

A STAGE VERSION OF IBSEN'S *A DOLL'S HOUSE*

SHOTGUN PLAYERS PRESENTS

# NORA

I'M A  
HUMAN  
BEING...



JUST AS  
YOU ARE.

WRITTEN BY

INGMAR BERGMAN

DIRECTED BY BETH WILMURT

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY FREDERICK J. MARKER & LISE-LONE MARKER

# NORA

a stage version of Ibsen's *A Doll's House* by  
**INGMAR BERGMAN**

Translated and adapted by  
**FREDERICK J. MARKER AND LISE-LONE MARKER**

Directed by  
**BETH WILMURT**

Running time is 1 hour and 45 minutes.

## Featuring

Michael J. Asberry\*

Adam Elder

Jessma Evans

Kevin Kemp

Erin Mei-Ling Stuart

*Dr. Rank*

*Nils Krogstad*

*Nora Helmer*

*Torvald Helmer*

*Mrs. Linde*

## Production Sponsors

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## Production Team

Bree Dills

Perry Fenton

Chanterelle Grover

Devon LaBelle

Maya Linke

Molly Stewart-Cohn

Matt Stines

Annie Tillis\*

Josh Van Eyken

Maggie Whitaker\*\*

Allen Willner

*Costume Design Assistant*

*Assistant Director*

*Costume Design Assistant*

*Props Design*

*Set Design*

*Master Electrician*

*Sound Design*

*Stage Manager*

*Production Assistant*

*Costume Design*

*Lighting Design*

Originally produced by the  
Pittsburgh Public Theatre as  
part of a double-bill entitled  
Nora - Julie.

Video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means is prohibited.



\*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.

This Theatre operates under an agreement with Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

\*\*Member of the United Scenic Artists Local 829

# About the Playwright



**ERNST INGMAR BERGMAN** was a Swedish film and theatre director, writer, theatre manager, dramatist, and author. Bergman wrote or directed more than 60 films and 170 theatrical productions, and authored over a hundred books and articles. Throughout Bergman's many works, one finds variations on a central theme: dysfunctional families, blood-sucking failed artists, and an absent Almighty all become manifestations of our collective inability to communicate with each other.

As a man of the theatre, Ingmar Bergman is probably best known for his productions of the classics of the stage. Shakespeare, Molière, Ibsen, and Strindberg all had an enormous influence, not only for his work in the theatre, but also for his artistic output in general. Bergman's exceptional ability to interpret and discover new aspects in historical dramas and to give them life and relevance for our own age made him one of the great theatre directors. For Bergman, the work and its essence, what he regarded as the dramatist's intention behind the play, constituted one of the three pillars of the theatre, alongside the actors and the audience.

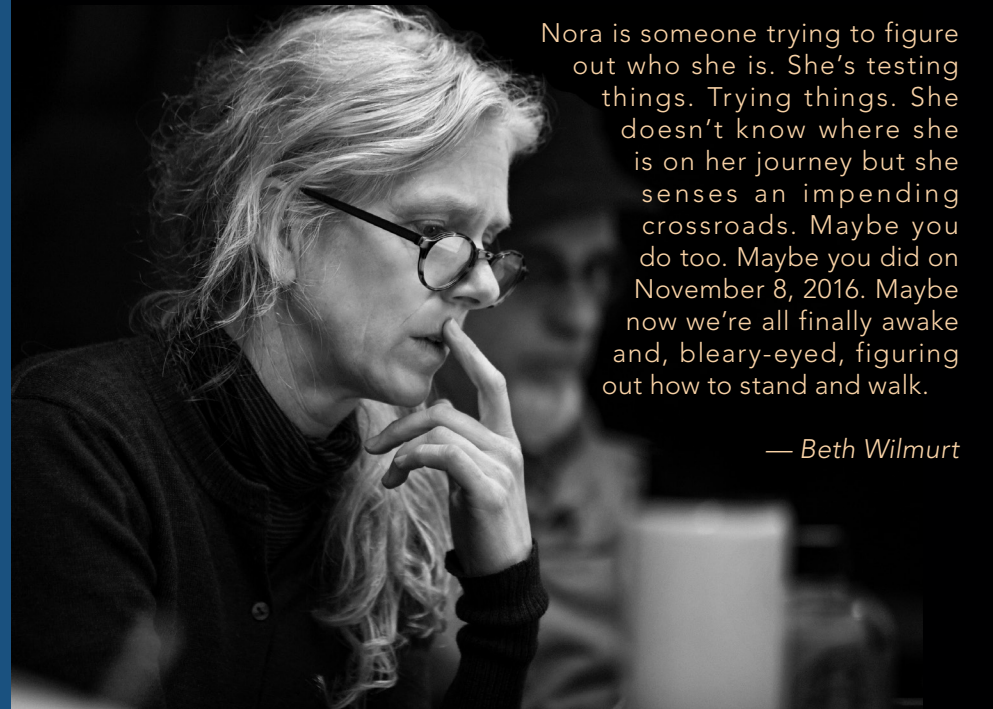
from *The Ingmar Bergman Foundation*  
ingmarbergman.se

# A Note from the Director

Before the 2016 election, I assumed this was going to be a production that celebrated Hillary Clinton breaking the glass ceiling. Then overnight it became about the opposite. Many of us now feel like a stranger in our own land. And people we thought we knew are suddenly strangers too.

The director Thomas Ostermeier said, "My point in making theatre is that I do not know who I am." I read that and realized I'm doing this play, *Nora*, because I have a question. I want to know who I am in relation to my society. I want to become less of a stranger to myself. And I sense this play might have answers for me about how I can get to the point of action. Not prescriptions for specific actions I might take. But a process for getting at the truth of who I am, and acting on that truth.

Some people say we've come a long way, and some say we haven't. I'm not interested in that argument because it never ends. I'm not interested in showing oppression, a traditional interest of productions of this play. It's too easy to denounce misogyny in a Berkeley theatre. I want to show the story of someone taking action. I want this production to encourage. "You can do it!" What will it take for me to finally take action? Why, as a woman, did I finally go on my first political march on behalf of women when I was forty-eight? What was I waiting for? What was I afraid of? What did I miss?



Nora is someone trying to figure out who she is. She's testing things. Trying things. She doesn't know where she is on her journey but she senses an impending crossroads. Maybe you do too. Maybe you did on November 8, 2016. Maybe now we're all finally awake and, bleary-eyed, figuring out how to stand and walk.

— Beth Wilmurt

# Nora

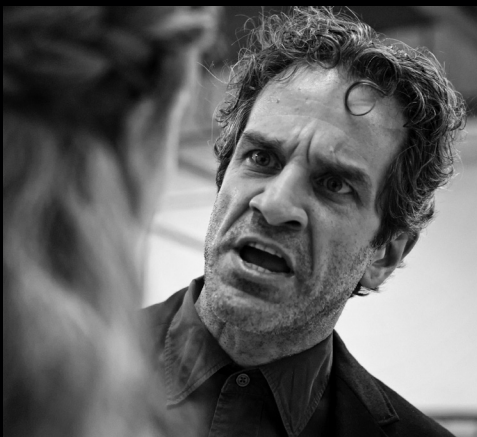
in rehearsal



Kevin Kemp and Jessma Evans



Jessma Evans



Jessma Evans and Adam Elder



Michael J. Asberry\* and Jessma Evans



Erin Mei-Ling Stuart and Jessma Evans

# The Cast

## MICHAEL J. ASBERRY\*

Dr. Rank

Michael J. Asberry is excited about his return to Shotgun where he previously appeared in *There Will Be No Trojan War*. He has local and regional theater credits (most recently, *The Box* at San Francisco's Z-Space), along with a host of Film, Television, and Voiceover performances. Michael is a proud member of Actors Equity Association.

## ADAM ELDER

Nils Krogstad

Adam Elder is a graduate of the William Esper Studio in New York, where he studied under master teacher Bill Esper, and is now happy to be living in the Bay Area. His recent appearances include San Francisco Playhouse's *On Clover Road*; Roustabout Theater Company's *Betrayal*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, and *Moon for the Misbegotten*; and *Inferno's King Lear*. Adam is thrilled to be working with Shotgun for the first time.

## JESSMA EVANS

Nora

Jessma Evans made her debut with Shotgun players in *Top Girls* and is so excited to be back! Credits include: *Painting Churches*, *Saved*, *Cloud 9*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Loves Labour's Lost*, *The Visit*, *Law & Order* (NBC), *The Bedford Diaries* (WB). She would like to give a huge thank you to this dynamite cast and director, and the amazing Shotgun staff!! To Joe—all of my love and an Elliephant size Thank you!

## KEVIN KEMP

Torvald

Kevin recently moved to the Bay Area, and is delighted to make his debut performance here with Shotgun Players. Kevin has been fortunate to work in Theatre, TV, and Film, across Europe, India, the UK, and the US. His credits include: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Death of Phillip II*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Everyman*, and *Oedipus*. He would like to thank the company for welcoming him to the Bay. [www.kevinkemp.co.uk](http://www.kevinkemp.co.uk)

## ERIN MEI-LING STUART

Mrs. Linde

Erin Mei-Ling Stuart is thrilled to be performing with Shotgun Players a second time. (The first was ten years ago in a *The Forest War*.) More recently, Erin was seen in *Hearts of Palm* at Central Works. She is a proud member of Mugwumpin and detour dance, and is the artistic director of EmSpace Dance.

# The Crew

## **BETH WILMURT** Director

Beth Wilmurt is fresh off Shotgun's Repertory Season having played/drawn Claudius (a record 10 times) as well as all the other roles in (and including) *Hamlet*. She also drank "one too many" as Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* in the same season. Beth is a proud, long-time company member of Shotgun and this is the second main stage play that she has directed for them, the first being Anthony Neilson's *Edward Giant's Amazing Feats of Loneliness*. [bethwilmurt.com](http://bethwilmurt.com)

## **BREE DILLS** Costume Design Assistant

Bree Dills has designed costumes for the following shows at the Academy of Art University: *The Misanthrope*, *Bus Stop*, and *Rocky Horror Show*. She has been a costume design assistant at Opera San Jose for *La Boheme*, and at the Academy of Art for *Time Stands Still*. She is a retail associate and vintage garment restorer at Relic Vintage, and she has a BFA in Costume Design from the Academy of Art University.

## **PERRY FENTON** Assistant Director

Perry Fenton is a current Junior at San Francisco State University where she is studying English Literature with an emphasis in education, and minoring in both classics and theater. She is absolutely thrilled to be returning to Shotgun after her previous experience as second assistant director for *Caught*. Past directing and assistant directing credits include *Sofa Sin Casa* and *Bus Logic* at SFSU.

## **CHANTERELLE GROVER** Costume Design Assistant

Chanterelle Grover graduated from Academy of Art University in 2015. She is currently the First Hand at A.C.T. and has been sewing for 15 years. Check out her work at [ChanterelleDesigns.com](http://ChanterelleDesigns.com)

## **DEVON LABELLE** Props Design

Devon is a multidisciplinary artist with emphasis on vivid visual and special effects components. In eight short seasons she has fueled over 100 Bay Area productions with the physical artifacts that make them work. Devon is a Resident Artist with Crowded Fire Theater and a TBA-award-winning Props Designer. She is thankful for her continued work with Shotgun Players. Check out her blog to see what she makes: [giveherprops.wordpress.com](http://giveherprops.wordpress.com). Love to Sam, Jo, and Roscoe

## **MAYA LINKE** Set Design

Collaborative Magical Highlights: *The Rover*, *Harry Thaw Hates Everybody*, *Heart Shaped Nebula*, Shotgun Players; *The Letters*, Aurora Theatre Company; *The Music Man*, Berkeley Playhouse; *Prelude to a Kiss*, Colorado Springs Fine Art Center; *You For Me*, *The Bereaved*, *The 100 Flowers Project*, *She Rode Horses*

*Like The Stock Exchange*, *Truckstop*, *Crowded Fire Theatre*; *Sweeney Todd*, *Jerry Springer: The Opera*, *Assassins*, *Ray of Light Theatre*; *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Kansas City Rep.* [mayalinke.com](http://mayalinke.com)

## **MOLLY STEWART-COHN** Master Electrician

Molly Stewart-Cohn has been working in the Bay Area lighting world for thirteen years. She is currently also the Master Electrician at San Francisco Playhouse, and recently worked on *Antigona* at ZSpace.

## **MATT STINES** Sound Design

Matt Stines' creative work has been heard in sketches and scenes around the Bay Area, and additionally with Soundwave ((5)), SF Sketchfest, City Arts and Lectures, Mutiny Radio, and Prague Quadrennial 2011. His absurdist children's music percussion collective, Full Grownmin, has released 32 albums, none of which contain any actual content. He's won a few awards and is a stoked and honored Shotgun company member. More at [mattstines.wordpress.com](http://mattstines.wordpress.com)

## **ANNIE TILLIS\*** Stage Manager

Annie Tillis has recently returned from Boston to her home city, San Francisco. She is thrilled to be working with such brilliantly creative minds, both at Shotgun Studios and in the recent past at Bay Area Musicals (BAM) and Quantum Dragon Theatre (QDT). She would like to thank Beth for a wonderful rehearsal process, as well as all the people who gave her love and support along the way.

## **JOSH VAN EYKEN** Production Assistant

Josh van Eyken is a recent graduate of San Francisco State University where he studied Theatre with a Stage Management emphasis. He is now pursuing work as a professional theatre artist in the Bay Area. Past stage management credits include *The Awakening*, *The Breadbox Theatre*; *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Urinetown*, SFSU. He is excited to be working with Shotgun for the first time.

## **MAGGIE WHITAKER\*\*** Costume Design

Credits include: Shotgun Players: *Truffaldino Says No!* (SFBATCC Award); Aurora: *A Bright New Boise*, *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*, *Fat Pig* (SFBATCC nominee), *The Shape of Things and Lobby Hero* (Dean Goodman Choice Award); Marin Theatre Company: *I and You* (world premier), *Waiting for Godot*; TheatreWorks: *Upright Grand* (world premiere). She is a contributing member to the Repulsive Women, a production associate at Blue Panther Productions and a member of USA829.

## **ALLEN WILLNER** Lighting Design

Awards and nominations include: Isadora Duncan Dance Awards for the lighting design of inkBoat's *Line Between*, *Heaven's Radio* and Deborah Slater's *Private Life*. TBA Lighting Design Award Nominations for Shotgun Players *Eurydice* and Theater of Yugen's *This Lingerin' Life*. Bay Area Critics Circle Lighting Design Nomination for The Shotgun Players *Eurydice* and *God's Ear*, Broadway World Lighting and Set Design Nomination for Symmetry Theater's *Patience Worth*.

# Production Sponsors

## THE GRUBB COMPANY

The Grubb Company is a full-service boutique real estate firm offering luxury homes in Berkeley, Piedmont, Oakland, and Kensington. Since 1964, The Grubb Company has served generations of home buyers and sellers offering the finest services to its clients. A dedicated team of 65 full-time professional agents are based in two offices—Oakland and Berkeley, staffed with highly trained transaction coordinators, a full marketing team, and 14 operational staff members, they are sure to make every real estate experience smooth, professional, and successful.

## AL HOFFMAN & DAVID SHEPHERD

Following in the footsteps of *Virginia Woolf*, we're delighted to support *Nora* in her quest to find her true self. We are grateful that we have cutting-edge theater, where doors may be unashamedly slammed, just a short stroll from our own doorstep. We're also happy that the season schedule still permits August visits to the Edinburgh Festivals.

## NAOMI JANOWITZ & ANDREW LAZARUS

## SUSAN TAYLOR & BOB FABRY

We love the energy, welcoming spirit, and good humor of Shotgun Players. We thoroughly enjoy seeing the quality of their plays, watching actors immerse themselves in their roles and make the play so real to us. We look forward to seeing *Nora* and to experiencing the magic of good theater.

## Special Thanks

Town Hall Theater, Justin Dupris

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# Season Sponsors

## CAROL AMYX & DONALD KAUFMAN

## KITTY BOSHER

Having had the opportunity to raise four great children and two lovely step-daughters waay over in Virginia, I am fortunate to have ten precious grandchildren. Although I've lived in one town my whole life, and in a post-Civil War farmhouse since 1973, my family is far-flung: El Salvador, Indonesia, Charlottesville & . . . Berkeley! (which is why I often refer to myself as a "frequently-flying grandmother.") When Shotgun's Artistic Director Patrick Dooley was in his 20's I wondered whether he would go into politics or into theater. To my great joy, he's done both.

## GUY TIPHANE

Guy just loves Shotgun Players and sometimes can't resist seeing a play several times . . . He writes at [guytiphane.wordpress.com](http://guytiphane.wordpress.com)

## THE SHOTGUN PLAYERS MANIFESTO

Shotgun Players is a company of artists determined to create bold, relevant, affordable theatre. We believe in theatre that inspires and challenges audience and artist alike to re-examine our lives, our community, and the ever-changing world around us. We are:

### COMPANY

Andy Alabran	Valera Coble	Heather Kelly-Laws	Nick Medina	Jon Tracy
Nina Ball	Christine Crook	Liz Hitchcock Lisle	Trish Mulholland	Megan Trout
El Beh	Leigh Rondon-Davis	Dave Maier	Judy Phillips	Matt Stines
Fontana Butterfield	Patrick Dooley	Susannah Martin	Richard Reinholdt	Beth Wilmurt
Kevin Clarke	Mark Jackson	Joanie McBrien	Katja Rivera	Hanah Zahner-Isenberg
	Nikita Kadam		Michelle Talgarow	


### STAFF

<b>Founding Artistic Director</b> Patrick Dooley	<b>Managing Director</b> Liz Hitchcock Lisle	<b>Development Director</b> Joanie McBrien	<b>Interim Production Manager</b> Nikita Kadam
<b>Box Office &amp; Patron Services Manager</b> Amy Langer	<b>Box Office Associate</b> Daniel Alley	<b>Development Associate</b> Brady Brophy-Hilton	<b>Technical Director</b> Chris Swartzell
	<b>Marketing Director</b> Shereen Adel	<b>Production Manager</b> Hanah Zahner-Isenberg	



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Carol Amyx	John Horsch	Claire Mosher	Pepi Ross	Ragesh Tangri
Jo Golub	Carolyn Jones	Richard Nelson	Maggie Salop	Jed Waldman
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The following people made generous donations to Shotgun Players between February 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017. Donors who contributed to our Make a Difference Program are notated with 


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