



PRESENTED BY WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE

SHE KILLS MONSTERS

by Qui Nguyen

Directed by John E. R. Friedenberg | The Tedford Stage

September 22-23 & 28-30 at 7:30 PM

September 24 & October 1 at 2:00 PM



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

TILLY. Did you have fun? That's the point in all this. Did you have fun?

(AGNES, simply nods her head.)

Good.

(TILLY begins to exits.)

AGNES. Wait.

(TILLY stops.)

You're not real. You're gone.

TILLY. Yes. But this story remains. And isn't that essentially all that life is - a collection of stories?

Thanks for coming. We hope you had fun.

DRAMATURG'S NOTE

Qui Nguyen was born in El Dorado, Arkansas to Vietnamese refugees who had met at a camp in Arkansas after fleeing Saigon in 1975. His early pursuits as a playwright (focused on elevating the escapism gaming provides to a viable form of therapy while still examining it with a critical gaze towards the effects it has on individuals as they are forced to reconcile the fantasy world with the real) earned him the unofficial title of “Pioneer of Geek Theatre” and an Obie Award for his work as the artistic director and co-founder of Vampire Cowboy Theatre Company in New York.

Though the subject matter of his plays varies drastically (currently writing for Marvel Studios, he has written shows about Vampire Samurai and Vietnamese refugees) Nguyen proudly aims to show protagonists and characters whose stories are not typically depicted on stage. In doing so he often opts for Asian American heroes as well as characters who identify as women, people of color and/or in the LGBTQ multi-dimensional space. In doing this he has said that he pays special attention to writing alternatives to the cultural stereotypes theatre and film typically present and in his shows you will often find foul-mouthed, ass kicking, nerds and Asian Americans.

Aside from its own intersectional flourishes, Geek Theatre is itself a challenging and fascinating take on stage spectacle being (literally and figuratively) soaked in pop-culture references, violence, puppets, and multi-media display to challenge the western, canonical, conception of what theatre can be. No matter what genre he's working in, Nguyen's goal remains the same: "to show that theatre is just as cool as waiting in line to see the latest movie blockbuster" and to create what the New York Times called "Culturally Savvy Comedy."

Nguyen, himself the victim of bullying as a young teen, tends to depict the “monsters” of life as literal monsters, much like the cheerleaders in *She Kills Monsters*. He writes action-adventure comedies, “watching people cry at my plays isn’t necessarily that fun,” he said. “Watching people laugh and cheer, it gives me a high.”

As Qui Nguyen matured, so too did his subject matter and the themes and settings age with him. In recent years he has stopped writing about high school and instead focuses on topics more salient to an Asian American in the professional world. Yet throughout all the subjects his kaleidoscopic gaze has fallen upon, he has never been able to call off this deep, passionate love affair with the Midwest and the people inhabiting it.

Wake Forest University Theatre presents

She Kills Monsters

by Qui Nguyen

September 22-24 & September 28-October 1, 2017

Director

John E. R. Friedenberg

Scenic Designer

Dahlia Al-Habieli

Costume Designer

Tyler Wilson

Lighting Designer

Kevin Frazier

Sound Designer

Cheyenne Zuck*[§]

Mother of Dragons

Mary Wayne-Thomas

Vocal Consultant

Leah Elyce Roy

Fight Choreographer

Kara Wooten

Assistant Fight Choreographer

Ryan Tucker Lee

Choreographer

Ria Matheson*

Fight Coach

Ian Winek

Assistant Director

Cat Mizzi*[§]

Dramaturg

Eli Bradley*[§]

Stage Manager

Tori Spong*

*Anthony Aston Players member

[§]Presidential Scholar in Theatre

SETTING

Athens, Ohio and the imaginary land of New Landia
1995

She Kills Monsters is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

First produced in New York City: The Flea Theater
Jim Simpson, Artistic Director; Carol Ostrow, Producing Director

CAST

ADULT AGNES (NARRATOR).....	Tracy Wegner*
TILLY.....	Izzi Einhorn
AGNES.....	Katy Milian*
CHUCK.....	Matthew Zoltners*
MILES.....	Christian Carty
LILITH.....	Sierra Leslie*
KALIOPE.....	Gwyneth Lonergan§
ORCUS.....	Christian Trevathan
VERA.....	Anna Hibbert*
EVIL GABBL.....	Tiffany Nunez
EVIL TINA.....	Hannah Menaker*
FARRAH.....	Mellie Mesfin
STEVE.....	Parker Cabiness
MAGIC MAKERS.....	Hugo Hernandez Villagra
	Alex Kratochwill
	David Liarakos
	Cydney Meadows
	Trey Sutton
	Jessica Wang
	Charlotte Wu

*Anthony Aston Players member

♦Presidential Scholar in Dance

§Presidential Scholar in Theatre

INFORMATION

In consideration of performers and other patrons, please turn off any laptops, cell phones and electronic alarms. The use of cameras and video/audio recording devices is strictly prohibited. Please refrain from eating or drinking in the theatre. Smoking is prohibited in the building. Any audience member disturbing other patrons or causing a disruption may be asked to leave without a refund or exchange of ticket. If you would like to return your program at the end of the performance, collection baskets to return programs can be found at the theatre entrance; thank you for helping us with the university's sustainability efforts.

This production is approximately 85 minutes long without an intermission.

BIOGRAPHIES



Eli Bradley (Dramaturg) is a senior Philosophy and Theatre double Major from Boulder, Colorado. He would like to thank John, Tori, and Kevin for the opportunity to delve into the world of *She Kills Monsters*. And,

as always, thank you Nina Lucas.



Parker Cabiness (Steve) is a freshman from Archdale, North Carolina. He is thrilled to be a part of *She Kills Monsters*. He is currently aspiring to be the best mage in Newlandia, but if that doesn't work out, he might do

like, Optometry or something like that. He is currently considering a Biochemistry major, and is going to double minor in Film and Theatre.



Christian Carty (Miles) is very excited to be in his first main stage production at Wake Forest University. He would like to thank his wonderful parents for their unconditional support as well as the entirety of the beautiful cast

for constantly being amazing. He would also like to thank his wonderful director Jerf for his incredible direction and constant wisdom. Christian has learned so much during the preparation of this production and hopes everybody enjoys getting lost in the beautiful and magical world of New Landia!



Izzi Einhorn (Tilly) is a sophomore and intended Politics & International Affairs and Communications"double major from Chicago, Illinois. She is thrilled to be making her Wake Forest Mainstage debut in *She Kills Monsters*. Izzi's previous theater experience at Wake includes the role of Anna in *Closer*, as well as roles in *Sick* and *The Vagina Monologues*. Prior to Wake, Izzi had several years of acting training at Second City and The Lookingglass Theater, as well as many high school productions. Izzi is very grateful for her friends for the putting up with her crazy antics, as well as the cast and crew of the show for being so supportive throughout this incredible process.



Hugo Hernandez Villagra (Magic Maker) is a first year student, and he is so excited to be a part of his very first show in the Tedford stage! He hopes to advance his skills in the art of scenic design in the near future (but who really has the time?)...

He hopes to possibly major in Theatre and Communications, but he has not fully "swept away" all of his alternatives. In the past, he has been a joy to work with both offstage and onstage in high school productions like *Big Fish*, *State Fair*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*. He would like to thank the entire cast and crew for giving him a place where he could "fight monsters" and not be judged!



Anna Hibbert (Vera) is a junior Computer Science and Theatre double major with a Film Studies minor from Asheville, North Carolina. Previously at Wake Forest, she has acted in *The Stronger*, *Honk!, Jr.*, *A Funny*

Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, and *Our Town*. She has also worked backstage on several Wake Forest productions as well, namely stage managing *The Tiny Closet* this past Spring. When she is not in rehearsal, she can still be found in Scales as the treasurer of Anthony Aston Players, Wake's theatre organization. She would like to thank Jerf, Tori, and the rest of the cast and crew for making this production so much fun!



Alex Kratochwill (Magic Maker), a sophomore, is delighted to return to the Tedford Stage for *She Kills Monsters*. This is her second performance on the Tedford Stage after playing Downy in *Honk! Jr.* Her previous

favorite performances include playing Sandy in *Grease* (Academy Playhouse), Queen Constantina in *Cinderella* (Medfield High School) and Kate/Chutney in *Legally Blonde* (Academy Playhouse). She would like to thank Jerf, Tori and everyone else for working so hard to put up this show and for making this experience so fun. She would also like to thank her parents for their unconditional love and support. Lastly, she hopes you enjoy the show!

Sierra Leslie (Lilith) is a junior Anthropology and Vocal Performance double major from Bowie, Maryland. This is her third opportunity to appear on the Tedford Stage (you may remember seeing her in *The*

Waiting Room and *Macbeth*), and she is so thankful for the opportunity to play such a riveting character as Lilith/Lilly in *She Kills Monsters*. Sierra would like to thank God, her parents for their consistent support, her faithful battle axe, as well as JERF, Cat Mizzi, and Tori Spong for amazing directing and stage management, Kara and Ryan for teaching the cast some KILLER battle choreography, and Kevin Fraizer for introducing her and plenty of others to the world of "the D and the D".



David Liarakos (Magic Maker) is a sophomore Biology and Computer Science double major. He was a stage hand last year in the main stage production of *Macbeth*, as well as *The Tiny Closet/Sick* and *Closer*. He would like to thank Cat Mizzi for pulling him (against his will) into theatre and the audience for coming out and seeing the show.



Gwyneth Lonergan (Kaliopé) is a freshman from Dallas, Texas and is an intended Theatre major at Wake. *She Kills Monsters* is her first performance on the Tedford Stage. She would like to thank the amazing cast and crew for making her very first show an unforgettable experience and a great kickoff for the next four years!





Ria Matheson (Choreographer) is a sophomore Theatre and Health and Exercise Science double major and Dance minor, and she is excited to be working as the choreographer on *She Kills*

Monsters. This is the third Tedford Stage production that Ria has worked on at Wake, and she is thoroughly enjoying being behind the scenes for a change - you make have seen her last fall in *Honk! Jr.* Ria would like to thank her friends for watching hours of cheer videos with her, the cast for being open to trying moving in silly ways, and Jerf for giving her this amazing opportunity.



Cydney Meadows (Magic Maker) is a sophomore from Princeton, West Virginia. She plans to declare a double major in Philosophy and Politics & International Affairs. Cydney is also involved with Wake the Vote, Spectrum,

and lives in the Theatre House. This is her first show with the Theatre department. She is most excited to be a magic maker, because she gets to play multiple monster roles.



Hannah Menaker (Evil Tina) is a sophomore Psychology major. She is also a Presidential Scholar for Dance. Hannah has been dancing since the age of three but has only been involved with theater since last year. Hannah's first role was a

duckling in Wake Forest's production of *Honk! Jr.* She would like to thank Jerf, the cast and crew for their creativity and hopes that you enjoy the show!

Mellie Mesfin (Farrah) is a sophomore and this is her first production is at Wake Forest. She's done several shows prior to college and is excited to be participating in productions at the college level. She'd like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to make *SKM* a success, and let you know that capoeira makes you super sore!



Kathryn Juliet Milian (Agnes) is a sophomore from Miami, Florida and feels beyond blessed to “kill monsters” alongside this exceptionally talented cast and crew. This is her third performance on the Tedford Stage and her seventeenth production in total. Previous WFU credits include: *Honk! Jr.* and *Macbeth*. Katy would like to thank God for giving her this unbelievable opportunity and her parents for always believing in her. To Max, thank you for always running lines with me; it is the greatest honor being your big sister. To JERF, Cat, and Tori—it has been an incredible privilege making magic with you.



Cat Mizzi (Assistant Director) is a sophomore at Wake Forest who is majoring in Theatre and Psychology with a minor in Counseling. She is so beyond thrilled to have been a part of this production of *She Kills Monsters*. She is so proud of the amazing cast, production team and design staff for all the work they have put in order to bring this monstrous production to life and kill it.





Tiffany Nunez (Evil Gabbi) is a sophomore from Newark, New Jersey. Although this is her first performance at Wake Forest University, theatre has been a part of her life for a long time. She studied theater at Arts High

School in Newark and attended the Summer Program at Circle in the Square Theatre School. She would like to thank Jerf for letting her join this amazing ensemble and her parents for their support. She also wants to congratulate the rest of the cast and crew for all their hard work on this production!



Tori Spong (Stage Manager) is a Theatre and Sociology double major with a minor in Film Studies. This is her first adventure as a Stage Manager for a main stage production, but you may have seen her peeking out of the

booth as the SM for *The Stronger* last semester. Tori has enjoyed learning the workings of backstage life, after performing in *Honk! Jr.* and *The Cagebirds*. Big thanks to the entire cast and crew for working so hard on this show, and to her entire family and friends for being so supportive and willing to deal with her craziness. She hopes you all have a MAGICAL and MONSTROUSLY wonderful time watching the show!



Trey Sutton (Magic Maker) is a junior this year. He has worked on many shows during his time in WFU Theatre. Production stuff is his favorite. He also has a cute dog named Toby. Trey's hobbies include: singing, reading comics,

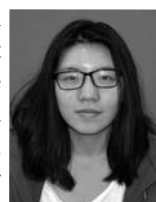
petting cute animals, respecting the power of nature, and cooking.

Christian Trevathan (Orcus) is a sophomore, born in Houston, Texas and currently lives in Highlands, North Carolina. He plans on majoring in Economics and pursuing Law School, right now Criminal Defense Law, after



his undergrad. This is his first theatrical performance at Wake Forest. Hobbies include swimming, learning Italian, and playing Viola. Due to the amazing experience, he has had while being apart of the *She Kills Monsters* cast, he hopes to pursue future plays while at Wake Forest.

Jessica Wang (Magic Maker). A sophomore at Wake Forest University. She plans on double majoring in Theater and Psychology with a minor in Film Studies. She has loved theater since high school and is incredibly thankful to be involved in such a big production for the first time.



Tracy Wegner (Narrator) is a senior from Stem, North Carolina. *She Kills Monsters* is her very first performance on the Tedford Stage, so she would like to thank Jerf for this exciting opportunity. Tracy is an Elementary Education major



with a Theatre minor and would love to teach theatre upon graduation. Congratulations to the rest of the cast and crew for putting together such a phenomenal show! We did indeed kicketh some... butt!



Charlotte Wu (Magic Maker) is a junior Theater major here at Wake from Beijing, China. She is also pre-law. She is most interested in the design aspect of theater but she also enjoys being under the spot light once in a while. She is also the assistant puppet designer for the show. She has both acting and other various of back stage experiences. This is her seventh show at Wake so far. She is very excited to join the cast and the production team.



Matthew Zoltners (Chuck) is a junior Psychology major. This is his fourth time on the Tedford stage (three times on stage, once as an assistant stage manager) and the first time as a major role. He would like to thank his friends and family for helping him whenever he needed and laughing (or sometimes not) at all his grade-A jokes. He would also like to thank the director, the stage manager and all the actors involved for helping make such a fun experience and an even more impressive show. Thank you everyone!

Cheyenne Zuck (Sound Designer) is a senior Theatre and Greek double major from Lancaster, Pennsylvania. She is a Presidential Scholar in Theatre and a Jordan Scholar. During the last three years, she has worked in varying capacities on multiple productions in the Tedford Stage. This is her first show as the primary sound designer and looks forward to working on *Far Away, A Bright Room Called Day*, and *Spring Awakening* during her final year at Wake Forest. She extends her enormous thanks to JERF and Kevin for their encouragement and help with the process, and her Wake Theatre family for dealing with her extraordinary need for naps. She'd also like to thank Kye Cavender, a colleague and friend from UNCSCA who helped with her research for the show and hosting D&D sessions over the summer. Enjoy the show!



Connect with us!

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Wake Forest University Theatre & Dance

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Stage Managers.....	Habby Olusesi*, Dani Farinella, Melissa Cooney
Scenic Design Assistant.....	Serenity Chen
Assistant Costume Designer.....	Madeleine Ash*§
Puppet Design Assistant.....	Charlotte Wu
Assistant Lighting Designer.....	Jyles Rodgers
Properties Master.....	Lily Wieland*
Company Deputy.....	Hannah Menaker*
Master Electrician.....	Christian Ricci
Electricians.....	Jake duPlooy, Isabella Cornea, Jyles Rodgers Cheyenne Zuck, Price Dawson*
Carpentry/Welding.....	Price Dawson*, Courtney Geiger, Cheyenne Zuck*§ Christian Ricci, Nathan Roe, Hugo Hernanadez Villagra
Stitchers.....	Emma Kennett, Megan Nigro, Ria Matheson* Riley Phillips, Ella Andrew*, Madeleine Ash*§
Dressers.....	Taylor Bair, Casey Williams, Julianne Zhu Meredith Vaughn, Rebecca Pace, Emma Szuba
Light Board Operator.....	Cassidy Noble
Sound Board Operator.....	Chloe Williams§
Photographers.....	Bill Ray III, Ken Bennett, Leeden Rukstalis, Leslie Spencer
House Manager.....	Jake Skillings (*14)
Box Office Staff.....	Eli Bradley*§, Payton Calvert, Ben Diehl, Anna Hibbert* Hannah Menaker*, Habby Olusesi*, Jayson Pugh

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Director of Theatre/Associate Teaching Professor.....	J. E. R. Friedenberg
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Technical Director.....	R. Trevor Anderson
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Costume Shop Supervisor.....	Tyler Wilson
Audience Services Coordinator.....	Leslie Spencer
Instructional Technology Specialist.....	Ryan McCollum
Social Media Manager.....	Katy Milian*, Betsy Mann*, Cat Mizzi*§
Office Assistants.....	Madeleine Ash*§, Betsy Mann*, Lily Wieland*
Department Chair/Professor.....	Nina Maria Lucas
Director of Dance/Associate Professor.....	Christina Tsoules Soriano
Associate Chair/Associate Professor.....	Rob Eastman-Mullins
Professors.....	Sharon Andrews, Dr. Cindy Gendrich, Mary Wayne-Thomas
Associate Professors.....	Dr. J.K. Curry, Dr. Brook Davis
Assistant Professor.....	Kevin Frazier
Teaching Professor.....	Lynn Book
Associate Professor of the Practice.....	Brantly Shapiro
Associate Teaching Professor.....	Leah Roy
Assistant Teaching Professor.....	Chris Martin
Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor.....	Michael Kamtman
Part-Time Instructors.....	Michael Huie, Debra Sayles, Robert Simpson, Tina Yarborough-Liggins
Teaching Fellows.....	Dahlia Al-Habieli, Jessie Laurita-Spanglet
Accompanists.....	Ray Ebert, Kelly Hammond, Dan Knight, Hashim Saleh

*Anthony Aston Players member

♦Presidential Scholar in Dance

§Presidential Scholar in Theatre

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

2017-2018 Season
September 13, 2017

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by Caryl Churchill

Directed by Cindy Gendrich

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November 2-4 at 7:30 PM

Oct. 29 & Nov. 5 at 2:00 PM

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Limited seating. No late admission.

Tickets: \$15 adults,
\$12 senior citizens,
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Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Concert

Directed by Nina Lucas

November 16-18 at 7:30 PM

November 19 at 2:00 PM

Harold C. Tedford Stage

Tickets: \$15 adults, \$12 senior
citizens, \$7 students

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