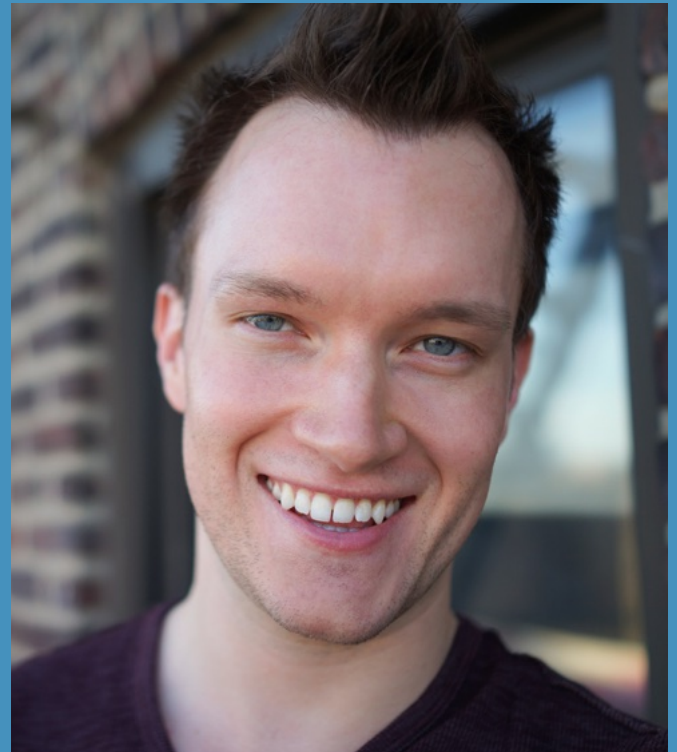
Dani Jessant is a native of Baltimore, Maryland and has lived in North Carolina since 2015. She serves as a co-writer for the web series, "Urk My Nerves" as well as a contributing play reviewer for RDU onStage. Dani is an author of children's books. One of her books, Brown Girl All Cult Up, is a personal story that reveals her experiences with religion and "self-love". "Self-love" has become her mission as she promotes it in her workshops everywhere, which includes a significant component of the importance of financial literacy. Dani is a proud mom of three wonderful children.

DIRECTORS



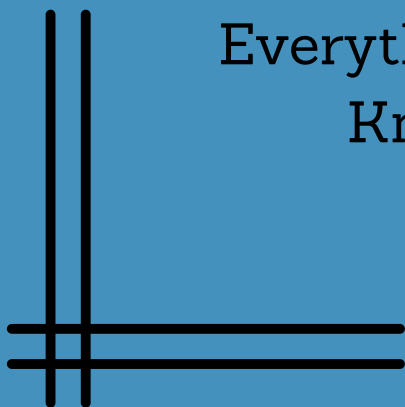
ANNIE TAFT

The Weight of
Everything We
Know



TIM SEIB

Leaving
Watermaine



DIRECTORS

ANNIE TAFT - The Weight of Everything We Know

Annie Taft is the author of over 30 plays which have been produced locally, regionally and nationally. She is also a director, producer and current president of Odyssey Stage based in Carrboro, NC. She is the creator of the audio drama "The Suffragist Project" in collaboration with the Triangle Playwrights which is currently streaming on your favorite podcast service. <http://www.odysseystage.org/shows/the-suffragist-project/>

TIM SEIB - Leaving Watermaine

Tim Seib- Previous directing work in the Triangle: The Play That Goes Wrong, Fun Home, Once, The Secret Garden, Million Dollar Quartet, Pump Boys & Dinettes, and Beehive, all for Theatre Raleigh. Regional work with La Mirada Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, Virginia Theatre Festival, Gateway Playhouse, Cape Fear Regional Theatre, Casa Manana, 54 Below, and the current national tour of Million Dollar Quartet. Based in NYC, Tim also enjoys teaching young artists and students with autism as well as new musical and play development; having worked with notable companies such as The Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center and The NYU Tisch Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program, as well as various workshops in NYC. He is a proud member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society and a graduate of the Webster University Conservatory of Theatre Arts. www.TimSeib.com

DRAMATURGS



JULES ODENDAHL-JAMES

The Weight of Everything We
Know



HANNAH FATOOL

Leaving Watermaine

DRAMATURGS

JULES ODENDAHL-JAMES

For the 22-23 season, Jules will serve as dramaturg for Trinity Repertory Company's world premiere of Jacqueline Lawton's *The Inferior Sex* and for Qui Nguyen's *She Kills Monsters* at Duke University. Recent directing credits include *Rollover* (The Process Series) and *Edges of Time* (Playmakers). She is a founding member of Durham's Bulldog Ensemble Theater.

HANNAH FATOOL

Hannah Fatool is a recent graduate of the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, earning her degree in Dramatic Arts and Linguistics. She served on the Orange County Arts Commission and has worked as a director and producer on numerous community and professional productions, favoring new works. At Chapel Hill, she served as the executive director of the theatre organization Company Carolina.



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CAST



GUS ALLEN

The Weight of
Everything We Know



**KAREN
DACONS-BROCK**

Leaving Watermaine



**VINCENT
DRAYTON**

Leaving Watermaine



**THADDAEUS
EDWARDS**

Leaving Watermaine



MAXINE ELOI

Leaving Watermaine



**MOSES T.
ALEXANDER
GREENE**

Leaving Watermaine



**CANDACE
HESCOEK**

Leaving Watermaine



ISIAH JENKINS

Leaving Watermaine

CAST



KYMA LASSITER

Leaving Watermaine



**KELLY
MCDANIEL**

Everything We Know



**LEWAYNE
POWELL**

Leaving Watermaine



DEBORAH SCOTT

Leaving Watermaine



SIERRA SMITH

Leaving Watermaine



KENNY ORTIZ

The Weight of
Everything We Know



**BRIAN
WESTBROOK**

Leaving Watermaine

CAST

GUS ALLEN

The Weight of Everything We Know

Gus Allen (Stage Directions) grew up in Minnesota before venturing to North Carolina in 2007. Besides acting, Gus enjoys board games, script writing and praying for the day when the Minnesota Vikings finally return to the Super Bowl. Gus' favorite roles include George Bailey (It's a Wonderful Life), Father Flynn (Doubt), Mr. Tumnus (The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe) and Algernon (The Importance of Being Earnest.) Thanks to God for continuing to put all the broken pieces back together.

VINCENT DRAYTON

Leaving Watermaine

Vincent Drayton is a native of Raleigh, NC. He has been acting since 2012, when he played the role of Sin in The Robe by Deloys Lee at New Providence Baptist Church. Vincent has been in various productions with MOJAA Performing Arts Company to include Can I Get A Witness, Escape to Freedom, as well as lending his voice to a permanent museum exhibit at Mordecai Historic Park. He has also been in productions with The Justice Theater Project to include Black Nativity, Ragtime, and other productions as well as productions with Tim Stevens and Angie Stahelli. Vincent also plays an active role with Pure Life Theater. Vincent has a true passion for acting and truly enjoys and loves performing. Vincent's most recent role was that of Gabe in Pure Life Theatre's production of August Wilson's Fences.

CAST

KAREN DACONS-BROCK

Leaving Watermaine

Karen Dacons-Brock is a former professor of theatre at North Carolina Central University (NCCU). During her tenure at NCCU, she taught performance courses, developed and produced new plays, directed theatrical productions, and promoted the University via edutainment performance tours. She was also the recipient of teaching and directing awards. Beyond the University, Dacons-Brock has collaborated on new play projects, served on boards, and directed productions for various theatre companies in the Triangle. She is a resident of Durham.

THADDAEUS EDWARDS

Leaving Watermaine

Thaddaeus Edwards is a Durham-based actor and theatre artist. With Justice Theatre Project: EVERY BRILLIANT THING, MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN. Bulldog Ensemble Theater: IN A WORD, CURVE OF DEPARTURE. Manbites Dog: LIFE SUCKS., THE BEST OF ENEMIES, SPIRITS TO ENFORCE, THE HOMOSEXUALS, THE BROTHERS SIZE, MIDDLETOWN, THE OVERWHELMING, BOYELROY, THE LAST TWO MINUTES OF THE COMPLETE WORKS OF HENRIK IBSEN, SONNETS FOR AN OLD CENTURY. Raleigh Ensemble Players: THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT, VENUS, THYESTES. Cape Fear Regional Theatre: THE PARCHMAN HOUR.

CAST

MAXINE ELOI

Leaving Watermaine

Maxine Eloi is an award winning filmmaker, actor, musician, writer and director. Classically trained at Boston University and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA), Maxine has continued to pursue their creative passions through film, theater, and music since graduating with a Bachelors of Fine Arts. Maxine has acted in over a dozen films, including sci-fi fantasy feature film *The Broken Swords* available on Amazon. A company member of Theater Delta and Curious Theatre Collective, and a teaching artist at North Carolina Theater Conservatory. Maxine also acts, writes, produces and directs on the comedy web series *Dot Org* available on Vimeo and Youtube. Maxine is a singer and songwriter, performing original music about resilience, love and healing. Maxine is so grateful to live as an artist and collaborate with others to create engaging and thought-provoking work in film, theatre, music, and TV.

MOSES T. ALEXANDER GREENE

Leaving Watermaine

MOSES T. ALEXANDER GREENE (Warren) is thrilled to be a part of *Leaving Watermaine* and dedicates his performance to his son, Marchell, and his NC ancestors—free people of color and enslaved African Americans. Theatre: *Pooled: A Gospel Musical Drama* (Book, Music & Lyrics), *The Scottsboro Boys* (Dramaturg), *Porgy and Bess*, *Memphis the Musical*, *Black Nativity*, *A Soldier's Story*, *The Color Purple*. TV: *Cosby*, *All My Children* (Writers' Assistant). Film: *The Best Man*.

CAST

CANDACE HESCOCK

Leaving Watermaine

Candace began her theatre education as a child in New England but has gained experience performing on both coasts. In the triangle area, she was last seen in Bare Theatres Trojan Woman and in the past, has worked with Justice Theatre, Cary Players and National Womens Theatre Fest among others. She also wants to give a special nod to Mojoaa Performing Arts Co where she had the privilege to collaborate pre-pandemic production of Smoked. When not performing, she is a vocal coach, intro to music teacher and a Seed Art Share Theatre Artist instructor.

Every project is dedicated to her wonderful husband, children and the neurodivergent community where she advocates for theatre inclusion.

ISIAH JENKINS

Leaving Watermaine

Born and raised in Raleigh NC. I love staying positive and taking risk. Motivation is my key and without it I'd have nothing. I love what I do and the people that I work with. It's not work if you're doing what you love. I love being a human canvas for a directors art work. The ability to create a character by using your imagination is the greatest challenge, and I enjoy it every time.

CAST

KYMA LASSITER

Leaving Watermaine

Kyma Lassiter is a performing artist who currently resides in Raleigh, NC. Favorite acting credits include: Peace of Clay (Theatre Raleigh); A Doll's House: Remodeled, (Justice Theater Project); Harriet Tubman, The Maggie Walker Story (Virginia Repertory Theatre); unclatom:deconstructed (The Conciliation Project); A Civil War Christmas (Firehouse Theatre); The Piano Lesson (Cape Fear Regional Theatre); and For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When The Rainbow Is Enuf (Burning Coal Theatre).

KELLY MCDANIEL

The Weight Of Everything We Know

Kelly McDaniel hails from the Midwest and holds a degree in Theatre Performance from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. After working professionally in Minneapolis and Chicago, Kelly relocated to Chapel Hill in 2015. Prior roles include Alice in Closer, Peggy in The Women, Maggie in Lend Me A Tenor, Gretchen in The Sleeper, Debra in Sexual Perversity in Chicago, Alice in Decision Height, Hermia in A Midsummer Night's Dream, and Writer in A Dream Play. Kelly also has a passion for travel and adventure which she fulfills by producing a travel vlog called Watch Us Wander with her ridiculously handsome husband, Ryan.

CAST

LEWAYNE POWELL

Leaving Watermaine

LeWayne Powell is an actor & singer as well as the owner of several businesses in the Triangle area. He was born & raised in Cleveland, Ohio but he has called Raleigh, North Carolina home for the past 27 years. He is a husband and a proud girl dad of a nine-year-old. LeWayne Powell plays the role of Jesse Moss, he recently appeared as Samuel Clements & the Preacher in the stage play Finding Patience this past June in Holly Spring, NC. He has appeared in several movies & television shows since 2019. He has always had a dream of being an entertainer since the early age of 5, he is finally living his dreams.

DEBORAH SCOTT

Leaving Watermaine

Deborah Missy Scott is an actress, model, and pageant queen. Deborah was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and moved to Raleigh, North Carolina in 2018. She always had a passion for acting and decided in adulthood to finally pursue her dreams. Deborah received acting training at Moonlight Stage Company on the Meisner technique. She worked as a promotional model for Karen Krane and Loran Ralph Lauren and performed in several fashion shows. Currently, Deborah is a principal host for Charlotte Entertainment Network. She is the creator of the podcast series "Boundless Visionaries," a show that spotlights people living their dream. In August 2022, she became Ms. Petite USA. Her platform is "Breaking Ground," empowering people to live the life they dream of. In the future, Deborah would like to have a recurring role on a Sci-Fi series and become a mother but remain a "pet mom."

CAST

SIERRA SMITH

Leaving Watermaine

Sierra Nicole Smith is a Raleigh based actor recently seen in productions around the area such as: Ona, Finding Patience, Inherit the Wind with Justice Theater, The Wolves with Sonorous Road Theater, Much Ado at Burning Coal with Women's Theater Festival. She is a graduate from Greensboro College and is a part of JTA Agency. Along with acting, she is producing a podcast centered around media and black culture. In her spare time, Sierra creates music and covers, cooks, models, hosts a show/movie review podcast, and enjoys voice acting. You can keep up with her by following her on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook!

KENNY ORTIZ

The Weight Of Everything We Know

Kenny Ortiz is an actor based in Raleigh, NC. Currently Kenny is finishing his Bachelors for Dramatic Arts at UNC – Chapel Hill. He is also working as an acting coach at Moonlight Arts & Entertainment, where they are working on entertainment content for their YouTube page. Kenny loves to be in the atmosphere of actors and creators, because he believes they are the most hard-working, thorough visionaries of the world. Even though this industry is hard by itself, it requests a collaborative effort. Kenny served in the Marine Corps Reserves(USMC-R) and is proud to have been deployed in a humanitarian effort to Central America. Through his time in the USMC-R, he grew to be a part of a network of creators in Raleigh, NC. One of Kenny's biggest hobbies is skateboarding when he can find the time. He also loves to draw, paint and hopes to learn to write screenplays.

CAST

BRIAN WESTBROOK

Leaving Watermaine

Brian Westbrook has been performing and directing in the triangle for over 10 years and is thrilled to be working with this talented group for North Carolina Playwrights Lab. Favorite previous roles include Dr. Frank N Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show*, Emcee in *Cabaret*, Lancelot in *Monty Python's Spamalot*, Beadle Bamford in *Sweeney Todd & The D'ysquith Family* in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*. Brian offers profound gratitude to his family and friends for their boundless love and support!

BEHIND THE SCENES



CHARLIE BRADY

Founder, CATG



YVETTE HOLDER

Founder, Sips & Scripts



TIM SEIB

Program Advisor



**LANEISHA BROWN
FARRAR**

Stage Manager



ALLISON HOPFER

Stage Manager



BROOK NORTH

Moderator



**KAREN
DACONS-BROCK**

Consutant/Moderator

BEHIND THE SCENES

CHARLIE BRADY

Founder, CATG

Charlie Brady is an actor, director relocated from NYC and now resides in Raleigh with his wife, Lauren Kennedy Brady. A professional actor of almost 30 years, Charlie spent 17 years in New York City and performed on stages on Broadway, Off-Broadway, Equity National Tours and Regional Theater across the country. He brings this variety of experience to his mission to connect our region's theater community and help support more full time opportunities in the industry. Inspired by the commitment and passion of the triangle theater community, Charlie is committed to stimulating productivity, visibility, and the celebration of all our region continues to accomplish.

YVETTE HOLDER

Founder, Sips & Scripts

Yvette L. Holder is a native of North Carolina and has studied theatre at three institutions: North Carolina School of the Arts, Lee Strasberg Institute of Dramatic Arts (New York), and North Carolina Central University, where she received a BA in Dramatic Arts. Yvette is a producer as she is also the creator of the growing service platform for NC playwrights, "Sips & Scripts", which supports, promotes, and produces works written by emerging and established North Carolina playwrights. Yvette always looks to the future as she focuses on that next given moment to open doors for new opportunities.

BEHIND THE SCENES

LANEISHA BROWN FARRAR

Stage Manager

LaNeisha Brown Farrar is delighted to be a part of North Carolina Playwrights Lab this year. Her stage management credits include productions at Theatre Raleigh (2021 Holiday Cabaret, Into the Breeches, and Bud Not Buddy); Pure Life Theatre (Radio Golf and Loving); Raleigh Little Theatre (Bob Marley's Three Little Birds); and The Justice Theatre Project (A Soldier's Play, Porgy and Bess, and Black Nativity). Favorite credits include The Color Purple with JTP and The Scottsboro Boys with TR. LaNeisha is ever so grateful to her family and loved ones for their unwavering support.

ALLISON HOPFER

Stage Manager

Allison Dellinger Hopfer thanks her husband and baby for their endless love and support as she returns to live theatre! Having stage managed frequently for Theatre Raleigh since her first professional work on "All My Sons" in 2016, through to navigating live/streamed theatre with "Leading Ladies" and "Oh What A Night" most recently, she is thrilled to be part of this project.

BROOK NORTH

Moderator

Brook is an actor/writer/producer/director/filmmaker (more or less in that order) in the Raleigh area. He's co-founder and artistic director of South Stream Productions. Find out more at BrooklivingstonNorth.com.

BEHIND THE SCENES

KAREN DACONS-BROCK

Consultant/Moderator

Karen Dacons-Brock is a former professor of theatre at North Carolina Central University (NCCU). During her tenure at NCCU, she taught performance courses, developed and produced new plays, directed theatrical productions, and promoted the University via edutainment performance tours. She was also the recipient of teaching and directing awards. Beyond the University, Dacons-Brock has collaborated on new play projects, served on boards, and directed productions for various theatre companies in the Triangle. She is a resident of Durham.

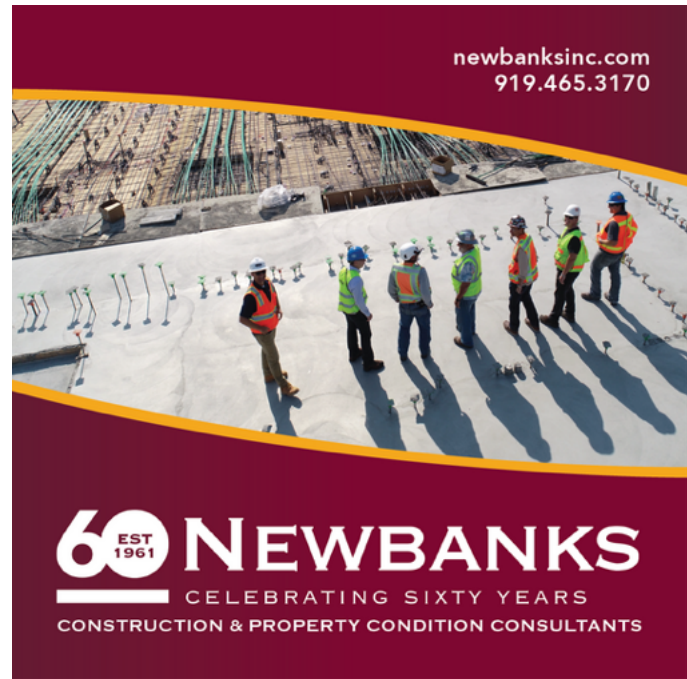
MORGANN RUSSELL

Sound Designer

Morgann Russell has served as the sound engineer for Theatre Raleigh's 2019 production of Oh What a Holy Night, she also worked with the sound department on Beehive: The 60's Musical, The Bridges of Madison County, The Scottsboro Boys, Fun Home, Peace of Clay, Forever Plaid, and Yellow Face.

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Mark Pfeffer is Managing Director of the Raleigh office of Newbanks, Inc., a nationwide construction consulting firm which provides services to the country's primary lending institutions. Prior to Newbanks, Mark spent a decade in Los Angeles where he worked in talent representation at William Morris Endeavor and ICM. He also worked in Casting at the ABC Television Network and was the Assistant to the Executive Producer of *The Good Wife* on CBS. A graduate of Point Park University's Sports, Arts and Entertainment Management program, Mark currently serves on the Board of Directors of Theatre Raleigh. Mark previously served on the Board of Directors of the Junior Hollywood Radio and Television Society in Los Angeles and is a founding board member of the Pittsburgh chapter of Women in Film and Media.

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