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# READING TO VEGETABLES

JAN 29 - FEB 9, 2014



WRITTEN BY

**EM LEWIS** 

DIRECTED BY

TINA POLZIN

SCHOOL OF DRAMA UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

# READING TO VEGETABLES

directed by TINA POLZIN (Member of the Professional Director Training Program) written by **EM LEWIS** 

Scenic Design Lighting Design Technical Director Fight Choreographer Phillip Lienau Paul Arnold\* **Justin Roberts** Christopher Donoghue

Costume Design Sound Design Stage Manager **Prop Master** Melinda Hare\* Andrew Swan Andrew Swan Andrea Bush

Assistant Stage Manager

Light Board Operator

Stella Stuckey

Electrics Crew

John Bernard\*

**Emily Eidson** 

Sound Board Operators House Manager Heike Rodriguez Jack Dearth

Spencer Hamp

Costume Construction Crew

Melinda Hare Ali Panzarella

Ruth Apahidean

Laundry Crew

**Brandon Peck** 

Wardrobe Crew Construction Crew Abigail Castillo Jared Roberts\* Monica Gonzalez Julia Welch\* Holly Griffith

Photographer Running Crew Mike Hipple Michael Adams

Ratanond Koonchanok Andy Tran

Neil Wojewodzki Heng Yin

Special Thanks: ACT Theatre, Iverson Genetic Diagnostics, Inc., Cathy Madden, Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle Opera, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Theatre Puget Sound, UW Bio Med Shop Scientific Instruments, UW School of Nursing, Village Theatre, Joan & Howard Voorheis.

#### CAST \*members of the Professional Actor Training Program (PATP)

*Dr. Kenneth Bennett.*....Joe Ngo\*

George Keller...... Darius Mousavi\* Ken Schaefer . . . . . . Moises Castro\*

# **ABOUT THE PLAY**

TIME: The present, and Rachel's memories of the past ten weeks.

PLACE: A hospital room, a conference room, and Dr. Bennett's office.

Reading to Vegetables runs 1 hour and 30 minutes, with no intermission.

# We want to hear from you!

We invite you to share your feedback and provide suggestions to help us shape your experience with the School of Drama.

Take our brief audience survey at: http://bit.ly/ldw8yrg









<sup>\*</sup> Member of the Master of Fine Arts Program in Design

# **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

Tina Polzin is a graduate of UC Irvine and moved to Paris after completing her degree to direct and design lighting. She has worked with LAByrinth Theater Company and Manhattan Theater Source in New York and produced Fusion Film Festival at NYU and The Estrogenius Theater Festival at MTS, both of which encourage strong working relationships between men and women in the arts. She was also a member of the literary department for North Coast Rep and the Ojai Playwright's Conference. As a writer and teaching artist, Polzin has worked with theatres such as Palo Alto Children's Theatre where she led students in the creation of a full length play dealing with war and corporate responsibility. She performs improv and sketch comedy.

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

EM Lewis received a 2012 Fellowship in Playwriting from the New Jersey Council for the Arts and the 2010-11 Hodder Fellowship at Princeton University. She won the 2009 Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award for Song of Extinction and the 2008 Primus Prize for Heads from the American Theatre Critics Association. Recent projects include: Song of Extinction at the Guthrie and at Hostos College, Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday at HotCity Theatre in St. Louis, Infinite Black Suitcase at University of Southern California, and the world premiere of True Story at Passage Theatre in New Jersey. She is currently teaching and working on an epic new play set in Antarctica called Magellanica: A New and Accurate Map of the World during a 9-week residency at the William Inge Center for the Arts in Kansas and is writing the libretto for a new chamber opera for the 2013-14 Composer Librettist Development Program at American Lyric Theater in NYC. Lewis is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild. She lives in Oregon.

# **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

This represents the world premiere production of Reading to Vegetables. New work is something I'm incredibly passionate about. I am drawn to plays that have a strong social or political message told through a very human story.

Reading to Vegetables is a play about ethics, responsibility, and the fine line between right and wrong. It exists in a world without regulations where humans can be the rats in an experiment. It asks us to question our own role; to think about the choices we've been making. We talk about moral decisions like there's a clear right and wrong, but they're complex, and I think we need to be continually reminded to actively listen to our decisions and their consequences so that we don't repeat them.

## FURTHER READING

Check out our online resource guide where you can learn more about each play, playwright, and more:

guides.lib.washington.edu/readingtovegetables

# 2013-14 MAINSTAGE SEASON

The Arabian Nights

by Mary Zimmerman directed by Leah Adcock-Starr February 26 - March 9 Floyd and Delores Jones Playhouse

The Beggar's Opera

by Vaclav Havel directed by Wilson Milam April 23 - May 4 Floyd and Delores Jones Playhouse

The Workroom

by Jean-Claude Grumberg directed by Mark Jenkins May 28 - June 8 Glenn Hughes Penthouse Theatre

# AND MORE EVENTS THIS SEASON! **BEYOND THE MAINSTAGE**

Reefer Madness
Music by Dan Studney
Book and Lyrics by Kevin Murphy
Directed by Jillian Johnson Produced by the Undergraduate Theater Society January 23 – February 2 Cabaret Theatre

A Map of Virtue By Erin Courtney Directed by Rachel Perlot Produced by the Undergraduate Theater Society February 27 – March 9 Cabaret Theatre

Theatre from the Inside Out: The Arabian **Nights Opening Night Dinner** 

Meet student-director Leah Adcock-Starr Friday, February 28 UW Club

Seattle Showcase

Professional debut of the PATP class of 2014 Sunday, April 13 Glenn Hughes Penthouse Theatre

#### **CONTACT US**

**UW School of Drama** 101 Hutchinson Hall Box 353950 Seattle WA 98195-3950 206.543.5140 drama.uw.edu

**UW Arts Ticket Office** 1313 NE 41st St 206.543.4880

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The UW School of Drama transforms artists and scholars into singular, innovative and courageous professionals, poised to be the creative leaders of tomorrow. Our dynamic, award-winning faculty is dedicated to enabling each student to reach their full potential and our alumni are advancing the artistic conversation through innovative and diverse work across the globe.

We offer MFA degrees in acting, design, and directing, a four-year undergraduate liberal arts education in Drama or Musical Theatre, and a PhD in theatre history and criticism.

### FACULTY AND STAFF

Executive Director, Sarah Nash Gates

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We wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who have made a financial contribution to the School of Drama in the past year (Jan 1, 2013 – Jan 12, 2014). Your gifts make a genuine impact in the lives of our students, and in turn, within the greater theatre community. Full

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