

Project Y Theatre Company presents
The 5th annual Women in Theatre Festival (Live and Online!) 2020



THE ONE AND ONLY AMANDA PALMER

by Kat Mustatea

CAST AND CREATIVES

Kat Mustatea (Playwright) is a playwright and technologist. Her plays have been performed in New York, Chicago, Berlin, and Oslo. Her current play, "One-Eye," is about a cyclops who tries to fit into Manhattan society by getting a second eye surgically implanted in his head. She is a founder and co-curator of EdgeCut.org, a monthly series of short performance works, and a current member of NEW INC, the art and tech incubator at The New Museum of Art in New York City. She speaks and writes frequently about the intersection of cutting edge technology and art (SXSW, The Pompidou Center in Paris, Creative Tech Week) and is a board member of the League of Professional Theatre Women, a NYC trustee of the Awesome Foundation, and a member of Dramatists Guild. Her TED talk is about puppets and algorithms. (Website: mustatea.com).

Michole Biancosino (Director) is the Co-Founding Artistic Director of Project Y Theatre Company, where she has developed and directed new work in Washington, D.C. and New York City over the past 20 years. With Project Y, she has led various professional productions, as producer, director, and writer. Credits included the long-running shows, *Trump Lear* (co-created and directed) and the award-winning, *Gary Busey's One Man Hamlet* (as performed by David Carl), both of which toured regionally and performed at Edinburgh Fringe, as co-productions with Richard Jordan Productions (UK), The Pleasance, and Underbelly. She directs solo artist Peter Michael Marino's long-running solo shows, *Show Up!* and *Show Up.. Kids!*, both of which have toured regionally and internationally.

Recipient: SDC Gielgud Fellowship for classical directing. Her work with Project Y Theatre has been supported by grants from The Puffin Foundation, ART/NY, NY Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), The Dramatists Guild, LitNY Fund, EAG Open Space Grant, and New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). She holds an MFA in Directing from Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Middlebury College. For more information: www.micholebiancosino.com.

Natalie Nankervis (Amanda Palmer 1) is entering her senior year as a BFA Actor at Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama. Recently, she played Hecuba in CMU's mainstage production of *Tiger at the Gates* and her scene work includes *Gwendolyn* (*The Importance of Being Earnest*), *Medea* (*Medea*), and *Beatrice* (*Much Ado About Nothing*). Natalie is drawn to projects that feature smart and powerful women. She interned with the WiT Festival last summer and is thrilled to be involved again this year! Visit her website, natalienankervis.com, for more information and upcoming projects.

Saran Bakari (Amanda Palmer 2) Born and raised in Washington, D.C., Bakari is a 2020 graduate of Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama (Acting major/Dance Concentration) where she spent a semester of her senior year studying at the Drama Centre in London. Bakari has studied ballet, modern, tap and African dance since the age of three at the Jones-Haywood School of Dance. Dance led her to the theatre. She attended Duke Ellington School of the Arts High School as an acting major, while continuing dance training at Jones-Haywood. She is very excited to be working with Project Y for another summer. Asante Sana Mama and Baba for your unyielding support. Bakari's representation team consists of Buchwald and Authentic Talent & Literary Management

Meghan Wright (Amanda Palmer 3) is an incoming junior at Carnegie Mellon School of Drama. Her recent credits include, Sheila in "Hair," Violet in "Side Show," and countless other productions. She will be participating in the 2021 season at Texas Shakespeare Festival, and is excited and thankful to be working with Project Y, and Kat on this project.

Andrew W. Smith (WIT Festival Producer) is a professional Actor, Director, and Producer whose work has been seen throughout New York City, regionally, and internationally. He is also the Co-Founding Artistic Director of award-winning Project Y Theatre Company in New York City. Selected regional acting work includes: Pittsburgh Public Theatre, Pittsburgh City Theatre, Quantum Theatre, Actor's Theatre of Louisville, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Arena Stage, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Roundhouse Theatre, Potomac Theatre Project, Ars Nova, Studio Theatre, and Olney Center for the Arts. He toured with The National Players on their 50th anniversary as Cyrano in *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Filmwork includes *Lucid*, *Shooting Script*, *Death of a Nation* (Winner: Best Short,

IndieFest 2011; Best in Show, Best Shorts Competition 2011), *Under-Ground*. Television work includes *GONE*, *Law and Order: Criminal Intent*, *One Life to Live*, *As the World Turns*, *Guiding Light*. Andrew is currently an Associate Professor of Acting at the Carnegie Mellon School of Drama. He also spent two years as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre at Middlebury College, Vermont, from which he also received his BA in theatre. He is also a graduate of the MFA Acting program at the University of California, San Diego, from which he received the Teaching Excellence Award upon graduation.
www.smithandrewwilliam.com.

Christopher Ulloth (Graphic and Website Designer) is a New York City based playwright, producer, and graphic/web designer. Recent Producing, Graphic/Web Design credits include: WOMEN IN THEATRE FESTIVAL (Project Y Theatre Company, NYC, 2016-2020); THE FIFTH VITAL SIGN (Elephant Room Productions, NYC, 2019); SALAMANDER by Lisa VillaMil (Elephant Room Productions, Philadelphia Fringe Festival 2018); SUICIDE STORIES: GALLERY OF THE UNTOLD (Elephant Room Productions, Philadelphia Fringe Festival 2017); VENTILATOR BLUES by Robert Kerr (Staged Reading, Elephant Room Productions, 2017); BEAUTIFUL AMERICAN SOLDIER by Dano Madden (Staged Reading, Elephant Room Productions, 2016). B.A.: Bloomsburg University.

Gabrielle Martin (Assistant to the Producers, Chorus) is a senior theatre major and music minor at Middlebury College. In addition to her acting credits, she recently directed a devised multimedia theatre piece, *I Like You (A Lot)* at Middlebury College. She has also held a Shakespeare artist in residency position at Berridge Programs in Normandy, France; teaching original practices and text work to high school students.

Hadley Evans Nash (Assistant to the Producers, Chorus) is a director/playwright who is so honored to be working with Project Y. She is an alumna of the National Theatre Institute as well as Shakespeare and Company's Training Intensive. She will graduate from St. Olaf College next year with a theatre major and hopes to start a small theatre company in Minneapolis.

Special Thanks for appearing from the audience:

Coralie Tyler, Emily Ballou, Meili Huang, Michelle Marquez, and Wengel Kifle

Project Y Theatre Company is an outside-the-box theatre company that supports the creation, development, and production of new works for the stage in New York City. 2020 marks our 20th year as an award-winning company committed to supporting playwrights and their plays, and with a focus on women and LGBTQ voices. Project Y positions new plays and new voices to be part of the theatrical conversation. www.projectytheatre.org.

Creative Team and Staff

Michole Biancosino & Andrew W. Smith, Co-Artistic Directors
Lia Romeo, Associate Artistic Director
Hadley Evans Nash & Gabrielle Martin, Assistants to the Producers
Amit Prakash, Resident Sound Designer
Neel Murgai, Digital Technician
Christopher Ulloth, Graphic Designer and Company Member

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Fund for Research and Creativity, Carnegie Mellon University.

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York



UPCOMING PROGRAMMING

ZOOM PLAYS

In March 2020, in the wake of the COVID19 pandemic and a move to online teaching and theatre-making, we put out an open call for plays written to be performed on the Zoom platform, and now we have over 300 submissions. Two teams of readers read every single play, and in early September stay tuned for the world premiere of:

Close (But Not Too Close!) written by Paloma Sierra,

Music by Dusty Sanders, Lyricist Julia Koyfman

Missing Ingredient, by Colleen Nicole O'Doherty

Soup, by Rachel Carnes

Cliffhanger, by Catalina Florina Florescu

