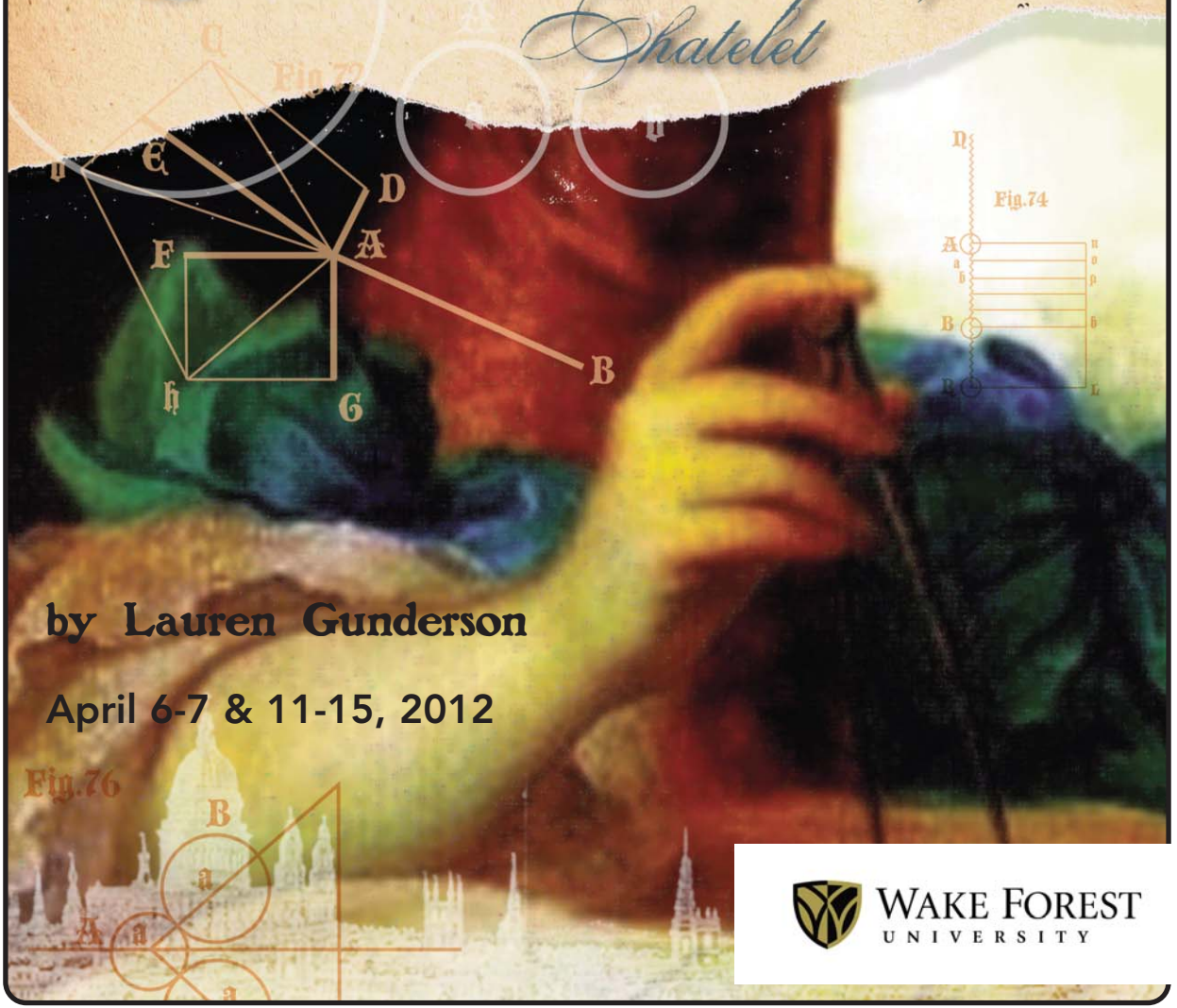
Wake Forest University Theatre

Emilie La Marquise Du Chatelet Defends Her Life Tonight



by Lauren Gunderson

April 6-7 & 11-15, 2012

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"The prejudice that excludes us women so universally from the sciences weighs heavily on me. It has always astonished me that there are great nations whose laws permit us to control their fate, but there is not a single place where we are brought up to think. This is one of the great contradictions of our times.

I confess that if I were king, I would conduct the following experiment. I would correct this abuse that has cut short a full half of the human race. I would get women to participate in all the privileges of humanity, especially those of the mind."

- "The Translator's Preface" by Émilie du Châtelet (1735)

"Despite increasing educational and employment opportunities for women in recent decades, the representation of women in science remains low. Associate Professor of Chemistry (WFU) Rebecca Alexander and students in her first-year seminar are exploring why 'Well-behaved Women Rarely Make Scientific History' and how to make the future brighter for the next generation of female scientists."

- Kim MaGraff interviewing Rebecca Alexander, Window on Wake, 2009

"The article began by describing an encounter, ten years earlier, that playwright Theresa Rebeck had with an established male director who told her: 'Women don't write good plays…Look at history: they write good novels, but as for plays, they just don't have the knack for it.' Rebeck described this offhand comment as "the dirty secret of the American theatre."

- Theatre Journal, Editorial Comment, December 2010

Well…it has been a pleasure and a privilege to bring to the stage this new play by a brilliant young woman playwright that shines light on a brilliant female scientist.

Perhaps we are growing ever closer to Emilie's "experiment" and doing our part to acknowledge the legacy of women scientist and to support the future of women playwrights and to shine a light on women who "…participate in all the privileges of humanity, especially those of the mind."

-- Sharon Andrews

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lauren is a playwright, screenwriter and short story author from Atlanta, who lived in NYC before finding San Francisco. She received her MFA in Dramatic Writing at NYU Tisch, where she was also a Reynolds Fellow in Social Entrepreneurship. Her 2011 3-city rolling world premiere of Exit, Pursued By A Bear, developed in PF's Rough Reading series and featured in American Theatre Magazine and The Week, started at Synchronicity Theatre, then ran at San Francisco's Crowded Fire this summer, and Seattle's ArtsWest. Lauren has spoken nationally and internationally on the intersection of science and theatre and Arts Activism. She is in development with MTV for a pilot about science fairs. Her work has received national praise and awards including the Berrilla Kerr Award for American Theatre, Global Age Project, Young Playwright's Award, Eric Bentley New Play Award and Essential Theatre Prize. She is a Playwright in Resident at The Playwrights Foundation, a Dramatists Guild member, and was a member of Just Theatre's New Play Lab. She writes for The Huffington Post and tweets @LalaTellsAStory.

Wake Forest University Theatre presents

Emilie:

La Marquise Du Châtelet Defends Her Life Tonight

by Lauren Gunderson
April 6-7 & 11-15, 2012

Director
Sharon Andrews

Scenic Designer
P. K. Ransbottom*

Lighting Designer
Jonathan Christman

Costume Designer
Lisa Weller

Sound Designer
Dean D. Guerra*

Choreographer
Christina Tsoules Soriano

Style & Vocal Coach
Leah Elyce Roy

Assistant Director
Christopher Gonzalez La Corte§*

Stage Manager
Chris Garcia*

CAST

EMILIE.....Mackenzie Finnegan*
VOLTAIRE.....Ryan McCarthy*
SOUBRETTE.....Johanna Beach§*
GENTLEMAN 1.....Cam M. Roberts*
GENTLEMAN 2.....Mike Dempsey*
MADAM 1.....Rebecca Speas*
MADAM 2.....Sarah T. Davis*

*denotes a member of the Anthony Aston Players

§denotes a Presidental Scholar in Theatre

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. New York City.

There will be one ten-minute intermission during this performance.

BIOGRAPHIES



Johanna Beach (Soubrette) is a freshman from Barrington, Illinois and is thrilled to be a part of *Emilie* this spring. She is planning on majoring in Theatre and could have been seen in *The Brothers Menaechmus* and *Almost, Maine* this past fall. She would like to thank Chris and Chris for all their hard work and research and Sharon for challenging us all to enter this world together. She sneds love to the fam and hopes you enjoy the show!



Sarah T. Davis (Madame 2), a sophomore from southern California, is thrilled to return to the Mainstage. The Historian for the Anthony Aston Players, Sarah would like to clarify that she carries little resemblance to "simple and stupid" Marie-Louse; rather, she just declared her Chemistry major. Previous Mainstage credits include Ruthie Joad in *The Grapes of Wrath* and Little Stone in *Eurydice*. She would like to thank Sharon for the opportunities she continues to provide, the crew for their valiant efforts, the cast for their absolute genius, and Alex for not jumping onstage during Act II. Enjoy the show!



Mike Dempsey (Gentleman 2) This has been the second time Mike has had the privilege of working with the immaculate and unstoppable Sharon Andrews, and he would like to thank her for taking a chance on him once again to help make something truly beautiful. Mike would like to thank his mentor and idol Cam Roberts for being there since the beginning; Mackenzie Finnegan, Rebecca Speas, Sarah Davis, and Ryan McCarthy for putting up with his horrendously inappropriate humor for multiple shows now; Chris Gonzalez and Chris Garcia (Thing 1 and Thing 2, respectively) for sheer awesomeness; and his parents for making him read good and think smart too. All the love in the world to Hayley, J.B., Landers, Taylor, Serena, Jeff, Blakeney, Langdon, Emily, Bella, Natalie, Jessi, Zac, Alyssa, and Jo for all of your amazing work this year; you are the best people ever. Special thanks to Kara, Elizabeth, Jake, Andrew, and his three big sisters Jenny, Amy, and Jill for having more than enough heart-to-hearts with him to last two lifetimes. Without further ado, Mike hopes that everyone has a great time, and in the words of Mac Miller, aka Wes Hughes, "and it's the best day ever!"



Beth Dodson (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman from Houston, Texas. She has been involved in numerous productions in high school. Since coming to Wake, she has joined Living Parable, the Christian Drama group. She thanks to God and her family.



Alex Dudley (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman from Connecticut and is incredibly excited to be involved in Wake's production of *Emilie*. Although this is her first time as an assistant stage manager, she is very familiar with the theater, having acted in a number of plays and musicals in high school. She'd like to thank everybody involved in the show for making it such a wonderful experience!



Mackenzie Finnegan (Emilie) is a senior Theatre and Elementary Education double major from Orlando, Florida. Most recently on the Mainstage she was seen as Ma Joad in *The Grapes of Wrath* and Jane Carpenter in *Smash*. Last fall, she directed her Studio Series, *Land of the Dead* and had a grand time. She spent this past summer as an apprentice with the Williamstown Theatre Festival, where she performed stand-up comedy coached by Lewis Black. She is the president of the Anthony Aston Players and a member of Kappa Delta sorority. She finished student-teaching fifth grade at Meadowlark Elementary in December and loved everything about it. Thanks to family and friends for their excitement and Sharon for an epic last hoorah!



Chris Garcia (Stage Manager) is a Computer Science and Theatre double major sophomore from Orlando, Florida. He would like to thank Suzanne Spicer for teaching him much of what he knows now after assistant stage managing under her in *The Grapes of Wrath*. As well as Cameron Roberts for allowing him to learn much of the changes that occur in the transition from high school to college, with a chance to stage manage under his direction in *Mountain Language*. Of course he is so fortunate to be given this opportunity to stage manage his first Mainstage show here under the direction of Sharon Andrews. Thank you all for being here and enjoy the show!



Christopher Gonzalez La Corte (Assistant Director) is a sophomore Theatre major here at Wake with a minor in Dance and Political Science. This is Chris' first endeavor at Wake in directing as a Theatre Presidential Scholar. While at Wake, he has gotten involved in many activities on campus including: Student Union, Momentum Dance Crew, WFU Dance Company, Wake Radio, Ambassadors in Admissions as well as the wonderful Anthony Aston Players organization. Thank you Nick Reichert, Andrew Newton, Mike Dempsey and Sarah Wheeler for being such an amazing group of best friends, who were always there when needed. Congrats to Mackenzie Finnegan, Cam Roberts, Rebecca Speas, and Ryan McCarthy on graduating this year. You all will do amazingly in the real world with your exceptional talent, charisma and passion. Love you all.



Ryan McCarthy (Voltaire) is a senior Mathematical Business major and Theatre minor acting in his second Mainstage show this year. He is incredibly grateful for this tremendous opportunity to close out his Wake Forest career and would like to thank Sharon for all of her help and guidance throughout this process. He would like to thank his fellow cast members for making this process so much fun, and Chris, Alex, Beth and the rest of the crew for all of their hard work. Finally, he would like to thank his friends and family for their endless support. He hopes you enjoy the show!



Cam M. Roberts (Gentleman 1) is a senior Theatre major & English minor. *Emilie* marks Cam's 5th performance in a WFU Theatre production; the first 4 being: *Eurydice*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Moonchildren*, and *Sonnets for an Old Century*. Recently, Cam directed the AAP production of Yasmina Reza's *God of Carnage* and also directed Harold Pinter's one-act political drama *Mountain Language* during last November's Studio Series. Additionally, Cam has sound designed 8 WFU productions: *The Imaginary Cuckold*, *The Brothers Menaechmus*, *Mountain Language*, *Land of the Dead*, *The Man Who Couldn't Dance*, *Helter Skelter*, *Breast Men*, and *The Man Who Turned into a Stick*. Cam would like to express his sincerest thanks & admiration to the superlative Sharon Andrews; fellow actors: Mack, Ryan, Mike, Sarah, Speas, Johanna; stage mgmt: Chris Garcia, Alexandra, Beth; Asst. Director: La Corte; and array of others: Lauren Gunderson, Christina, Leah, Lisa, Alice, Perry, Dean, Jon, Trevor, Carol, Leslie, and Brook. Enjoy the Show!



Rebecca Speas (Madam 1) is a senior Theatre/History major from Greensboro, North Carolina and is thrilled to be making her final appearance on the Wake Forest Mainstage! Throughout the past four years, Rebecca has worked both on and off the stage, appearing in Wake's productions of *Almost, Maine*; *Eurydice*; *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*; *Sonnets for an Old Century*; *The Case of the Crushed Petunias*; and *The Little Prince* among others. Outside of performance, she also directed *The Naming of Things* for Studio Series I, designed special effects for *God of Carnage* and *Helter Skelter*, and choreographed the fights for *The Brothers Menaechmus* and others. She would like to thank everyone. Seriously. Everyone. Thank you, everyone, for giving her the time (sort of) and the space (more or less) to wonder. Love.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director.....R. Trevor Anderson
Assistant Stage Managers.....Beth Dodson, Alexandra Dudley
Properties.....Chandalae Nyswonger*
Assistant Sound Designer.....Hayley Greenstreet*
Assistant Costume Designer.....Victoria Hill*
Master Electrician.....Alex Priore*§
Electricians.....Donald "Ducky" Davidson§, Jim French, Zach Pierce-Messick*§
Scene Shop Assistants.....Chris Garcia*, Danielle Thorsen*§, Alex Aceituno
Donald "Ducky" Davidson§, Mara McCaffray*, Chandalae Nyswonger*
Alex Priore, Nathan Musgrove, P. K. Ransbottom*, Monty King
Mackenzie Finnegan*, Wes Hughes*, Jake Meyer*, Taylor Williams*
Welder.....Nathan Musgrove
Guest Scenic Artist.....Jessica Holcombe
Scenic Artists.....Chandalae Nyswonger*, Ivan Mosley*, Ella Ruffel
Costume Studio Supervisor.....Lisa Weller
Costume Crafts.....Alice Barsony
Costume Assistants.....Sara Lindsey*, Lomar Osbourne, , Alyssa Gera*, Chakayla Taylor
Wardrobe Assistant.....Sarah Wheeler*
Light Board Operator.....Celia Quillian§*
Sound Board Operator.....Hayley Greenstreet*
Photography.....Ken Bennett, Bill Ray III, Christopher Gonzalez La Corte§*
Audience Services Coordinator.....Leslie Spencer
Box Office Staff.....Dean D. Guerra*, Brandon Ferri, Jake Skillings
Hayden Newman, Emma Stockert, Emma Northcott, Ben Benzing
Ushers.....APO Service Fraternity

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Director of Theatre.....J. E. R. Friedenberg
Administrative Assistant.....Carol Lavis
Technical Director.....R. Trevor Anderson
Costume Studio Supervisor.....Lisa Weller
Costume/Props Conservator.....Alice Barsony
Audience Services Coordinator.....Leslie Spencer
Instructional Technology Consultant.....Jolie Tingen
Office Assistants.....Jade Harris, Jasmine Harris, Melina Valderrey
Department Chair/Associate Professor.....Dr. J.K. Curry
Director of Dance/Associate Professor.....Nina Lucas
Professors.....Dr. Cindy Gendrich, Mary Wayne-Thomas
Associate Professors.....Sharon Andrews, Jonathan Christman
Dr. Brook Davis, Dr. Woodrow Hood
Assistant Professors.....Rob Eastman-Mullins, Christina Tsoules Soriano
Senior Lecturers.....Lynn Book, Leah Roy
Lecturers.....Chris Martin, Brantly Shapiro
Adjunct Instructors..... Ray Collins, Michael Kamtman, Debbie Sayles
Robert Simpson, Tina Yarborough-Liggins
Accompanists.....Erick Eaton, Hashim Saleh, Eric Schwartz

*member of the Anthony Aston Players

§Presidential Scholar in Theatre

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

2011-2012 Season
March 26, 2012

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Barton & Brenda Baldwin‡
Estate of John Arthur Collins III
Claire & John Friedenberg‡
Mr. & Mrs. Henry H. Jordan II‡
Joel Leander
Sioban Nicole McNamara‡
Harold & Josie Tedford
Mary Wayne-Thomas
John J. Casey
Mr. & Mrs. Julius H. Corpening
Caroline Sandlin Fullerton
Denise Koch‡
James & Angela McNamara
Margaret Henry Moore
Dr. James & Patricia Toole‡
Estate of Robert Parker Wilson

Don & Nancy Wolfe

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Steven & Susan Nedvidek‡

Perry Patterson

Sustainers

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Gary A. Flower
Brook Davis‡ & Michael Huie‡
Edwin‡ & Emily Wilson‡

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Sandria & William Kerr
Dr. & Mrs. Byron Moore‡
David Singer
Gerald Thomas Taylor
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Paul & Linda Edwards Early‡
Susan Hughes
Ellen E. Kirkman
Marty Langley
Elizabeth Rief‡ and Shawn Hooper
Lynn Sutton & Bill Kane

Lawrence Webb

Sponsors

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Jeanne Newton
Rebecca Leonard‡
Meyressa Schoonmaker‡ & John Carroll

Friends

Carole Midura‡
Mary-Hollis Williams‡

‡ Wake Forest alumni

SPECIAL THANKS

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