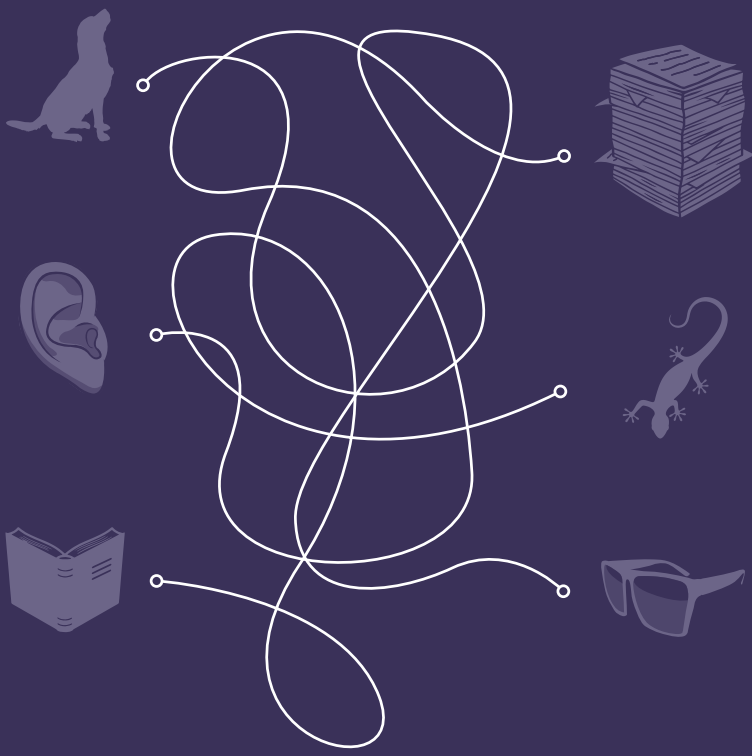
The Hearth

presents



brainsmash

By Sophie Weisskoff

Directed by Emma Miller

59E59

THEATER C

MARCH 2 – 19

THE HEARTH
presents

brainsmash

By
SOPHIE WEISSKOFF

Directed by
EMMA MILLER

CAST

Maisie	JULIA WEINBERG
Nina	PAOLA SANCHEZ ABREU *
Miles	ANDREW M. DUFF
Ava, Rivka, Moira & Others	JULIA GREER *
Linda, Leigh & Others	BETH GRIFFITH *
Mia, Alison, Optometrist & Others	EMMA KIKUE *

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright	SOPHIE WEISSKOFF
Director	EMMA MILLER
Scenic and Property Designer	CAT RAYNOR
Sound Designer	MARGARET MONTAGNA
Costume Designer	DAN WANG
Lighting Designr	VITTORIA ORLANDO
Production Stage Manager	SIENA YUSI
Assistant Stage Manager	CAROLINE WILKES
Associate Lighting Designer	CHRIS VOEGELS
Associate Lighting Designer	AMARA McNEIL

Run time: 1 hour, 30 minutes with no intermission

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

ANDREW DUFF

(Miles)



Andrew Duff is honored to be a part of the inaugural run of ***brainsmash***. Andrew has collaborated with such theater companies as Tectonic Theater Project, Trusty Sidekick, and now The Hearth! He has performed in streaming shows such as AppleTV's *Little Voice* (Ted) and Amazon's *As We See It* (Douglas). Other theater roles include ***Uncommon Sense*** (Moose), ***The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*** (Huck Finn), and ***Angels in America*** (Joe). He was also recently the associate director for Trusty Sidekick's ***A Perfect Party for Trees***. Andrew wants to thank his family and friends for their unrelenting support and encouragement.

JULIA GREER

(Ava, Rivka, Moira and others)



Julia Greer is an actor, writer, and artistic director of The Hearth. Select acting credits include: ***Events*** (The Brick), ***The Commons*** (59E59 Theaters), ***Athena*** (JACK - New York Times Critic's Pick). She's workshopped plays with Lincoln Center Theater, Colt Coeur, Playwrights Horizons, Ensemble Studio Theater, and more. Film: *Marriage Story, Human Capital, Lady Liberty, A Good Person* (upcoming). She wrote, produced, and acted in the award-winning short, *Waiting Period* (New Hampshire Film Festival Best Short 2022, Richmond International Film Festival).

www.juliagreer.co

BETH GRIFFITH

(Linda, Leigh and others)



2022 performances: ***We Share Spoons*** by Lyndsey Bourne (workshop) ***Cosmicomics*** by Italo Calvino, New Stage Theatre Company ***Jane's Return***, Peculiar Works Project, ***COVID Crime Part II*** by Lionelle Hamanaka, Crossways Theatre, ***Five by Tenn*** by Tennessee Williams, Out of the Box Theatre (TheaterScene "Best Show of the Year") ***S.U.N. in the USA*** by Michael Hagins, Broadway Bound Festival, Ignacio F. Lopez, Samuel French Short Play Festival, Auditioning for Eternity, Coni Koepfinger, Theater for the New City, Exposition New Music concert (Brno, Czech Republic), The 9th Floor, Gordon Beeferman, OperaAmerica (reading), ***Renku*** and ***Dance*** (DanceJapan, Tenri Cultural Institute), ***Sex*** by Mae West (Out of the Box Theatre, video).

EMMA KIKUE

(Mia, Alison, Optometrist and others) (she/her)



New York theater: ***God Said This*** (Primary Stages,) ***what you are now*** (The Civillians/Ensemble Studio Theatre,) ***Fruiting Bodies*** (Ma-Yi), ***Song of the Northwoods*** (Audible Theater Audio Play.) Television: *Love Life, The Sinner, Bull, Instinct, Elementary, Madam Secretary, The Code, Braindead. Film: Josie and Jack, The Adults, 12 Hours In the Life of Jason Bruckner* (both upcoming). Emma lives in Brooklyn with her fiancé Regan.

www.emmakikue.com

PAOLA SANCHEZ ABREU

(Nina)



Paola Sanchez Abreu has performed at Primary Stages, New Dramatists, Playwrights Realm, The Public Theater, Lincoln Center, and more. TV credits include *Law and Order SVU, Chicago Med, Madame Secretary, The Code*. She is the co-creator of the hit live sketch show at Brooklyn Comedy Collective entitled ***Nearly Dying***, a show about laughing through our grief over everything dead or dying. She was a part of Gen180's Climate Comedy Cohort and is also an organizer with Sunrise Movement NYC, working to mitigate climate change through political activism and create millions of good jobs in the process.

JULIA WEINBERG

(Maisie)



Julia Weinberg is a Brooklyn-based actor. She can be seen in campaigns for brands like Google, Tim Hortons, and Lola. Most recently ***Waiting Period***, the film she co-created with Julia Greer, won best short at The New Hampshire Film Festival.

SOPHIE WEISSKOFF

(Playwright)

Sophie Weisskoff is a Brooklyn-based playwright. Her play ***Enda and Oona*** was a Great Plains Theater Conference selection and a FEWW Prize Honorable mention. Her play ***Queen of Sock Pairing*** was produced at Red Tape Theatre. She was a dramaturg and contributing writer on ***[50/50] old school animation*** at the Under the Radar Festival. She has an essay published in *New York Magazine* and a short story in *The Virginia Quarterly Review*. She was an Edward F. Albee Fellow and Rona Jaffe Foundation Graduate Fellow. MFA: Brooklyn College.

EMMA MILLER

(Director)

Emma Miller is a director, producer, & educator. She is co-founding artistic director of The Hearth, and selected directing credits include ***The Commons*** (59E59/The Hearth), ***Usus*** (Clubbed Thumb), ***Baby Cakes*** (Theaterlab/The Hearth), ***Roller Dynasty*** (The Medicine Show), ***Athena*** (JACK/The Hearth - *NYTimes* Critic's Pick); ***Care***, ***Ballgirl***, and ***Time Away*** (Queens Theatre); and ***For Annie*** (Lucid Body House/The Hearth). Emma's work has also been seen at or with Clubbed Thumb, Less Than Rent, Two Headed Rep, Theaterlab, Cincinnati Fringe, Dixon Place, Queens Theatre, Bridge Residency, The Tank, LadyFest, SheNYC, South Oxford Space, The 999 Festival, and more. Emma was a Playwrights Horizons fellow and a Clubbed Thumb directing fellow, and has served on faculty at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's National Theater Institute. She is a graduate of Kenyon College and the National Theater Institute–Advanced Directing.

DAN WANG

(Costume Designer)

Dan Wang is an international costume designer for film and stage. A fearless artist originally from China, she is currently working in New York City. She has designed more than 30 projects, including musicals, plays, feature films, short films, commercials, and TV series. Dan is a storyteller at heart, blending drawing, collage, and digital art in her process. She creates beauty from the time torn ordinary using layers and texture. She is never without a cup of coffee and will always find a way to bring the wind into her stories.

SIENA YUSI

(Production Stage Manager) (she/her)

Siena Yusi is a Brooklyn-based stage manager, theater-maker, and arts educator who strives to create and support spaces where theater and artistic processes can be utilized as a tool to foster healing and spark change. Recent projects: ***Will You Come With Me?*** (The Play Company), ***Blue Fire Burns the Hottest*** (Exponential Festival/The Brick), ***Where Are You?*** (Mabou Mines), ***a giving tree*** (Playwrights Horizons Downtown), ***Annie Aspen's Musical Space Spectacular*** (Ars Nova's ANT Fest). Siena received her BFA in Drama from NYU Tisch and minored in applied theater, social work, and child and adolescent mental health.

@sienayusi

CAT RAYNOR

(Scenic and Property Designer)

Cat Raynor is a set and production designer from New York. She is currently in her final year at Yale School of Drama as an MFA candidate in set design. Recent design credits include ***The Brightest Thing In The World*** (Yale Repertory Theater), ***Affinity*** (Yale School of Drama), ***You Don't Have to Do Anything*** (IRT Theater), and short films *MAJOR* and *Good Taste*. She previously worked in the art department of *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. Cat holds a BA in fine art from Kenyon College.

www.catraynor.com

MARGARET MONTAGNA

(Sound Designer)

Margaret Montagna is a New York City-based sound designer, originally from Brooklyn. Select design credits include: ***I Wanna F*ck Like Romeo and Juliet*** (59E59 Theater C), ***The Panic of '29*** (59E59 Theater B), Alison Leiby's ***Oh God, A Show About Abortion*** (Cherry Lane Theatre), ***The Collision/The Martyrdom*** (59E59 Theater C), ***Decomposed Theater*** (The New School), ***Family of Lear*** (Stella Adler Studios), ***Unstuck*** (The Tank), ***The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*** (The New School), ***A Woman of the World*** (59E59 Theater C), ***Queen*** (Astoria Boys and Girls Club), ***Holy ghosts*** (Urban Stages)

www.margaretmontagnasd.com

VITTORIA ORLANDO

(Lighting Designer)

Vittoria Orlando is a lighting and media designer based in New York. Select lighting design credits include ***Holes in the Shape of My Father*** (The Public, UTR), ***Randy's Dandy Coaster Castle*** (ART/NY, Gural), ***La Conducta De La Vida*** (Repertorio Español), ***My Cousin Nelu Is Not Gay*** (Are Nova, A.N.T. Fest), ***Saguaros*** (JACK), ***Brace For Impact*** (Culture Lab LIC), ***Dark Play or Stories for Boys*** (Edinburgh Fringe), ***The Boy*** (The Tank), **"Nine Studies For A Dance Opera"** (Frederick Loewe Theater - NYU)

www.vittoriaorlando.com

CAROLINE WILKES

(Assistant Stage Manager)

Caroline Wilkes is a Brooklyn-based stage manager and production manager. She is a graduate of Lewis & Clark College, where she received her BA in Theatre with a concentration in Design/Technical Theatre. She was a stage management apprentice at Portland Playhouse. Caroline has recently stage managed with Portland Playhouse, Moliere in the Park, and The Exponential Festival. Caroline would like to thank Trader Joe's for letting her take a shopping basket as a prop for this show. She is so grateful to be able to work on a piece as meaningful and poignant as ***brainsmash***.

THE HEARTH

THE HEARTH

The Hearth nurtures and celebrates women, trans, non-binary artists and artists of underrepresented genders. We commission, develop, and produce plays that explore characters who pulse with emotional, intellectual, and psychological complexity and, by so doing, we challenge gendered stereotypes, advance and complicate the conversation about feminism, and expand perceptions of what it means to be live in a body that has been historically oppressed or marginalized due to gender expression.

www.thehearththeater.com

CURATOR'S NOTE

Welcome to ***brainsmash***, a world premiere from our friends at The Hearth (***The Commons***, 2020) which nurtures and celebrates women, trans, non-binary artists, and artists of underrepresented genders. Playwright Sophie Weisskoff has created a funny and absurd yet vulnerable story that was developed here as part of our Space Lab program.



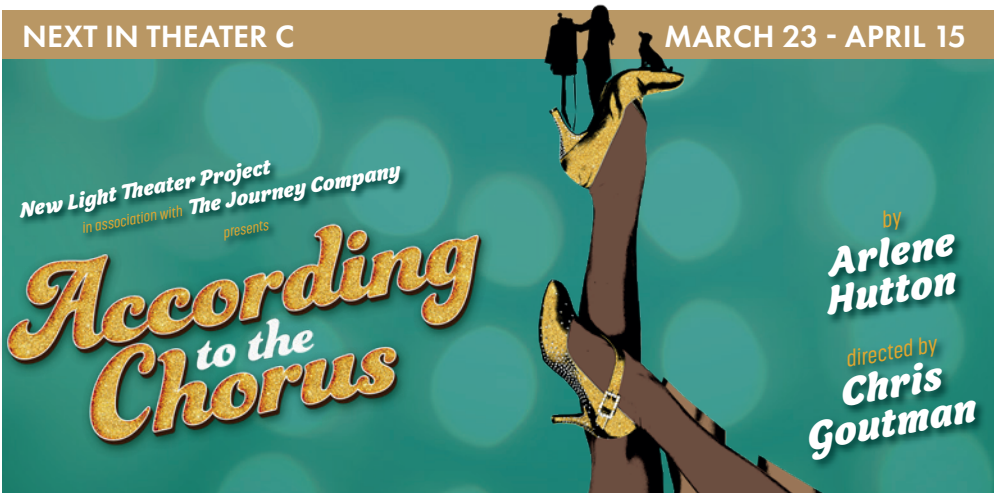
Val

VAL DAY
Artistic Director

59E59 THEATERS STAFF

ELYSABETH KLEINHANS President/Founding Artistic Director
VAL DAY Artistic Director
BRIAN BEIRNE Managing Director
ELIZA JOHNSON Finance Associate/Office Manager
KWAMÉ BERRY Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
MELISSA SHAWCROSS Technical Director
ERICA PIERRE Marketing/General Manager
CRISTINA GREENFIELD Marketing Manager
MELINDA GRABER Digital Marketing Associate
CATE PUGLIA Marketing & Audience Development Coordinator
ALAN BUTTAR Graphic Designer
MATT ROSS PUBLIC RELATIONS General Press Representative
SHANNON SMITH Theater Manager
COLLEEN MORGEN House Manager
CARLOS CONILL Facilities Manager
WALDIN ROJAS Facilities Assistant
FRANKIE DIAZ Facilities Assistant
LLOYD MULVEY Director of Ticketing Services
CRAIG SCHENKER Box Office Manager
JORDAN ELMAN Box Office Supervisor/Bartender
DANIELLE COVINGTON Box Office Supervisor
CAILIN KELLY Box Office Associate
ALANIS MOLINA-GARNELO Box Office Associate/Usher
MICIAH WALLACE Box Office Associate/Usher
ANNA BONGARDINO Usher
ANNE RUTTER Usher
BENJI SILLS Usher
CHRISTIAN MIRANDA Usher
ELLIOT JACOBS Usher
ERIC BERKELEY Usher
FLOWER RIOS Usher
ISRAEL ORENGO Usher
ITAI ADAM VAGNER Usher
JOEY PITTORINO Usher
JÚLIA CERQUEIRA Usher
KAYLA GRANT Usher
NATALIE LILAVOIS YUSTY Usher
SANTIAGO AGUILAR Usher
JULIA MELLONI Bartender/Usher
LYNDSAY CORBETT Bartender
KEVIN MOLICA Bartender
KAITLYN CHEN Theater Technician
JOHN D. IVY Theater Technician
KAT KHELLBLAU Theater Technician

NEXT IN THEATER C **MARCH 23 - APRIL 15**



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

59E59 Theaters reside on the traditional homelands of the Lenni-Lenape People on the Lenape Island of Mannahatta. We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of the land who were forcefully removed during colonization resulting in erased and excluded peoples and culture. We are grateful for the opportunity to work on the land and honor their elders, past and present alongside future generations for their stewardship and continuing relationship with their territory.

This presentation is not a production of the Elysabeth Kleinhans Theatrical Foundation, Inc., which offers its facilities, when available, for productions by not-for-profit theater companies. For further information regarding licensing this theater or other theaters in this Theater Building, contact Brian Beirne, Managing Director. The use of cameras and other recording devices in the Theater is prohibited by law. There is no smoking in this Theater or any part of the Theater Building.