

Next from Southbank July 13-23 at Shelton Auditorium

Shakespeare's

# ROILUS& CRESSIDA

THE MUSICAL

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY

Marcia Eppich-Harris

Tickets at butlerartscenter.org

## **SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL**

Join the ISO for back-to-back weekends of Shakespeare with a classical twist! Acclaimed director Kim Martin-Cotten directs scenes from Romeo and Juliet and A Midsummer Night's Dream as Jun Märkl conducts the ISO through the unforgettable scores by Prokofiev and Mendelssohn.



Director Kim Martin-Cotten



Artistic Advisor Jun Märkl



Prokofiev:

ROMEO & JULIET

JUNE 9 JUNE 10 8:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

**IUNE 17** IUNE 16 8:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.

TICKETS: IndianapolisSymphony.org

HILBERT CIRCLE

45 Monument Circle, Indianapolis

## Artistic Director's Note

Welcome to *Didn't See That Coming: An Evening of Short Plays*, by Mark Harvey Levine, the third show of Southbank's Season 2! We are excited to have you with us today!

Part of our mission at Southbank is development of and support for Indiana playwrights, and *DSTC* is a great example of fulfilling that mission. We're excited to share Mark's work because we love showing off local talent! But also, it's great comedy! But in addition to being



one of Indy's most produced, most award-winning playwrights, Mark has been a mentor to dozens of writers in their playwriting journeys, including me, and we couldn't be more grateful to have him as part of our community!

The theme of these short plays is encountering the unexpected. Within that umbrella theme, we tackle relationships, growing up, philosophy, surprises, zombies, and more. The characters in these plays believe the stakes have never been higher for them – a feeling that we've all had. But let's face it, sometimes the stakes are absurd, and sometimes we need to laugh at ourselves and our wild expectations. It's not that we shouldn't take ourselves seriously, but doing so all the time is pretty exhausting. Human connection and recognition are so cathartic, and nothing brings that release more than a good laugh!

The cast and crew in this show are absolutely top notch – hardworking and hilarious. We hope you'll enjoy their work as much as we have! I'm thankful for everyone in our cast and crew, but especially for my husband, Aric, who labored practically single handedly on our awesome set. I deeply appreciate his support for Southbank!

I hope you'll join us for our next show, my musical adaptation of Shakespeare's *Troilus and Cressida*, which will be at Shelton Auditorium at Butler University July 13-23! Season 3 is just around the corner, too, and 2023 is packed with phenomenal plays. Follow us on social media to stay updated on our remaining projects: *Troilus and Cressida* (July 13-23), *Seeking Nietzsche* (September 14-24), and *The Lion in Winter* (November 9-19), and then *Man of La Mancha* in 2024! Hope to see you there! Enjoy!

~ Marcia Eppich-Harris



Marcia Eppich-Harris Artistic Director

Aric C. Harris Creative Director

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## Director's Note



I want to express my gratitude for the incredible effort put into this production. I'm honored to work with such talent and commitment. As director, my goal has always been to create a collaborative, supportive environment where everyone feels comfortable sharing their

creative ideas and taking risks. Every member of this team has brought their individuality and expertise to the table, resulting in a truly exceptional experience. I am proud of the way we've all worked together to find elevations of Mark's text. Thanks to my cast for their incredible performances. You've truly brought these characters to life. Your joy is infectious, your talent awesome.

Finally, thanks to our production team for their tireless work behind the scenes. You've all gone above and beyond to make sure that every detail is perfect. I am sad that our time together is coming to an end, but on the other hand, I am excited for Indy to see the incredible work we have all done together. Thanks for your good work, dedication, and commitment to making this production the best it can be. I am honored to have worked with each and every one of you. Marcia and Aric, thanks for bringing me into the fold. It's been a career highlight. Jim, thanks for hosting us at Fonseca, this is a delight. Mark, thanks for mentoring and providing such excellent material to enjoy. Kairon, you're the star that illuminates us. Aaron, you are a rock and my right arm and leg. Lola, you're a godsend of graciousness. Alex, Terra, Ryan, Michelle, Angie and Paul, you are A+ list actors and people. My beloved bride Nico, thanks for your encouragement, unwavering faith and support. This is made for your laugh to light up. Thank YOU for coming. Enjoy yourselves! Cheers!

~ Anthony Nathan



## **DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING**

### BY MARK HARVEY LEVINE

#### **Creative Team**

DIRECTOR	Anthony Nathan
STAGEMANAGER	Aaron Henze
LIGHTING DESIGN	Kairon Bullock
SET DESIGN	Aric C. Harris
SOUND & COSTUME LEAD	Marcia Eppich-Harris
BOARD OPERATOR	Marcia Eppich-Harris

### **Plays**

Act 1	Act 2
Scripted	Defiant Man
Surprise	The Folks
The Rental	The Kiss
Plato's Cave	The Interview

There will be one 15-minute intermission with concessions available in the lobby.

Didn't See That Coming

## Author's Note



I'm a frustrated musician, really. I'd much rather be jumping on stage with a guitar and playing for you. The only problem is, after years of lessons, we discovered I can't play guitar. I actually have no musical talent. I was taught how to read music three separate times, and it never stuck. So I write really short plays instead.

A ten-minute play is kinda like a song. I like them because they force me to be concise.

There's no room for meandering in a ten-minute play. But they also allow me to experiment. You can get away with stuff in a ten-minute play that you never could in a longer play.

And if a ten-minute play is a song, then this is my latest album. It's got some old songs that have been done around the world ("Scripted" and "The Rental" have each been produced over a hundred times, and "Surprise" has had over 240 productions!). And it's got a few newer songs, like "Defiant Man," "The Interview" and "The Folks."

If this is an album, then I've got one of the best bands I've ever had... like, ever. The cast are all wonderful comic actors with perfect timing. And I was blessed with an amazing director in Anthony. He just gets the rhythm of the plays. And I also have to thank my friend Marcia, producer extraordinaire – one of my first friends when I moved out here to Indianapolis – for agreeing to go with this crazy project

There's no message to this album. I just want to make people laugh. I think it's an honorable mission, maybe even a holy mission. And Lord knows, we could all use a laugh these days.

~ Mark Harvey Levine



## Cast & Crew Bios

Kairon Bullock (he/him, Lighting Design) Didn't See That Coming is Kairon's second production with Southbank Theatre Company. He is an Indianapolis native who began his technical theatre career his freshman year of high school, gaining experience in multiple areas of backstage work including lighting, sound, and set construction. Since then he has gone to work professionally around the city with the IndyFringe Festival, Onyxfest, Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre, Bard Fest, Phoenix Theatre and Cultural Center, and Catalyst Repertory Theatre.

Angela Dill (she/her, cast) is delighted to make her Southbank Theatre debut

with these short plays. She'd like to thank Anthony and Marcia for letting her join the fun. A recent transplant from Michigan, Angela is grateful for the opportunity to participate in Indy's vibrant theatre community. Audiences may have seen her last season during Bard Fest's The Merry Wives of Windsor as Mistress Quickly. She'd like to thank those in attendance for supporting the magic that is live theatre.

Marcia Eppich-Harris (she/her, sound design, head costumer) wears many hats at Southbank: artistic director, playwright in residence, sound designer, and occasional costumer. She is a playwright, composer, and lyricist,



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## Cast & Crew Bios

and Marcia's writing also includes fiction, poetry, scholarship, and reviews. Her most recent productions include a variety of short plays and performances of her full-length plays *Seneca and the Soul of Nero* and *The Profession*. Marcia's next production will be her musical adaptation of Shakespeare's *Troilus and Cressida*, July 13-23 at Shelton Auditorium.

Aric Harris (he/him, Set Design and Construction) A web developer and graphic designer by trade, Aric is proud to make Natural Shocks his fourth endeavor with Southbank. He has worked for acts such as Peter. Paul, and Mary, Manhattan Transfer, and Peter Sagal as well as done lighting design for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Aric is currently pursuing his dreams of being a Polynesian-Pop and Lowbrow artist while still running his small digital design agency. Aric's work can be seen at tikikitchen.com and 4621creative.com.

Aaron Henze (he/him, Stage Manager) is grateful for the opportunity to work with Southbank and Fonseca for the first time, and with Anthony for the first time in this capacity. A full-time actor, director, and producer, Aaron also works as an educational artist with groups like ACT Out, IU Health, and Butler's PA program. Previous tech credits include Opening Hank (AD/

SM) and Critical Recall (Director) at the Cat, and The Curse of Count Dicky (Director) at the IndyFringe Festival. Thanks to Marcia and Anthony, and to Noelle and the rest of his family and friends for their never-ending support. FB: Aaron Henze

Paul Hansen (he/him, cast) is happy to make his first in-person appearance on stage since December 2019, right before Covid changed everything, and to his debut with Southbank Theatre Company. Here in Indiana, he has performed with Fonseca Theatre, Actors Theatre of Indiana, Phoenix Theatre, Cardinal Stage Company (now called Constellation Stage), Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre, Bobdirex, Q Artistry, Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre, and at the IndyFringe Festival. Paul is an adjunct professor at Butler University where he teaches Acting for Dancers, and is a marketing consultant at paulartsindy.com.

Mark Harvey Levine (he/him, playwright) has had over productions of his short plays everywhere from Bangalore to Bucharest and from Lima to London. His plays have won over 45 awards and been produced in more than ten languages. His work has been published in over two dozen anthologies by Applause, Smith & Kraus, Routledge and Vintage. Full evenings of his ten-minute plays, such as "Cabfare For The Common Man," "Didn't See That Coming," and "A Very Special Holiday Special" have been

## Cast & Crew Bios

shown around the world, including at the Edinburgh Fringe and in a multiyear tour of Brazil. A Spanish-language film of "The Kiss" ("El Beso") premiered at Cannes and aired on HBO and DTV (Japan). Two of his plays were adapted for Brazilian television. And as always, Mark would like to thank his lovely wife Sara and his son Nick for their unending support.

Ryan Powell (he/him, cast) is excited to perform in this series of shorts after seeing Mark's work at IndyFringe and performing in "Misfortune" in Boo-La-La at Fonseca this past fall. A native of Bloomington, Ryan cut his teeth at the Bloomington Playwrights Project (now Constellation) doing short plays such as the Blizzard and the 24-hour

PlayOffs festival. He has worked with Southbank (Rabbit, 2021) and other companies around Indianapolis that regularly produce original works including Q Artistry, Catalyst, and independent projects. When performing, Ryan works in commercial real estate management and finance. Thanks to Marcia and Anthony for the opportunity and the cast for all their talent!

Terra McFarland (she/her, is an Indianapolis eclectic artist. During the holiday season of 2022, she played the role of Holly in The Rise and Fall of Holly Fudge. Other performing art experiences include dancing, choreography, and singing. Terra earned an Associate Degree in

Indy Ghost Light's

### Theatre Gazette

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ank Theatre Company Psst...

Ever dream of taking the stage yourself? We also list upcoming auditions every week!

Central Indiana is home to over 50 independent theatre companies! Find out more about Indy's vibrant and talented theatre community! Business Administration, followed by a Bachelor's Degree in Sustainable Management and Policy. One of Terra's goals is to use her education to share and translate information through a podcast. She believes humanity is resilient when we work together, and sharing information is one of the many ways Terra is playing her role in the community.

Anthony Nathan (he/him, Director) is thrilled to direct Mark Harvey Levine's collection of captivating, anthologyseries short stories for his first show with Southbank Theatre Company. Anthony has directed several Indy playwrights' works, including Broemel, Megan Ann Jacobs, Robin Lovelace, Robin Lyster, Janice Morris Neal, Russel Ridgeway, and Kate Duffy with Indiana Playwrights Circle's 10-Minute Play Festival. He is a huge fan of anthology series from Inside No 9 and Love Death and Robots to Black Mirror and Twilight Zone. So when he read Mark Levine's bouquet of brilliant works he was hooked. Enjoy!

Alex Oberheide (he/him, cast) is

making his Southbank Theater debut and couldn't be more excited to work with this cast and crew. Recent theater and film credits include: Post-Democracy at StoreFront Theater of Indianapolis, Benjamin Harrison Chased a Goat at Theater at the Fort, Time Sensitive at the Guthrie Theater (MN), Heyday of Insensitive Bastards at Rabbit Bandini Productions (CA). Alex received his MFA in Acting from UCLA. Love to mom, dad, and brother for the continued support and encouragement on this artistic journey.

Michelle Wafford (she/her, cast) is back for her second Southbank production (previously Viola in *Twelfth Night*) as well as her second Mark Harvey Levine short play collection (previously *Play By Play* at the IndyFringe Festival). In recent years (excluding 2020-2021), she has worked with Bard Fest, Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre, Catalyst Repertory, Betty Rage Productions, QArtistry, Clerical Error Productions, Ricks-Weil Theatre Company, Footlite Musicals, Mud Creek Players, and more. It's been a lot, and that's okay. Love you, Eric!

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Annual costs include renting rehearsal space and production space, costumes, actors, directors, crew members, set materials and construction, along with rights to produce plays. All of those costs add up substantially. With your help, Southbank can provide excellent theatre experiences that celebrate emerging and established artists from all backgrounds.

Contact Marcia Eppich-Harris at marcia@southbanktheatre.org or (650) 787-4115 for more information about how to sponsor Southbank! Checks written to Southbank Theatre Company may be mailed to 4621 Melbourne Road, Indianapolis, IN 46228. Thank you for supporting live, local theatre!



## Special Thanks

4621 Creative Solutions and TikiKitchen, Fonseca Theatre, Refinery 46, Aric Harris, Anthony Nathan, Aaron Henze, Angela Dill, Paul Hansen, Terra McFarland, Alex Oberheide, Ryan Powell, Michelle Wafford, Kairon Bullock, Will and Kai, Rob Slaven, Sara Galer, Rod Macrae, Casey Ross, Dave Pelsue, Shannon Samson, Cook Device Solutions, Maury Boyd and Associates, Send a Friend Lasagna, and to the Board of Southbank Theatre Company.

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