

About Project Y Theatre Company

Project Y is a community of artists, designers, and playwrights devoted to developing new work through staged readings, online video projects, workshop productions, and fully produced world premieres.



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Project Y exists because of the generosity of people like you. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductible. To make a donation, visit www.projectytheatre.org.

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Your thoughts and opinions are important to us. In order to develop our work, we need to hear from you! If you have any feedback about this reading, please email michole@projectytheatre.org



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The Feminine Mystique: 50 Years Later Reading Series



Written by Hilary Bettis
Directed by Elena Araoz



Hilary Bettis is the first recipient of the James McLure Fellowship for playwriting from New River Dramatists. She received the Sloan/EST commission (*Dakota Atoll*) and a private commission from Carol Ostrow Productions (untitled play in development) in 2011. She was the 2009 recipient of the John N. Wall Fellowship for playwriting at Sewanee Writer's Conference. She received two fellowships from New River Dramatists in 2009. She was a 2010 semi-finalist for the Julliard Lila Acheson Wallace Playwright Fellowship. Her play, *Mexico*, was nominated for the 2010 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize. She was the recipient of a one-time grant from Cherry Jones and Abingdon Theatre Company to support an emerging female playwright. Hilary has had readings and workshops with New Georges, The Lark, EST, Abingdon, Barrow Street, and The Aurora Fox in Denver. Her play, *American Girls*, was produced Off-Broadway at 45th Street Theatre in 2008, was anthologized in Best Monologues of 2009 and Best Stage Scenes of 2008 both published by Smith & Kraus, and McFarland & Company, Inc. published the complete play. She collaborated with SilverLine Cinema on her debut short film, *B'Hurst*, which she also acted in and executive produced.

B'Hurst has screened at the 2011 Williamsburg Film Festival, the 2012 IFS Festival (she won best actress in a short), and was a finalist for the 2012 Nashville Film Festival. Hilary began acting professionally as a teenager. She has been in national commercials, television pilots, independent films, and numerous New York and regional theater productions. She is a member of SAG, AEA, Dramatists Guild, The Drama League, TCG, Playwrights' Center, and Fractured Atlas. She is a member of EST and an affiliated artist with New Georges. She is a staff writer for offonline.com.

Elena Araoz is a stage director of theater and opera. She directs internationally, Off-Broadway and throughout the United States. During the 2011-2012 season, she made her debut with New York City Opera as Stage Director and Choreographer for Sir Jonathan Miller's production of *La traviata* which performed at the Gilman Opera House at BAM. Her acclaimed operetta adaptation of Christopher Logue's *War Music* was commissioned by Providence-based ensemble Aurea and toured throughout New England and to Chicago and New York. Other

commissions for adaptations include *Faust* for Aurea and a tango music-theatre piece for the Chekhov Theatre Ensemble in New York City. She is currently co-developing a dance-like adult version of "Hansel and Gretel" titled *House of Sweets*. Off-Broadway, she has directed the American premiers of Carl Djerassi's plays starring Simon Jones and Lisa Harrow. Other New York City credits include the world premier of Carolyn Nur Wistrand's *Magdalena's Crossing* for the legendary Negro Ensemble Company and the world premier of Monika Bustamante's *Thirst: a spell for Christabel* at HERE. Regionally, she has directed *The Price* at Northern Stage, Naomi Wallace's *The Fever Chart* with Underground Railway Theatre in Boston and *Titus Andronicus* with Austin Shakespeare Festival. She holds her MFA in Acting from the University of Texas at Austin.

About Our Reading Series

2013 marks the 50th anniversary of Betty Friedan's watershed treatise *The Feminine Mystique*, the book that launched second-wave feminism in this country. Accordingly, we are launching our yearly themed reading series around themes of women's changing lives: "Feminine Mystique: 50 years later" Reading Series features plays by and about women who challenge traditional notions of what it means to be a woman today, as we look back on our history.

Up Next...

***A User's Guide to Hell featuring
Bernard Madoff***
- World Premiere -

by Lee Blessing
directed by Michole Bioscosino

September, 2013
Atlantic Theater, 2nd Stage