

## OTHER EVENTS:

### Keynote Address by Susan Gurman and Playwrights' Panel May 11 at 7pm

Susan Gurman is the head agent of Gurman Agency LLC, a theatrical literary agency that represents playwrights, composers, lyricists, directors, and designers all over the world. Notable clients of Gurman's include Mark St. Germain and Audrey Cefaly – both PlayLab alumni playwrights!

### REFUGEE Special Command Performance Adapted by Eric Coble | From the New York Times Bestseller by Alan Gratz

Commissioned by Florida Rep's Education Department, *Refugee* is a world-premiere adaptation of a novel for teens that swept the nation in 2017. This powerful play tells the story of three different refugees – separated by time – who are fleeing for their lives in search of the same thing: home. On tour now to schools across Southwest Florida, PlayLab audiences will get a special look at the FULL PRODUCTION of this important new play!

## NOW PLAYING IN THE ARTSTAGE STUDIO THEATRE



## The National New Play Network



National  
New Play  
Network

Florida Rep is a proud Associate Member of the National New Play Network in Washington, DC, the country's alliance of nonprofit theaters that champion the development, production, and continued life of new plays.

### Play Reading Committee

Olivia Pedigo, Patrick Mounce, Terry Love, Kate Young, Tyler Colmery, Jason Parrish, Deb Jonsson, Marlene Robinson, Teri Moore, Gerrit VanderMeer, Bob & Jane Breisch, Brendan Powers, Renee Pesci, Tova Volcheck, Emily Eason, Anne Dodd, Joey Herrera, John Martin, Jacquelyn Loy, Jake Berne, Dee Whited, Lee Moore, Naomi Bloom, Lauren Sale, Neil Curiel, Sydney Torres, Eli Carnahan, Mark Chambers, Paul Gary, Viki Boyle, Bruce Bunch, Skylar Shelton, Stephanie Davis, Courtney Feiman, & Rachel Burttram

### SPECIAL THANKS TO

Meropi Peponides  
Dr. Christopher Blakely  
Tim Billman & Florida Rep's Production Staff  
Julieta Figueroa  
Aaron Martin & Kiersten Mattox  
Joe Dafeldecker  
Jesseca Terhaar  
Katie Lowe  
Daniel Benzing  
Sally Joslyn  
Twisted Vine Bistro

# FLORIDA REPERTORY THEATRE 2018-2019 SEASON

HISTORIC ARCADE THEATRE • FORT MYERS RIVER DISTRICT  
GREG LONGENHAGEN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR • JOHN MARTIN, MANAGING DIRECTOR

PRESENTS

## The 6th Annual PlayLab

A Festival of New Works

SPONSORED BY LEE MOORE & DEE WHITED

All Events in the ArtStage Studio Theatre

GOOD AMERICANS  
by Bruce Graham  
MAY 9 @ 7pm

DEATH OF A DRIVER  
by Will Snider  
MAY 10 @ 4pm

THE LAST BUCKLEY  
by Nathan Cann  
MAY 10 @ 8:30pm

LOVING AND LOVING  
by Beto O'Byrne  
MAY 11 @ 2pm

THE CIRCLE GAME  
Conceived & Arranged by  
Victoria Casella | Book by Michael Bias  
MAY 12 @ 2:30pm

SAFETY NET  
by Daryl Lisa Fazio  
MAY 12 @ 5:30pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS &  
PLAYWRIGHTS' PANEL  
MAY 11 @ 7pm

PLAYLAB ARTISTIC DIRECTOR **Jason Parrish**    PLAYLAB ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR **Brendan Powers**    PLAYLAB ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR **Olivia Pedigo**    PLAYLAB STAGE MANAGER **KateLynn Foster**

There will be a talk-back following each reading with the playwright, director, and actors. Please stay to be part of the discussion!

## 2018-19 GRAND SEASON SPONSORS



The Fred & Jean Allegretti Foundation • Bruce & Janet Bunch • Cheryl & David Copham  
Gholi & Georgia Darehshori • Ed & Ellie Fox • John & Marjorie Madden • Sue & Jack Rogers • Arthur Zupko  
This entire season sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. Florida Repertory Theatre is a fully professional non-profit LOA/LORT Theatre company on contract with the Actors' Equity Association that proudly employs members of the national theatrical labor unions. \*Member of Actors' Equity Association. \*\*Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. †Member of Florida Repertory Theatre's Ensemble of Theatre Artists

May 9, 7PM

**GOOD AMERICANS**

**By Bruce Graham**

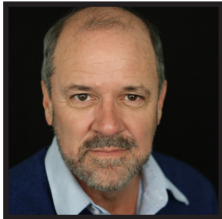
Directed by Greg Logenhagen  
Reading Sponsored by Noreen Raney

In 1949 America, a film director attempts to protect his actors from the Red Scare. When a government agent arrives and unveils a secret, things change for these Western movie stars.

**CAST**

**Doyle "Cork" Corcoran**.....Craig Bockhorn\*  
**Mike Towers**..... Ian Merrill Peakes\*  
**Burt Donovan**.....Brendan Powers\*†  
**Phil Saperstein**.....Gregg Weiner\*  
**Susan Whitehead**.....Genevieve Tankosich

Stage Manager/Reader: Rachel Burttram\* †



**Bruce Gramham**- PLAYS: *Burkie, Early One Evening at the Rainbow Bar & Grille, Moon Over the Brewery, Minor Demons, Belmont Avenue Social Club, According to Goldmman, Desperate Affection, Stella and Lou, Coyote on a Fence, The Champagne Charlie Stakes, Funnyman, The Craftsman, North of the Boulevard, Rizzo, The Philly Fan, Sanctions.* Graham has won consecutive Barrymore Awards for Best New Play (*Something Intangible, Any Given Monday*) the Joseph Jefferson Award (*The Outgoing Tide*) or *White Guy on the Bus*. *White Guy on the Bus* is currently nominated for the "Offie" - London's version of the Obie Award. His new play, *Gary*, opens next fall at the Eagle Theater. Graham recently returned to acting appearing as Ben Hecht in *Moonlight and Magnolias*, Ernie in *Rumors*, Eddie in *Lost in Yonkers*, Richard in *Time Stands Still*, Milt in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, Artie in *Hurlyburly* and Arthur in *Pterodactyls*. MOVIES: *Dunston Checks In, Anastasia, Hunt for the Unicorn Killer.* TELEVISION: *Roseanne, Cedar Cove, The Most Wonderful Time of the Year, Trading Christmas, The Good Witch.* Along with Michele Volansky he is the author of The Collaborative Playwright. He divides his time between Elkton, Maryland and South Philly with Stephanie.

PlayLab

May 12, 5:30PM

**SAEFTY NET**

**By Daryl Lisa Fazio**

Directed by Maureen Heffernan\*  
Reading Sponsored by Emily Eason & Cos

Chris Dove is a female fire captain in an Alabama town at war with opioids. When a childhood friend and recovering addict drifts back into her and her spit-fire mother's lives, they find themselves at a tipping point between what's safe and what saves.

**CAST**

**Chris**.....Daryl Lisa Fazio  
**Xenia**.....Sara Morsey\* †  
**Val**.....Rachel Burttram\* †

Stage Manager: Brendan Powers\*† Reader: Liz Abbott



**Daryl Lisa Fazio** is a playwright, actor, and freelance graphic designer for theatre based in Atlanta, Georgia. Her plays have been produced Off-Broadway and regionally at Actor's Express, Horizon Theatre (commission), Florida Rep, Aurora Theatre, and The Weird Sisters Theatre Project. She is an Alliance Theatre Reiser Lab recipient, an O'Neill semi-finalist, a multi-year participant in both Florida Rep's PlayLab and Actor's Express Threshold New Play Series, and the recipient of a SheWRITES developmental workshop selection in partnership with Synchronicity Theatre and the Playwrights Center. Musicals, for which she is the lyricist/librettist, have been awarded productions and readings in NYC by the National Alliance for Musical Theatre Festival of New Musicals, the New York Musical Theatre Festival, and York Theatre Company, as well as Coastal Carolina University. She has a BA in Theatre (Northwestern University) and MFA in Graphic Design (University of Memphis) and occasionally has flashbacks to her previous life as a college professor. Daryl is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild and is claimed as a dependent by several dogs and cats.

PlayLab

May 12, 2:30PM

### THE CIRCLE GAME

by Michael Bias & Victoria Casella

Musical Arrangements by Victoria Casella

Directed by Jason Parrish\*\*

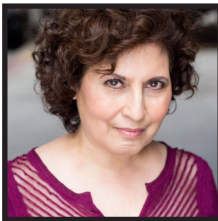
Reading Sponsored by Mary Denison

A loving and touching musical about family, young love, growing old together, and new beginnings, featuring pop music that defined the Baby Boomer generation.

#### CAST

Michael.....Gerritt VanderMeer\*  
Amy.....Carolann Sanita\*  
Young Michael.....Joseph Brauer  
Young Amy.....Sydney Torres  
Woman 1.....Tova Volcheck  
Man 1.....Patrick Mounce

Stage Manager/Reader: Clifton Lewis\*



**Victoria Casella** was musical director and performance accompanist for *Tenderly: the Rosemary Clooney Musical*. In previous seasons, she was musical director for *Spelling Bee* and part of the creative team for *Fascinatin' Gershwin*. Past MD credits: *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Full Monty*, *Romance Romance*, *The Taffetas* (Theater Barn- Summer Stock- Berkshires); *Fascinatin' Gershwin* (Florida Stage); *Anything Goes* and *Urinetown* (Bergen County Players). Recent acting credits: *Susanna* (Daredevil, Netflix); *Mrs. Aaronson* (The Gold, New York Musical Festival).

**Michael Bias** is the founder and Artistic/Producing Director of The Garage Theatre Group, where, since 1993, he has directed and produced more than 75 plays and musicals. His writing credits include: *Dreaded Bliss*, *Billie*, (co written with Gail Lou) the book for *More Than A Soap Opera* (music by Ray Davies of The Kinks), and *Summer of Love*. He has also created new translations/adaptations of August Strindberg's *Miss Julie* and Eugene Ionesco's *The Bald Soprano*. Directing credits include The World Premieres of *Dreaded Bliss*, *Billie*, *Meester Amerika*, *The Legacy and Lost In History* by Adam Siegel. Other directing credits include, *Landscape of the Body*, *Ubu Roi*, *Spring Awakening* Acting credits include: Kenneth Lay in *Enron!*, Bernie Madoff in *Imagining Madoff*. Bias is very active on the Bergen County Arts scene. He has critiqued for the Bergen Teen Festival of the Arts. He participates in Arts-in-Education programs and after-school arts programs in Bergen County and elsewhere in the state, as well as Arts Day celebrations that highlight the scope of cultural activities in the county. He also has developed a pilot theatre and arts program for adults with Aspergers Syndrome. Mr. Bias sits on the executive committee of ArtsBergen, and conducts acting classes for youth and adults at The Garage Theatre Group.



# PlayLab

May 10, 4PM

### DEATH OF A DRIVER

By Will Snider

Directed by Lauren Caldwell\*\*

Reading Sponsored by Bruce & Janet Bunch

An American engineer moves to Kenya to build a road and befriends her charismatic African driver. When a dispute over a local election lands him in jail, she questions the integrity of their alliance.

#### CAST

Sarah.....Emily Shain\*  
Kennedy.....Robert Richards. Jr.\*

Stage Manager: Patricia Idlette\*† Reader: Anne Dodd



**Will Snider** was born and raised in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. His play *How to Use a Knife* received a Rolling World Premiere through National New Play Network, won the Barrymore Award for Outstanding New Play, and was a finalist for a PEN Center USA Literary Award. Other plays include *The Big Man* (Ensemble Studio Theatre's 35th Marathon of One-Act Plays) and *Strange Men*. His work has been developed at MCC, NNPN National Showcase of New Plays, The Kennedy Center, SPACE on Ryder Farm, Salt Lake Acting Company, #serials@theflea, the claque, and MAKEHOUSE. He is an alumnus of Youngblood and received an EST/Soan Grant and The Kennedy Center's Paula Vogel Playwriting Award. He earned a BA in History from Columbia with a specialization in post-colonial East African political history and spent three years working in agricultural microfinance in Kenya and Ethiopia before earning an MFA in Playwriting from UCSD. wsnider.com

# PlayLab

May 10, 8:30PM

**THE LAST BUCKLEY**

**By Nathan Cann**

Directed by Kristin Clippard\*\*  
Reading Sponsored by Judy Weiner

One of the country's most prominent political families gathers to celebrate their son's birthday on the eve of his first congressional race. When a reporter uncovers a long-buried family secret, they are shaken to their foundations. Will this political dynasty survive?

**CAST**

**Candice Buckley**.....Carol Halstead\*  
**Maggie Buckley**.....Lauren Didato\*  
**Theodore Buckley**.....V Craig Heidenreich\* †  
**Franklin Buckley**..... Ryan Didato\*  
**John Davis**.....Jake Berne

Stage Manager/Reader: Anthony Michael Martinez\*



**Nathan Cann** received his MFA in Dramatic Writing from NYU-Tisch where he was awarded the department's Outstanding Graduate Playwright Prize. While in school he was selected for Theater Masters where his play was produced in Aspen and New York City. He's been a semi finalist or finalist for the National Playwrights Conference at the O'Neill six times. His plays have been developed with the National New Play Network, The Kennedy Center, and throughout the regions. He was a finalist for the Goldberg Prize and was awarded the inaugural Richie Jackson Artist Fellowship. Recent endeavors include forming a new theater company in Harlem, The National Theater of Uptown. Their first production was in 2018 where they took over the parlor floor of an abandoned brownstone in Hamilton Heights for a successful run of his newest play.

PlayLab

May 11, 2PM

**LOVING AND LOVING**

**By Beto O'Byrne**

Directed by Sonya McCarter  
Reading Sponsored by Guy Almeling & Linda Sebastian

Richard and Mildred Loving, an interracial couple from Virginia, were arrested in 1958 for being married. Told from a 21st century perspective, this is a harrowing story about the power of love and what it means to identify as mixed.

**CAST**

**Mildred Loving**.....Angela Pierre  
**Richard Loving**.....Zolan Henderson\*  
**Maya**.....Jennifer Paredes\*  
**Recorded Interviewees**.....Sofia Bodniza, Neil Curiel, Peter Dennis, Jordan Pesci, Annabelle Tometich-Martin

Stage Manager: Rebecca Nichols\* Reader: Olivia Pedigo  
Researcher/Dramaturg: Meropi Peponides, Olivia Pedigo



**Beto O'Byrne** is a writer and creative artist from the pine forests of East Texas and the co-founder of Radical Evolution, a multi-ethnic, multi-disciplinary producing collective based in Brooklyn, NY. The author of 20 plays, screenplays, and original tv pilots, his works have been produced in San Antonio, Austin, Los Angeles and New York City. His work has been supported by residencies at Pregones Theater, El Teatro Campesino, Stages Repertory Theatre, Toftelake Center, Governor's Island, The Rough Draft Festival at LPAC, and the New Ohio Theatre, and has been supported by prominent funders such as the MAPFund, Network of Ensemble Theatres, the Puffin Foundation

PlayLab