

CONNECTED IN THE DEER

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
THEATRE PRESENTS

**TWO SETS OF
CONTEMPORARY
AUDIO PLAYS**

OPENING OCT 9

**ROUND
ONE**

**THE BALLAD OF
423 AND 424**
BY NICHOLAS C. PAPPAS
DIRECTED BY CINDY GENDRICH

POOF!
BY LYNN NOTTAGE
DIRECTED BY J. K. CURRY

**PAOLA AND ANDREA
AT THE ALTAR OF WORDS**
BY JOSE RIVERA
DIRECTED BY CINDY GENDRICH



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

“We are like islands in the sea, separate on the surface but connected in the deep.”

- William James

“Do you know why we have the sunflowers? It’s not because Vincent van Gogh suffered. It’s because Vincent van Gogh had a brother who loved him. Through all the pain, he had a tether, a connection to the world. And that is the focus of the story we need – connection.”

- Hannah Gadsby

Summer was hard for almost everyone I know, and as I thought about what I could do to replace the beautiful production of *Into the Woods* that we were making when COVID hit, I realized that I wanted to give people some kind of antidote to suffering and loneliness. *Into the Woods*, for all the darkness of its second act, gives us a vision of people who learn to be there for each other. It portrays human mistakes (big and small ones), as well as selfishness, grief, and anger--and says we can love each other anyway.

So I set about looking for something to direct that would celebrate love and friendship, and as I looked, I realized that this was a beautiful opportunity to engage with the kind of short, small, contemporary works that playwrights so often create for scrappy independent theatres--plays that are too short or too small for me to usually direct at Wake. I also realized that short plays would allow us wonderful scope. By producing a large handful of plays, we could deal with a range of playwrights, themes, character types, and tones, and give a relatively large group of people the chance to perform.

Meanwhile, my childhood brain was dredging up memories of riding home from my grandmother's house in my parents' station wagon on a foggy night in December--probably circa 1972. We were listening to the CBS Radio Mystery Theater, and it was spooky, absorbing, and cozy. I remembered my imagination making the pictures in my head that I needed--and that this summer I had been missing with Zoom theatre. My mind was made up. Audio it would be, and I needed plays that would translate well to that medium.

So after a summer of intensive reading and culling and talking with theatre friends, here we have a group of diverse plays by diverse people, with a common thread of love and connection. Along the way, my colleague J.K. Curry suggested Lynn Nottage's *Poof!* for the collection, and after realizing that she, too, might be feeling a little creatively hungry, I offered it to her to direct. She and I, and our stage managers, actors and designers working on these pieces with us, have found these plays nourishing, pleasurable, and delightfully challenging, and we hope you will love them as much as we have.

Wake Forest University Theatre presents

CONNECTED IN THE DEEP

Round 1

October 9, 2020

Directors
Cindy Gendrich & J.K. Curry

Sound Designers
Jeff Sherwood & Isabella Cornea*[§] ('21)

Stage Manager
Lydia Evans ('23)

The Ballad of 423 and 424

by Nicholas C. Pappas

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR.....Cindy Gendrich
SOUND DESIGN AND INCIDENTAL MUSIC.....Jeff Sherwood
ASSISTANT SOUND DESIGNER.....Isabella Cornea*[§]
SECOND ASSISTANT SOUND DESIGNER.....Sean Jones*[§]
STAGE MANAGER.....Lydia Evans

CAST

RODERICK.....Christopher Quiroz*
ELLEN.....Molly Olson*
NARRATOR.....Kaylah Bozkurtian*

*Anthony Aston Players member

[§]Presidential Scholar in Theatre

Poof!
by Lynn Nottage

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR.....J.K. Curry
SOUND DESIGN Isabella Cornea*[§]
STAGE MANAGER.....Lydia Evans

CAST

LOUREEN.....Houston Booth
FLORENCE.....Adarian Sneed*[§]
SAMUEL.....Christopher Cates*
NARRATOR.....Basia Scott

Paola and Andrea at the Altar of Words
by José Rivera

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR.....Cindy Gendrich
SOUND DESIGN AND INCIDENTAL MUSIC.....Jeff Sherwood
ASSISTANT SOUND DESIGNER.....Isabella Cornea*[§]
STAGE MANAGER.....Lydia Evans

CAST

PAOLA.....Sarah Cadena
ANDREA.....Chloe Williams*[§]

*Anthony Aston Players member

[§]Presidential Scholar in Theatre

JAMES DODDING SCHOLARSHIP FOR THEATRE

Mr. Dodding, professor emeritus of theatre, died in March 2018 at his home in Garstang, England. You may be one of the fortunate ones who had the opportunity to learn about the craft of theatre, and the joy of living, by working or performing in one of his masterful productions. From Gilbert and Sullivan comic operas, to Shakespeare, to the WFU Passion Play, and any number of other first-rate memorable shows, Jim Dodding was a force for good and for good theatre at Wake Forest University.

Now it is time for us to remember this remarkable man and rise to a challenge that helps create a lasting legacy for this beloved professor.

We are asking for your help by joining us in supporting the James Dodding Scholarship for Theatre that has been established in his honor. Already a group of Mr. Dodding's former students and friends have raised \$61,000 to date towards an endowed scholarship celebrating his life and ensuring his name remains a part of Wake Forest Theatre for generations to come. In order to complete the endowment, we need to reach \$100,000 in funding. Of course, we want to exceed this minimum so that the scholarship generates the highest possible funding. We hope you will support this effort to honor a remarkable scholar, actor and teacher and to ensure his legacy for generations of talented Theatre students to come.

It's easy to give! You visit <https://forms.secure.wfu.edu/giving> for giving instructions. Please be sure to indicate that your gift is for the Dodding Scholarship. In addition, please contact Beth McAlhany for assistance and to share your stories about Professor Dodding and his impact on you -- Beth would love to hear from you.

We appreciate your consideration of support for this tribute and the impact it will have on generations of Wake Forest thespians to come.

--Steve (MA '87, P '15, P '18) and Sue Nedvidek ('87, P '15, P '18)

SONNET 23

by William Shakespeare

As an unperfect actor on the stage,
Who with his fear is put beside his part,
Or some fierce thing replete with too much rage,
Whose strength's abundance weakens his own heart;
So I, for fear of trust, forget to say
The perfect ceremony of love's rite,
And in mine own love's strength seem to decay,
O'ercharged with burthen of mine own love's might.
O! let my looks be then the eloquence
And dumb presagers of my speaking breast,
Who plead for love, and look for recompense,
More than that tongue that more hath more express'd.
O! learn to read what silent love hath writ:
To hear with eyes belongs to love's fine wit.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director of Theatre.....Jonathan Christman
Technical Director.....Evan Dana Shuster
Costume Shop Manager.....Alice Burton Barsony
Assistant Costume Shop Manager & Wardrobe Manager.....Clare Parker
Audio Production Supervisor, Dialogue Editor, and Mastering Engineer.....Jeff Sherwood
Assistant Editor, Recordist, Mixer, Foley Artist.....Isabella Cornea*§
Second Assistant Sound Designer.....Sean Jones*§
Poster Design.....Steve Morrison

SPECIAL THANKS

Sharon Andrews
J.K. Curry
Brook Davis
Michael DeWhatley
Drew Droege
Michael Kamtman
José Rivera
Kate Roberts

*Anthony Aston Players member

§Presidential Scholar in Theatre

‡Presidential Scholar in Dance

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

2019-2020 Season

October 5, 2020

BENEFACTORS

Barton & Brenda Baldwin[‡]
Estate of John Arthur Collins III
J.K. Curry & Dan Bradley
Caroline Sandlin Fullerton
Joel Leander & Perry Patterson
Sioban Nicole McNamara[‡]
Margaret Henry Moore
Ben Sutton
Dr. James & Patricia Toole[‡]
Don & Nancy Wolfe

John J. Casey
Claire & John Friedenberg[‡]
Mr. & Mrs. Henry H. Jordan II[‡]
Denise Koch[‡]
James & Angela McNamara
Allison McWilliams[‡]
Steve[‡] & Sue[‡] Nedvidek
Harold & Josie Tedford
Mary Wayne-Thomas
Edwin & Emily Wilson[‡]

Estate of Robert Parker Wilson

SUSTAINERS

Anne Boyle
Michele Gillespie & Kevin Pittard[‡]

Jill Carraway[‡] & Debora Horning
Dr. & Mrs. R. Byron Moore[‡]

Jane Bess Wooten[‡]

PATRONS

Lynn Padgett-Brown & Douglas Brown
Brook Davis[‡] & Michael Huie[‡]
Ellen E. Kirkman
Bill[‡] & Marty[‡] Lamb
Nina Lucas
Sam Roy
Donna Votto

Anne Davenport
Janice Gendrich
Elizabeth Rief[‡] & Shawn Hooper
Tom Lewis[‡]
Mary Lee Porterfield[‡]
Meyressa Schoonmaker[‡] & John Carroll
Lawrence & Sandra Webb

SPONSORS

Sally Barbour
Iaona Farthing
Victoria Friendly
Gerald Taylor

David & Kathryn Levy
Liz Shumate[‡]
William H. Turkett, Jr.
Donna Votto

FRIENDS

Paul & Linda Edwards Early[‡]
Denise Pazda

Rebecca Gill
Shannon Pleasant

Shan Woolard

[‡] Wake Forest alumni