

DEPARTMENT of THEATRE and PERFORMANCE STUDIES

STORIES FOR A WINTER'S NIGHT



FEATURING

Scottie Rowell

Meg Harkins

Kit Fay

Hayden Rowe as Siberia The Queen

Maged Roushdi & Friends

Jan. 19 & 20 | 8 p.m.

Jan. 21 | 3 p.m.

Stillwell Theater



KENNESAW STATE
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

great **STORIES** told

here
TheatreKSU.com

**WELCOME TO THE 2023-2024
THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES SEASON.**

Welcome to our 2023-2024 season. We're so glad you're here!

In the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies, we train our students through a unique BA curriculum, grounded in the professional practice of theatre, which we explore through our production season. We aim to provide spaces for both our student artists and our audiences to connect in a meaningful way through our productions and projects, as extensions of the wonderful work happening in our classrooms.

Our wonderful season presents a theme of duality. Each of our mainstage shows has themes that demonstrate a division between two people, two groups, two ideologies, or two worlds. Each show has a plot point that demonstrates the age old "Us vs. Them" conflict. "You're either with us or you're not." Each show also explores how the people involved must learn to find the space between, from the residents of Reading, Pennsylvania in *Sweat* to the island villagers in *Once on this Island*. There are two sides to every story, two sides to every coin, two elements in each situation to create balance. Dark vs. Light, good vs. evil, David vs. Goliath. What happens to those caught in the middle? How do we find the middle ground?

Our students are learning how to create art and tell stories in a world full of polarity – political, social, and personal. They are plugged into a world of technology and social media that drives this separation; when they come into our spaces, we nudge them to cross that space between. Speak from a place of personal responsibility. Assume good intentions. Listen to the perspectives of others. The characters in our plays must work together to find common ground and survive the ills that surround them. Our students must come together and collaborate to bring these stories to life. We prioritize their process and learning experience while doing so. And this season, our students will get the wonderful opportunities to work with Presenting Series guests from the Broken Box Mime Theater, based out of New York City, when they visit in September to perform *A BKBX Frankenstein*. In addition, they'll be interfacing with a diverse slate of storytellers coming to perform *Stories for a Winters Night* in January 2024.

Our season will culminate in a fantastic New Works and Ideas Festival in April where our students, faculty, and guest artists will create original work and share it with all of you. Come take your pick of offerings from staged readings to showcases over a ten-day period in April. We cultivate scholar-artists who think deeply about the art that they are creating and engaging with. We proudly boast a department of smart, kind, inquisitive, creative, goofy, loving students. Thank you for coming to see their work and thank you for supporting live theatre.

Chuck Meacham
TPS Chair

Amanda Wansa Morgan
Artistic Director

KSU Department of Theatre and Performance Studies Presents

STORIES FOR A WINTER'S NIGHT

An evening of performances by KSU Theatre & Performance Alumni

January 19 – 21, 2024
The Stillwell Theater

COORDINATED & HOSTED BY
Charles Parrott & Jim Davis

**FEATURING KENNESAW STATE THEATRE
& PERFORMANCE STUDIES ALUMNI**

Kit Fay
Meg Harkins
Scottie Rowell
Maged Roushdi
Avery Sharpe
Gabriella Gordon
Nate Brosy
And Hayden Rowe as Siberia The Queen

This production will be performed without an intermission.

The College of the Arts at Kennesaw State University supports, defends, and promotes academic freedom of artistic expression as outlined by the American Association of University Professors and diversity of all kinds as outlined by the University's Human Relations.

The Department of Theatre and Performance Studies is accredited by the
National Association of Schools of Theatre.

THE VIDEOTAPING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER
AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS OF THIS PRODUCTION OR
DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS ON ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE
INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Welcome to an evening of performance like no other. A variety show, if you will, of acts ranging from puppetry to drag and, of course, storytelling. In our Department of Theatre and Performance Studies, we teach students about many different modes of performance, including those outside of traditional theatre which is often scripted and requires actors to take on a persona that is not their own.

Performance studies examines and interrogates both conspicuously staged artistic performances and everyday cultural performances. Artistic performances are performances marked and understood as art: solo performance, performance art, performances of literature, theatrical storytelling, plays, and performance poetry are all examples of this sort of performance. This category considers performance as an art form.

Performance Studies embraces the creative process of making art as well as the critical process of analyzing performances. Performance Studies first emerged as its own field of study in the last decades of the twentieth century informed by insights from anthropology, sociology, theatre, oral interpretation, communication studies, literary criticism, cultural studies, ethnography, folkloristics, mythological studies, and psychology. Today, performance scholars contribute to these diverse fields of study. The program in Theatre and Performance Studies here at KSU features performance as an art form, as a field of study, and as a method of inquiry (or a way of knowing) in classes throughout the major. The entire program embraces the idea of performance praxis, embodying theory through performance.

The performers you see in this production are all alumni of our wonderful program. They studied the areas of theatre *and* performance studies, and are pursuing careers that involve their training today. They are here interacting with our current students and teaching them about these careers and opportunities. We welcome them back with open arms and hope you enjoy this eclectic performance of their work.

CAST

Storytelling & Puppetry	Scottie Rowell	Stand Up Comedy	Meg Harkins
Storytelling	Kit Fay	Drag Performance	Hayden Rowe as Siberia The Queen
Impov	Maged Roushdi, Avery Sharpe, Gabriella Gordon, Nate Brosy		

PRODUCTION AND DESIGN SUPPORT

Production Manager | Trevor Carrier

Lighting Design | Mackenzie Scales
Light Board Operator | Jillian Usry
Stage Manager | Ana Sofia Pedroza Rodriguez
Assistant Stage Manager | Ellie Jensen
Sound Engineer | Alix Tejedor

Additional Production Support |
Steven Love, Chuck Meacham, Amanda Wansa Morgan, Charlie Parrott,
Jim Davis

WHO'S WHO (BIOS)

NATE BROSY

Nate Brosy is very excited to be performing at KSU again! Nate is an alumnus of KSU and was a member of K.I.S.S. and the KSU Tellers. He is the Operations Director of Dad's Garage Theatre Co. in Atlanta. Nate continued performing improv after college and was a member of the Dad's Garage Conservatory in 2023.

KIT FAY

Kit Fay started storytelling after taking a required class with Charlie Parrott as a design major and then joining the KSU Tellers. They now write, design, produce, and perform in Atlanta and the southeast. Some of their favorite past projects include producing a punk rock adaptation of *Pirates of Penzance* in a warehouse space, writing an episode of Aaron Mahnke's *12 Ghosts* featuring Malcolm McDowell, and four undefeated bouts at Write Club Atlanta. Their next project is *Monster Show For Monsters*, an alternate reality variety show at Red Light Cafe where all the performers are monsters. They are grateful to Charlie for this opportunity and to their wife Margo for making everything good possible.

GABRIELLA GORDON

Gabriella is thrilled to be back performing at KSU! Since graduating, Gabriella completed the Dad's Garage conservatory program and recently made her Dad's Garage debut as an understudy in *Invasion Christmas Carol*. She is also a part of the Atlanta Improv troupe, The Naughty Rigatonis and performed with them at the 2023 Atlanta Fringe Festival. She hopes that you enjoy the show!

MEG HARKINS

Meg Harkins was born and raised in Woodstock, Georgia where she spent many years performing—usually playing witches and b*tches and one rapping chinchilla. After years of being terrified of the game Freeze, she forced herself to audition for her college improv troupe and her life was changed forever. Meg studied improv at Dad's Garage Theater Company in Atlanta and now can be seen performing at Third Coast Comedy Club in Nashville, Tennessee as part of the Third Coast Comedy Show and Improv Decathlon. She works as a tour guide and is passionate about museum education. Meg doesn't like to brag buuuut she does like to tell anyone who will listen that she has a special thanks in a Ken Burns documentary. When not performing, Meg spends her time crocheting and snuggling her beautiful cat, Minnie.

MAGED ROUSHDI

Maged has been improvising in the Atlanta area since 2001 and has been with Dad's Garage Theatre Company since 2016. As an ensemble member there he has worked on performing, teaching, and developing shows both at the theater and around the Atlanta Improv community. Currently he is the Education Director at Dad's Garage. He has had the opportunity to perform with a great deal of talented individuals including Colin Mochrie, Phil Lamarr, Amber Nash, Scott Adsit, Mark Meer, Joe Bill, and more.

HAYDEN ROWE / SIBERIA THE QUEEN

Siberia/Hayden is so excited to be back on the KSU Stillwell stage! Some favorite Atlanta theatre credits include *Natasha*, *Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*, *Once*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Tarzan*, and *Bullets Over Broadway*. When COVID shut theatre down in 2020, Hayden took that time to create Siberia, a drag persona. Hayden has always been cosplaying and sewing since high school and this was the perfect way to combine his love of performing with that love of creating, and thus Siberia was born! She has performed all over from San Diego Comic Con to your local ATL bars! Hayden and Siberia both hope you enjoy the show! IG/TIKTOK: @siberiathequeen

SCOTTIE ROWELL

Scottie Rowell is a Queer, Agender, Neurodivergent artist based in Atlanta, GA. As a storyteller and puppeteer, Scottie's career is focused on performances and experiments in play in non-traditional theater spaces. As owner of Teller Productions, Scottie creates tactile, immersive experiences for families using sustainable materials (all repurposed, discarded, or easily recycled). Clients include the the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, the National Symphony Orchestra, the Georgia Aquarium, the Alliance Theater, the Center for Puppetry Arts, and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Visuals and fun at ScottieRowell.com and TellerProductions.com.

AVERY SHARPE

Avery Sharpe is an actor, writer, and proud ensemble member at Dad's Garage Improv Theatre. He studied Theatre and Spanish at KSU and is very excited to be returning to the Stillwell for another performance after nearly a decade of working professionally in the arts all around the country. He's thankful for his time in the KSU Tellers, K.I.S.S., and for all the professors who helped shape him into the artist he is today.

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Dr. Peter Fielding, Associate Dean

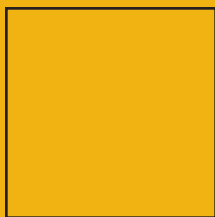
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