

SHOTGUN PLAYERS PRESENTS

DRY LAND

THERE IS NO
OFF-SEASON

MAY 17
— *thru* —
JUNE 17

BY **RUBY RAE SPIEGEL** DIRECTED BY **ARIEL CRAFT**

CAST

Martha Brigham*
Adam Magill*
Grace Ng
Amy Nowak
Don Wood

Amy
Victor
Ester
Reba
Janitor

PRODUCTION TEAM

Lenny Adler
Cassie Barnes
Valera Coble
Ariel Craft
Erin Gilley
Maya Herbsman
Heather Kelly-Laws*
Devon LaBelle
Dave Maier
Angrette McCloskey
Caitlin Steinmann
Sara Witsch

Production Assistant
Lighting Designer
Costume Designer, Wardrobe Supervisor
Director
Video Designer
Assistant Director
Stage Manager
Props Designer
Fight Director
Set Designer
Master Electrician
Sound Designer

SWIM TEAM

Eliza Boivin
Camille Cheetham
Matty Darragh-Ford
Olivia Dunn
Ciera Eis

Regina Leon
Jen Marte
Regina Monique
Leigh Rondon-Davis

Swimming footage features Haley Kirkland, with help from Verónica Hernández, Matthew Shen, and Berkeley High School.

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Dry Land was originally produced by Colt Coeur, New York, NY. Developed at the Ojai Playwright Conference: Robert Egan, Artistic Director/Producer. Developed with the support of the New York Stage and Film's Powerhouse Season at Vassar. *Dry Land* is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York. **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.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The play that you're about to see will ask you to revisit and reform your expectations of a "coming-of-age" story. At the core of that familiar narrative is, most often, the question: who do I want to be? *Dry Land* instead asks us to examine the adjacent question, more fraught and complex: how do I forgive myself for not becoming the person that I meant to be or that I thought I could be? And, next: how can I continue—positively, constructively—on a journey of self-actualization when I've already faltered?

Dry Land premiered in New York City when playwright Ruby Rae Spiegel was a mere 21 years old. Still on the slippery onramp to adulthood herself, she wrote this play unpacking the expectations that young women live with and the quiet agony of failure. This play questions the limits of fortitude, as you face the vast chasm between the person that you are today and the person that you aspire to be. It encourages you to revise your own sense of self, to allow space for the aspects of your identity that you'd rather not acknowledge. And while the play might not provide simple answers, it does provide a challenge: be strong and be flexible, because the road to really knowing yourself is long, and the road to living comfortably and appreciatively in that skin is even longer.



The sheer existence of this play, penned by a near-teenager, is a testament to the exquisite thoughtfulness and depth of wisdom to be mined from the mess and melancholy of youth. Watching *Dry Land* is, for me, an exercise in active listening: discovering myself in the struggles and triumphs of these young women. You may not be a teenage girl—or a competitive swimmer—but the play is about you too.

—Ariel Craft, *Dry Land* director

CAST



MARTHA BRIGHAM (Amy) Martha's favorite shows include *Coming of Age* (Jewel Theatre Company), *Leni* (Aurora), *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberly* (Marin Theatre Company), *The How and The Why* (Aurora), *Stupid Fucking Bird* (San Francisco Playhouse), and *The Tall Girls* (La Jolla Playhouse). She's studied with The Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute, as well as Steppenwolf and The Groundlings. She's excited to join Shotgun's family, and she thanks her Mom for her love and support!

ADAM MAGILL (Victor) Adam's recent credits include *Shakespeare in Love*, *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, and *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberly* (Marin Theatre Company). He is a graduate of the Foothill Theater Conservatory.



GRACE NG (Ester) Grace, a Bay Area native, is back on the Ashby stage where she was previously seen as Wilhelm in *The Black Rider*. Some past productions have also been with Crowded Fire, Cutting Ball, Berkeley Playhouse, TheatreFIRST, Bay Area Musicals, and Bay Area Children's Theatre. Grace received her BA from San Francisco State University and has also studied at Circle in the Square. Always sending love to Suraj & the fam!



AMY NOWAK (Reba) Amy is happy to be back in the East Bay after living out of a backpack in India for most of this year. She's worked at the Magic Theatre, TheatreFIRST, We Players, and Do it Live! Thanks to Sydney and Pipette for waiting.



DON WOOD (Janitor) Don's last two roles were a janitor—yes that's right—in Mugwumpin's *In Event of Moon Disaster* and the king in Ionesco's *Exit the King* at Exit Theatre. Other Shotgun roles include Sazonov in *Coast of Utopia* and Mr. Webb in *Our Town*. He thanks his partner, Michelle Talgarow, for her love and inspiration.

PRODUCTION TEAM

LENNY ADLER (PRODUCTION ASSISTANT)

Lenny is a stagehand and over all general helper. She is currently in her second year at San Francisco State University (SFSU), and she has notably worked on every SFSU main stage production since her start. Her recent credits include *The Laramie Project* (SFSU), *Hair* (SFSU), *The Black Rider* (Shotgun Players), and *Iron Shoes* (Shotgun Players).

CASSIE BARNES (LIGHTING DESIGNER)

Cassie is a Bay Area lighting designer working in both theatre and dance. She is a resident designer for Golden Thread Productions and Bay Pointe Ballet. Other companies she frequently designs for include Bayer Ballet, Applegate Dance Company, and Bay Area Children's Theatre. She also works as a lighting technician at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

VALERA COBLE (COSTUME DESIGNER, WARDROBE SUPERVISOR)

Valera has been a Shotgun company member since 1999. Of her nearly 40 Shotgun designs, her favorites include: *The Village Bike*; *The Mousetrap*; *New Electric Ballroom*; *Strangers, Babies*; *Precious Little*; *God's Ear*; *The Norman Conquests*; *Macbeth*; *The Forest War*; and *Cabaret*. Her work can be seen at theaters throughout the Bay Area, but she proudly calls Shotgun home.

ARIEL CRAFT (DIRECTOR)

Ariel is a director, generative theater-maker, and incoming artistic director of San Francisco's Cutting Ball Theater. Directing credits include Paula Vogel's *The Mineola Twins*, the collectively created *MacBitch*, Jean Racine's *Phèdre* (TBA Award for Outstanding Direction), and a world premiere adaptation of Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*. Ariel founded and led The Breadbox for five seasons and holds a BFA with honors from NYU's Playwrights Horizons Theater School.

ERIN GILLEY (VIDEO DESIGNER)

Erin is a director and video designer. Favorite credits include San Francisco's immersive theatre production *The Speakeasy* (Boxcar Theatre), the international digital theatre production *Longitude* (LIFT/elastic future), and the technology cave in *The Lily's Revenge* (Magic Theatre). Erin studied theatre at Princeton University and received her MFA from Birkbeck, University of London. eringilley.com

MAYA HERBSMAN (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR)

Maya is a director, intimacy choreographer, and newest member of the Cutting Ball team. She is a graduate of Wesleyan University, where she was awarded the Rachel Henderson Memorial prize for excellence in directing. In the Bay Area, she has worked with Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Cutting Ball, Idiot String, We Players, Z Space, and Bay Area Children's Theater.

HEATHER KELLY-LAWS (STAGE MANAGER)

Heather is a stage manager, playwright, and award-winning mixtape-maker from San Francisco who has worked on over a dozen Shotgun productions since 2015. Credits elsewhere include *Phèdre* at Cutting Ball (also with Ariel Craft) and *The Precious Damsels* with Troupe Theatre. Later this year she will also stage manage *Kiss* and *Arcadia* and will direct a reading of *The Mistakes Madeline Made* by Elizabeth Meriwether for Troupe's first Pop Quiz Couches Reading Festival. She is a proud Shotgun company member.

DEVON LABELLE (PROPS DESIGNER)

Devon is a multidisciplinary artist who focuses on vivid visual and special effects components. In nine 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 the props shop coordinator at San Francisco State University. Check out her blog to see what she makes: giveherprops.wordpress.com. Love to Sam, Jo, and Roscoe.

DAVE MAIER (FIGHT DIRECTOR)

Dave became a Shotgun company member in 2003. He has choreographed violence for 23 Shotgun productions and has appeared in 10 including *Three Musketeers*, *God's Plot*, *Salt Plays Part 1: In The Wound*, and *The Death of Meyerhold*. Dave is the resident fight director at SF Opera and Cal Shakes, and his work has been seen at Berkeley Rep, ACT, Aurora Theatre, Center Rep, Berkeley Playhouse, and Ubuntu Theatre Project—among others.

ANGRETTE MCCLOSKEY (SET DESIGNER)

Angrette is a San Francisco-based scenic designer, working in a variety of disciplines ranging from theatre, live events, dance, and film. Recent Bay Area credits include *Weightless* (Z Space), *For You* (YBCA), *Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Ray Of Light), and *The Events* (Shotgun Players). Angrette holds a PhD in theatre from Stanford. Her research investigated the intersection of all her favorite things: architectural design, live performance, and scenography. angrette.com

CAITLIN STEINMANN (MASTER ELECTRICIAN)

Caitlin uses a multidisciplinary perspective to technically facilitate theatre and dance all over the Bay. She serves as the master electrician for several production companies, including *Flyaway* (site-specific aerial dance), *Oaktown* (opera, musical theatre, ballet), and recently Shotgun's season-opener—*Iron Shoes*. She would like to thank Shotgun (and all its supporters) for having guts.

SARA WITSCH (SOUND DESIGNER)

Sara is a practitioner of the art of sound. Her most recent adventures in sound for theatre include Cutting Ball Theater's production of *The Mineola Twins* and *Le Switch* at NCTC. Previously, her sound design has been heard on the Ashby Stage in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*. She is also production manager for Soundplay.media, where she hopes to create the most absurd sound art. She hopes you enjoy the noise.

PRODUCTION SPONSORS

ANN GABOR ARANCIO & REMO ARANCIO

Ann and Remo first discovered Shotgun Players in the basement of LaVal's pizzeria. From the beginning they admired Shotgun's innovative, daring style of theatre—they are always willing to experiment. Ann joined the Board of Directors and worked closely with Patrick Dooley for several seasons. Shotgun Players is theatre with great heart. You can meet Ann and Remo at any opening night for a Shotgun Players production—we never miss it.

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.

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CAROL AMYX & DONALD KAUFMAN

Carol was a Berkeley resident, a Cal graduate, and a graduate of Boalt Hall, and she practiced law here for over 40 years. She was a confirmed theatergoer and enjoyed ballet, opera, music, and cinema.

Don was trained as a mathematician, but worked in audio and radio, then for Zoetrope Studios automating film sound production equipment, and then computing. His theatre interests match Carol's.

Traveling the world together, hiking its countryside, and seeing the art and theatre of its cities filled their remaining recent time.

But Shotgun retains its place as their favorite theater.

KITTY BOSHER

The Shotgun Players: a gift that keeps on giving.

DEYOE WEALTH MANAGEMENT

DeYoe Wealth Management is a Berkeley-based registered investment advisor that provides comprehensive financial planning and asset management to clients throughout the Bay Area. Established by Jonathan K. DeYoe in 2001, DeYoe Wealth Management's mission is to inspire clients to pursue their passions and make meaningful financial decisions that are firmly rooted in their values. Mr. DeYoe and his associates work with individuals, families, trusts, and nonprofit organizations like the Shotgun Players.

CRAIG & KATHY MOODY

Kathy and Craig are passionate theatergoers and supporters, regularly attending many Bay Area theaters, with Craig having served or serving on the BODs of several of our Shakespeare companies. Kathy has thoroughly absorbed, over their forty-two-year marriage, the theater bug that Craig came by naturally; his mother was an actress and his father headed the theatre department at Indiana University. They love Shotgun and consider its artistic director a force of nature.

GUY TIPHANE

Guy just loves Shotgun Players and sometimes can't resist seeing a play several times... He writes at guytiphane.wordpress.com.



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BY JORDAN TANNAHILL • DIRECTED BY RICHARD MOSQUEDA

JUNE 11 & 12

While painting *The Birth of Venus*, famed artist and bon-vivant Sandro Botticelli becomes entangled in sexual and political brinkmanship that puts a lot more than his masterpiece at stake. Caught in a web between the powerful Medici family, the Church, and his young lover, he must choose between art and survival.

These events are FREE, but you can support the series and get a complimentary glass of bubbly, along with the satisfaction that you're part of developing new American theatre!

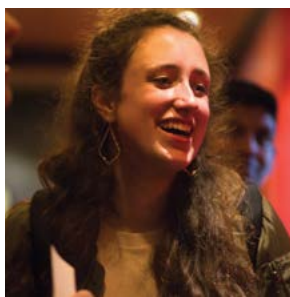


Shotgun's Make a Difference (M.A.D.) program supports the next generation of artists and audience members.



M.A.D. TIX

Because high ticket prices can be a barrier to young folks, Shotgun offers \$7 M.A.D. tickets (less than a movie!) to anyone 25 and younger. Last year we sold nearly 1,500 M.A.D. tickets—almost 10% of our whole audience.



M.A.D. FELLOWS

Lasting 3–9 months, M.A.D. fellowships give many young people their first paycheck in theatre while they collaborate with professionals from our artistic, administrative, and production teams.



M.A.D. START-UPS

Whether it's work trade for rehearsal space or advice on how to write a press release, Shotgun is eager to support fledgling companies because we appreciate how important they are to a healthy art ecosystem.

JOIN THE EFFORT!

You can help us support the next generation of theatre! \$20 subsidizes a single ticket for a young person. \$100 gives them access to the whole season. Donate online at shotgunplayers.org—or at our concenssions counter. The more you give the more we can pay it forward to the next generation.

DRY LAND PLAYWRIGHT


RUBY RAE

SPIEGEL



Ruby Rae Spiegel is from Brooklyn, New York. Her first play, *Carrie & Francine*, was selected for the OffBroadway Summer Shorts 5 Festival. *Dry Land* was produced at the HERE Arts Center, Colt Coeur, Permanent Record Theatre, Kings Cross Theatre, Center Theatre Group, TheatreLAB, Kirk Douglas Theatre, and Forum Theatre, and it was developed at New York Stage and Film's Powerhouse Summer Theater Session, as well as the Ojai Playwrights Conference. She has written for TV and short films including *The OA* (2016), *Mindhunter* (2017), and *Some of Us Had Been Threatening Our Friend Colby* (2015). Ruby is a graduate of Young Playwrights Inc. and Yale University.





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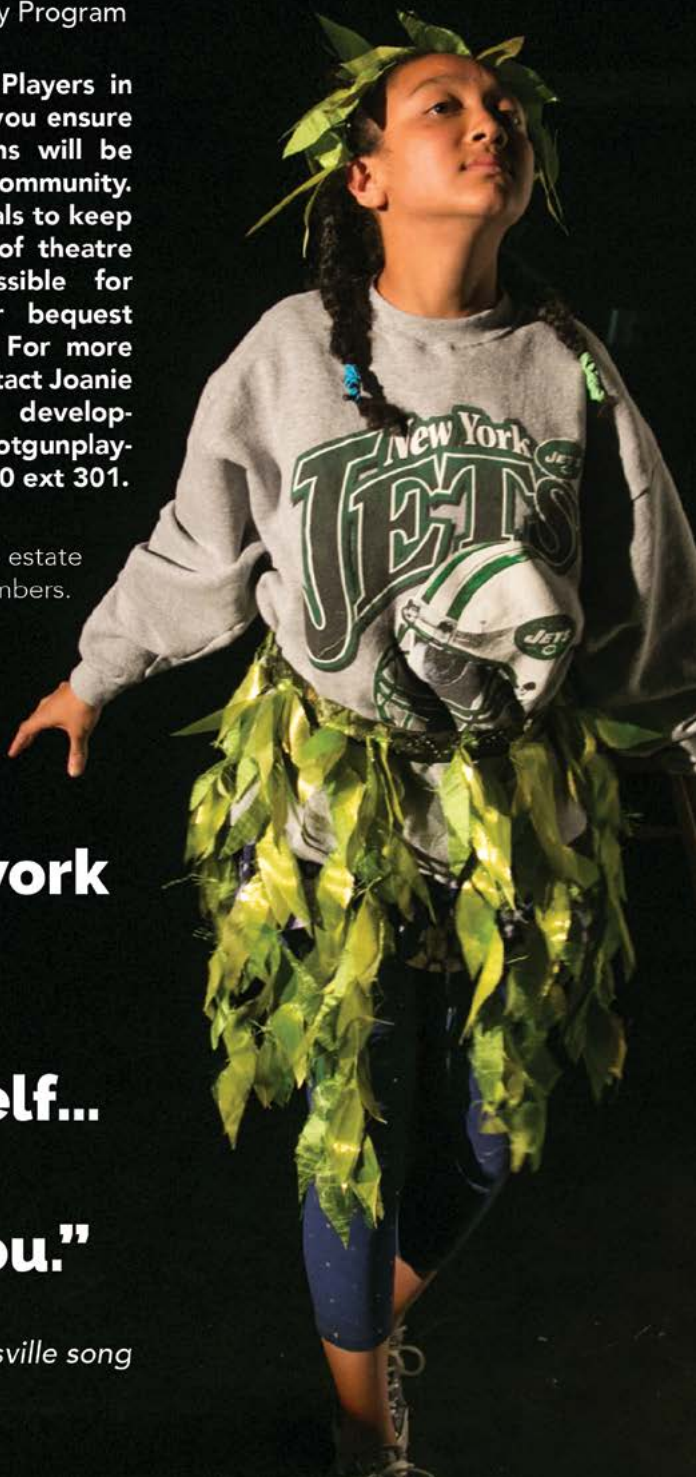
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By including Shotgun Players in your estate planning, you ensure that future generations will be part of our artistic community. We have ambitious goals to keep our innovative brand of theatre affordable and accessible for years to come. Your bequest makes it all possible. For more information please contact Joanie McBrien, director of development, at joanie@shotgunplayers.org or 510-841-6500 ext 301.

A legacy gift may reduce estate taxes for your family members.

**"You can work
to bring
change
for yourself...
for those
around you."**

—Kimber Lee, *brownsville song*
(b-side for *tray*)



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:

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Development & Artistic Associate
Chris Swartzell
Technical Director
Leigh Rondon-Davis
M.A.D. Program Coordinator / C.S.R.S. Coordinator
Daniel Alley
Box Office Associate
Jacinta Sutphin
Accounting Associate
Trish Mulholland
Casting Director

BOARD

Tony Drummond
James Faerron
Jo Golub
Lyndsey Heaton
John Horsch

Carolyn Jones
Claire Mosher
Richard Nelson
Pepi Ross
Maggie Salop

Ragesh Tangri
Guy Tiphane
Tamara White
Miki Yamamoto



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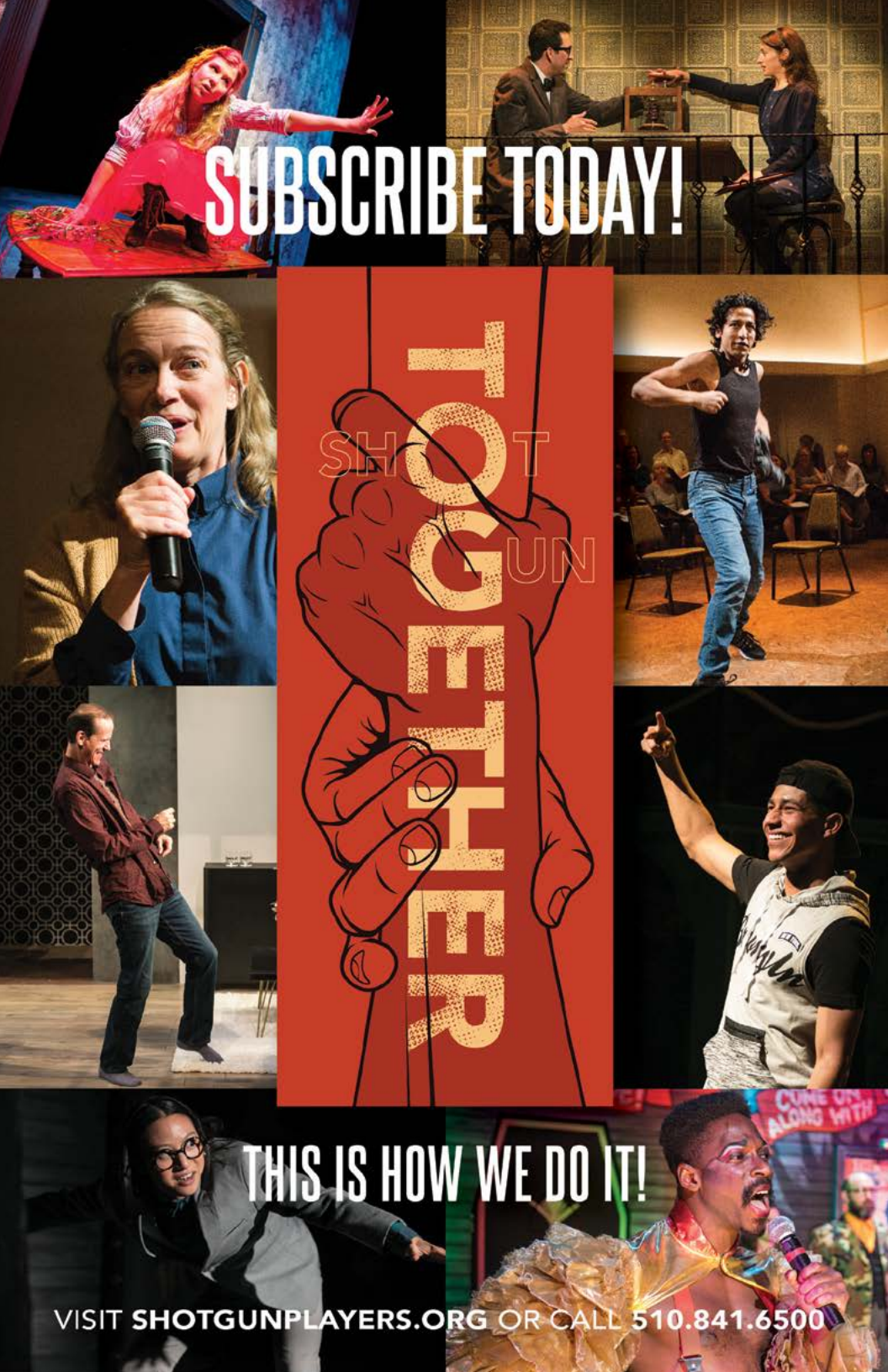
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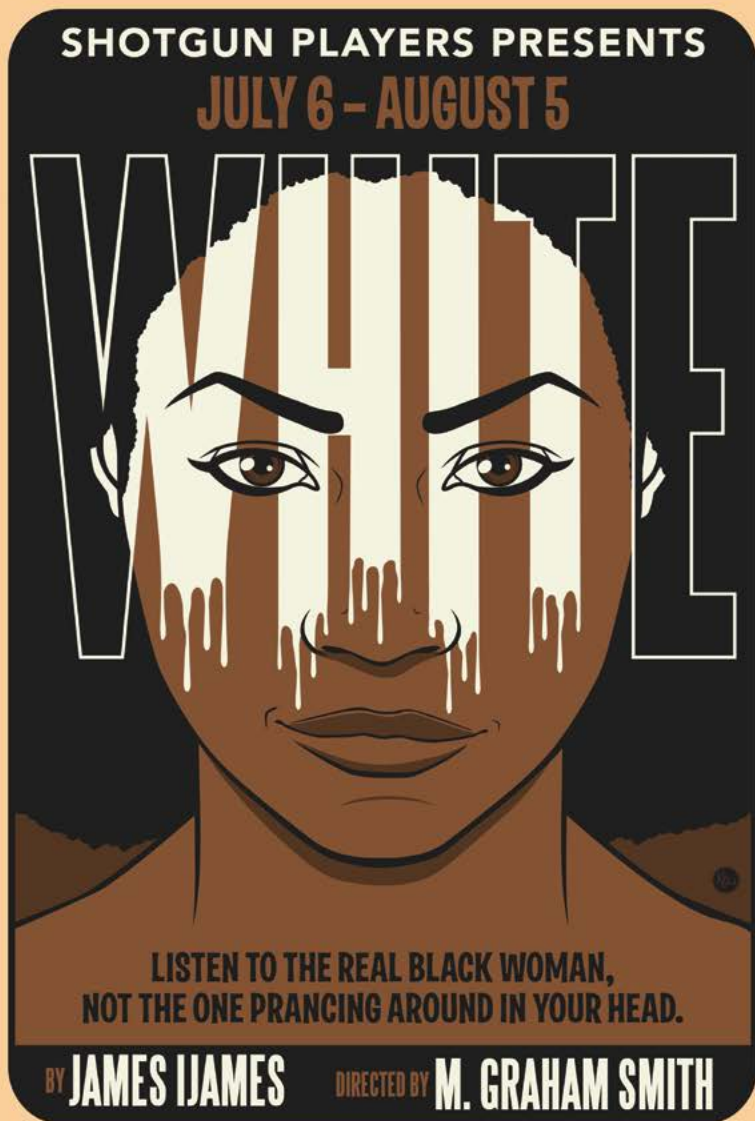
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UP NEXT ON THE ASHBY STAGE



Gus is a talented white male artist on the rise. His good friend Jane is the new curator at a prestigious museum. When Jane informs him he's "the exact opposite of what I'm looking for" Gus is crushed. Then he hires Vanessa, an African-American actress who agrees to an unconventional role. *White* navigates the treacherous waters of code-switching and cultural appropriation with biting wit and a splash of disco realism.

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