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Please note that this list is updated twice annually and reflects gifts made in Fall 2021.

An extensive report of fundraising information is published annually.

Visit our secure website ah.utdallas.edu/support/give to make a gift or mail your check to Holly Miori, UT Dallas, 800 W. Campbell Road, JO31, Richardson, Texas, 75080
Stigmatized Property

Wednesday, May 4, 2022
6:30 p.m. | University Theatre
Written and Directed by Melinda Ariel Kalanzis

No photography or recording devices are allowed. Please turn off all communication devices. 
No food or drink is allowed in the Performance Hall or Theatre.

Cast
Ruth.................................................................Quinlan Franke
Clementine....................................................Kim Curtis
Lucy.................................................................Brittany Skye
Answering Machine/Stage Directions...............Ryan Mills

Scene Breakdown

Scene I—Ruth and Clementine, downstairs

Scene II—Clementine and Lucy, upstairs

Scene III—Ruth and Clementine, downstairs

Scene IV—Clementine and Lucy, upstairs

Scene V—Ruth and Answering Machine, downstairs

Scene VI—Ruth, Clementine and Lucy, downstairs

Scene VII—Ruth and Clementine, downstairs

Epilogue—Ruth and Answering Machine, downstairs

Biographies

RYAN MILLS (Answering Machine, Stage Directions) is delighted to be helping Melinda set her wonderful script to stage! Ryan is the recipient of the 2018 Heller Award for Best Supporting Actor in Central Texas. He has performed in several productions of Shakespeare's work at the Zach Scott Theater. Recently, he has been involved in UT Dallas students' festival of short films as a performer and voice actor. He would like to thank you for coming out to support student artists and would like to wish Payton a very happy birthday!

ENDOWMENTS TO THE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Alice and Joseph E. Brooks
Lord & Taylor Endowment for the Arts

Anne Stark Watson and Chester Watson
History Professorship Endowment

Arts and Humanities Chair

Arts and Humanities Scholar in Residence Program

Betty R. (Bixy) Carter Opportunity Fund for the School of Arts and Humanities

Chair of Art and Aesthetic Studies Endowment

Dennis M. Kratz Research Fund

Edith O'Donnell Distinguished Chairs #1-4

Edith O'Donnell Graduate Fellowship

Edith O'Donnell Institute of Art History Fund

Edna W. McClintock Memorial Harp Fund

Frank R. Rossiter Book Award

Gavin R. G. Hambly Scholarship

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Jelcy and Conrad Romberg Opportunity Fund

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Marvin and Kathleen Stone Distinguished Professorship of Humanities in Medicine and Science

Marvin and Kathleen Stone Scholarship/Fellowship

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Opportunity Fund in Honor of Dean Kratz, Dr. Brettell and Dr. Linehan

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Stefanie Schneider & Jeffrey Robinson Opportunity Fund for the School of Arts and Humanities

The Edith O'Donnell Institute of Art History

Trish and Richard Kurjan Fund for the Center for Translation Studies

Wolfgang Rindler Memorial Fund
Biographies

MELINDA ARIEL KALANZIS (Writer, Director) is a graduating senior at UT Dallas majoring in visual and performing arts with a concentration in theatre. Melinda has trained with the British American Drama Academy, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company and Shakespeare & Company, and was an intern in education with Actors’ Shakespeare Project.

Previous UT Dallas Theatre credits include: assistant director (Blue Jelly, The Flu Season), Tiresias/Shepherd/Chorus (Oedipus); Lysander (A Midsummer Night’s Dream); Gretchen (Faust); assistant stage manager (Phoebe in Winter); singing/movement ensemble (Rocky Horror Show). Melinda would like to thank Professor Thomas Riccio for his insightful guidance, uplifting trust and encouragement throughout this process and Dr. Jessica Murphy for being a stellar second reader and source of inspiration. She would also like to thank this wonderful cast, the theatre community here at UT Dallas and her family, friends and partner for their love and support.

QUINLAN FRANKE (Ruth) is a senior at UT Dallas majoring in visual and performing arts with a concentration in acting. They have known Melinda for most of their time at UT Dallas and are very proud to be a part of this project!

KIM CURTIS (Clementine) is a visual and performing arts major at UT Dallas. Kim started acting when she was 11 years old and fell in love with it as soon as she stepped on a stage. She has been in countless stage productions and recently started venturing into film. Enjoy the reading!

BRITTANY SKYE (Lucy) has been involved in acting since she was 17. She grew up in a family that excelled at any art form whether it was drawing, singing or acting. She wants to become a theater teacher once she graduates. Brittany is now a senior attaining a BFA. She loves cats and she loves her family’s continuous support.

Program Notes

Stigmatized Property is the one-act play I wrote for my Honors College capstone and Major Honors project for the School of Arts and Humanities. This play is about three sisters. Each one corresponds to part of a psychological theory about complex trauma caused by long-term abuse. After their parents’ deaths, they’ve returned to their childhood home. Ruth, the oldest, is driven, perfectionistic and harsh. Clementine is the middle child: she’s messy, directionless and overwhelmed. The youngest sister, Lucy, is deeply in need of connection and freedom to process the past. The three must move towards understanding each other and take the first step in healing their collective trauma if they are ever going to truly leave the old house.

The house in Stigmatized Property is one body, and the three sisters are different parts of that body’s consciousness. Lucy is the inner child, lost and unable to heal by herself. Clementine is the inner voice, the “I” in “I don’t know what I’m doing.” She is the emotionally paralyzed survivor. Ruth is the inner critic, the judge; the most perfected, idealized version of the self, and she’s aggressively critical of others.

These characters are also organized around the fight, flight, freeze and fawn (people pleasing) trauma responses. Clementine exemplifies the freeze response with her numb state on the couch, when she spaces out and distracts herself from how she really feels. In conflict, Clementine fawns, unable to stand up for herself. Ruth has a strong flight response. She pushes herself to the limit in her work and keeps busy, using material success to shield herself from emotional turmoil. When Clementine is in her way, Ruth has a fight response and turns her perfectionism outwards. Lucy remains the archetype of the inner child. She represents a past state of innocence, when these trauma responses weren’t yet needed as coping mechanisms, and she was allowed to simply be a child.

The trauma framework is based on Pete Walker’s Complex PTSD: From Surviving to Thriving, and Bessel van der Kolk’s The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma.

Melinda Kalanzis