



THE WAITING ROOM

by Lisa Loomer



PRESENTED BY WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE

February 12-14 & 18-21, 2016 | Mainstage Theatre | Directed by JERFriedenberg
Performances nightly 7:30 pm, except Sundays at 2 pm



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Chinese Story, Happy Ending Not Necessary

When I first read *The Waiting Room*, I was struck by its almost brutal frankness, the overt criticism of the medical and pharmaceutical professions, and what I read as a underlying tension of despair. I searched reviews, and they universally talked about how “hilarious” the play was. I just couldn’t see it. Perhaps having daughters, family experiences with cancer, lumpectomies, etc. I was just missing something. Several students had suggested the play after encountering it in a Women Playwrights course and were as passionate about it as any sports fan for their team, so I took another look. By the fifth read, I began to see the comedy; by the time we got to rehearsals I was in love with the humor, honesty, and humanity of the play. I hope our efforts to present *The Waiting Room* allow you to see the play as we came to see it.

POST-PERFORMANCE DISCUSSIONS

There will be two post-performance discussions, and we invite you all to attend.

- ◆Friday, February 19 with Dr. Adam Kadlac of the Philosophy Dept. and Dr. Paige Meltzer of the Women's Center
- ◆Sunday, February 21 with Dr. Stephanie Koscak of the History Dept. and Dr. Elizabeth Way of the English Dept.

SPECIAL THANKS

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Beth Blair, LMBT | UNCG Theatre Dept. |
| Marsha Godfrey, LMBT | UNCSA Props Dept. |
| Twin City Stage Theatre | WFU Surplus |
| WFU Museum of Anthropology | Campus Grounds |

INFORMATION

In consideration of performers and other patrons, please turn off any laptops, cell phones and electronic alarms. Please remember that any use of cameras and 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.

The Waiting Room is presented by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

World Premiere produced by Center Theatre Group/
Mark Taper Forum of Los Angeles
Gordon Davidson, Artistic Director/Producer

The Waiting Room received its New York premiere at the Vineyard Theatre, New York.

Follow us on Twitter or Facebook for event and department updates. **#WaitingWFU**

Wake Forest University Theatre presents

The Waiting Room

by Lisa Loomer

February 12-14 & 18-21, 2016

Director

John E.R. Friedenberg

Scenic & Lighting Designer

Jonathan Christman

Costume Designer

Ketti Shum

Sound Designer

Isabella Curry

Vocal/Dialect Coach

Leah Elyce Roy

Dramaturg

Jay Buchanan*§

Assistant Directors

Eric Bray* & Stephanie Moore*

Stage Manager

Valerie Medoff*

CAST

VICTORIA.....Lillie Burrow^{§*}
FORGIVENESS FROM HEAVEN.....Suna Guo
WANDA.....Heather Sullivan*
DOUGLAS/JOHNNY.....Jason Chinuntdet*
LARRY.....Tyler Johnson*
KEN.....Cole McWilliams*
OLIVER/LAWYER.....Eli Bradley[§]
BLESSING FROM HEAVEN/MASSAGE THERAPIST.....Ji Wang
BRENDA.....Justice von Maur^{§*}
BRIDGET/CERISE/ORDERLY.....Sanaa Jain
HEALTH CLUB ATTENDANT/MASSAGE THERAPIST/LAWYER.....Sierra Leslie
JADE ORNAMENT/INTERN/WAITRESS.....Charlotte Wu*
CABBIE/NURSE BRUCE.....Fahad Rahmat

*Anthony Aston Players member

[§]Presidential Scholar in Theatre

SETTING

The past, and the present, and often both at once. New York City, England, and China

This production is approximately 2 hours long with one 10-minute intermission.

Very special thanks to Jon Christman for a brilliant last design.

BIOGRAPHIES



Eli Bradley (Oliver & Lawyer) is a sophomore from Boulder, Colorado. He is a double major in Theater and Politics and International Relations with a minor in Philosophy. He was recently seen on the Wake Forest stage in *These Shining Lives* and *The Hardy Boys and the Mystery of Where Babies Come From*.



Eric Bray (Assistant Director) is a senior Theatre major who is happy to work on another production with his future self, JERF (well, in his dreams). Although haunted by the alias "E-Bae", he still chooses to spend most of his time in Scales working on the shows that inhabit and invigorate the building. Eric would like to thank all of the people in his life that are incredibly supportive and loving but especially his friends, family, and all those who come out to the MainStage for a wonderful tour of some other world while trusting us to be their guides! Special shoutout to Andrea for yelling at him when he doesn't eat or do his homework.



Jay Buchanan (Dramaturg) is a junior from Linville Falls, North Carolina. As a Presidential Scholar in Theatre, he is primarily accustomed to performing, though he has also dabbled in costume and properties design. A Politics/International Affairs and Theatre double-major, it has been his honor and privilege to use skills and knowledge from both disciplines to address the social and historical implications for this fantastic production. He hopes you enjoy *The Waiting Room* as much as he did.



Lillie Burrow (Victoria) is a freshman from Memphis, Tennessee and is thrilled to be making her Wake Forest debut as Victoria Smoot! She would like to thank JERF for this wonderful opportunity, and Valerie for being a fabulous stage manager! She looks forward to working on more Wake shows, and thanks the cast and crew for making her first college show a spectacular one!



Jason Chinuntdet (Douglas & Johnny) is honored to be in this fantastic production of *The Waiting Room*. He is relatively new to acting in the Wake Forest Theatre Dept. despite being a junior. He was last featured in the Wake productions of *Laughtracks*, *Our*

Town, and *Wake World*. Jason enjoys long walks on the beach, deep conversations by a crackling fireplace, and chilling with the fam. He would like to thank: the "theatre kids" for being like a family to him, his high school theater teacher Mrs. Gerdy for never letting him forget about acting, and his actual family for always supporting him. Finally, he thanks JERF for being patient throughout this process and creating a wonderful show.



Suna Guo (Forgiveness From Heaven) is an international student from China. This is her first year at Wake and *The Waiting Room* is her first show in college. She has always loved theatre since she was little and has participated in high school productions including *Almost, Maine* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. She is very grateful for this opportunity and hopes that everyone would enjoy the show.



Sanaa Jain (Bridget, Cerise, & Orderly) is a freshman from Toronto, Canada who is very excited to be in her first production at Wake. As a double major in Political Science and Economics, she is looking forward to expanding her interests into theater and the visual arts. She is also involved in an array of other activities on campus including Tour Guiding and Mock Trial. She would like to thank her family and friends and her sisters in Kappa Delta for getting her to the stage. A special thank you to JERF for casting her, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



Tyler Johnson (Larry) is a man of many words.



Sierra Leslie (Heath Club Attendant, Massage Therapist, & Lawyer) *The Waiting Room* will be Sierra's first production on the Mainstage. She is a freshman hailing from Washington, D.C. and plans to possibly major in Psychology and minor in Political Science. Sierra really, really loves the theater program here at Wake and plans to audition for plenty more productions. You can catch her performing with "Innuendo," one of the A Capella singing groups on campus. She would like to thank the amazing cast and crew for working together to put on such an amazing show. She hopes you all enjoy it.



Cole McWilliams (Ken) is a freshman from Miami, Florida. He plans on double majoring in Business Management and French with a minor in Political Science. This is his second Mainstage production at Wake Forest. Previously, he has appeared in multiple productions including *Our Town*, *A Flea in her Ear*, *Beyond Therapy*, *Twenty Ways to Screw Up your College Interview* and most recently as Harry MacAfee in *Bye-Bye Birdie*. He also recently directed a one-act from Christopher Durang's *Titanic*. Cole would like to thank his family and friends for their continued support throughout his transition to college, and especially the theatre department and the wonderful Jerf for welcoming him with open arms.



Heather Sullivan (Wanda) is a senior Communication major with a triple minor in Film, Theatre, and Psychology. You may have seen her on the Mainstage recently as Mrs. Gibbs in *Our Town* or as Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. She owes endless gratitude to Jerf, but right now she'll just thank him for picking this show and then picking her as his Wanda. Thanks to Valerie for returning from London just to stage manage this show and to the talented cast- how lucky am I to know you all? Forever grateful for the Pitas, my siblings, Bella (Bella!), my father, and the OG Wanda, my mother.



Valerie Medoff (Stage Manager), a junior from Delaware, is thrilled to be stage managing this production. A double major in Theatre and Communications and a Film Studies minor, Valerie has been seen most recently in *The Ugly Duckling*, *These Shining Lives*, *Hunger Like This*, and *LaughTracks*.

She has also worked as a stage manager for *The Problem* and an ASM for *Our Country's Good*. She would like to thank JERF, the cast, and crew for making this experience such an enjoyable one.



Justice von Maur (Brenda) is a junior majoring in History with minors in Theatre and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. This is her third performance on the Mainstage; previous credits include *Our Town* and *Clybourne Park*. Behind the scenes, Justice has done a little bit of everything including stage management, wardrobe assistance, PR design, and properties design. She is a proud Presidential Scholar in Theatre and sits on the Executive Board of the Anthony Aston Players. Thank you to JERF, Barbs, and Valerie for all their hard work.



Stephanie Moore (Assistant Director) is a sophomore sprouted from the suburban gardens of Rockville, Maryland and plans to influence all of your children as an Elementary Education and Psychology double major. She was last seen on stage as Gloom in the AAP production of *Cagebirds*

but is happily running things behind the scenes as assistant director for this show. Shoutout to the lovely ladies and fine gentleman for holding down the fort and producing some great work throughout this process!



Ji Wang (Blessing From Heaven & Massage Therapist) is a freshman to both the university and theatre. At one point of her childhood, she predicted that she would be a great actress, and now she is excited to see if she is good at both acting and fortune-telling. Right now, her interest lies in the intersection of Art History, Film Studies, Literary Arts, Media Studies, and Culture Studies, which perhaps could be an Interdisciplinary major. Her favorite band is Florence and the Machine, favorite film *Pulp Fiction*, museum Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal.



Fahad Rahmat (Cabbie & Nurse Bruce) is a first year grad student studying English. His break came as Florindo in *A Servant of Two Masters* and last appeared in the summer production of *Henry V* as the Constable of France with the Syracuse Shakespeare Festival. This is his first, and hopefully not

last, production with Wake Forest Theatre.



Charlotte Wu (Jade Ornament, Waitress, & Intern) is very excited to join the cast of *The Waiting Room*. Charlotte is from Beijing, China. She is a freshman here at Wake. She wants to major in Theater, but she also enjoys Classical Studies and History. This is her first play in college. She wants to thank the cast, crew, and everyone else that made this happen. She hopes that you can enjoy the show.

PRODUCTION STAFF

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Technical Director..... | R. Trevor Anderson |
| Assistant Stage Managers..... | Anna Hibbert, Lily Wieland |
| Properties Master..... | Alexa Erb* ^s |
| Projection Technician..... | Andrew Hayes* ^s |
| Electricians..... | Hope Peterson*, Courtney Geiger, Tracy Wegner* Andrew Hayes* ^s , Jyles Rodgers |
| Carpenters..... | Andrew Hayes* ^s , Price Dawson*, Jyles Rodgers, Tracy Wegner* Alexa Erb* ^s , Serena Cates*, Eric Bray*, Hope Peterson* Emily Jo Williams, Courtney Geiger, Monty King |
| Costume Shop Supervisor..... | Kaitlin Fara Smith |
| Collections Manager..... | Alice Barsony |
| Stitchers..... | Jay Buchanan* ^s , Megan Nigro, Emma Kennett Aubrianna Patsey, Melody Wang, Lily Wieland Krissy Wang, Ella Andrew, Zhuoyi Yan |
| Wardrobe Assistants..... | Megan Barr, Shane Lutz*, Maggie Sandy |
| Grips..... | James Ward, Yiwen Tang, Yunshen Gan |
| Light Board Operator..... | Katie Gamble |
| Sound Board Operator..... | Abby Brown |
| Photographers..... | Bill Ray III, Ken Bennett, Leslie Spencer |
| House Manager..... | Jake Skillings |
| Box Office Staff..... | Rachel Bradley, Anna Hibbert, Allie Loeb, Shane Lutz* Courtney Mason, Stephanie Moore*, Alacyia Young |
| Ushers..... | APO Fraternity, Anthony Aston Players, WFU Dance Company |

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Director of Theatre/Associate Teaching Professor..... | J. E. R. Friedenberg |
| Administrative Coordinator..... | Carol Lavis |
| Staff Assistant..... | Richard Williams |
| Technical Director..... | R. Trevor Anderson |
| Collections Manager..... | Alice Barsony |
| Costume Shop Supervisor..... | Kaitlin Fara Smith |
| Audience Services Coordinator..... | Leslie Spencer |
| Instructional Technology Specialist..... | Ryan McCollum |
| Digital Media Assistant..... | Justice von Maur* ^s |
| Office Assistant..... | Heather Sullivan* |
| Department Chair/Associate Professor..... | Dr. J.K. Curry |
| Director of Dance/Associate Professor..... | Nina Maria Lucas |
| Professors..... | Dr. Cindy Gendrich, Dr. Woodrow Hood, Mary Wayne-Thomas |
| Associate Professors..... | Sharon Andrews, Jonathan Christman, Dr. Brook Davis Rob Eastman-Mullins, Christina Tsoules Soriano |
| Associate Teaching Professors..... | Lynn Book, Leah Roy |
| Assistant Teaching Professors..... | Brantly Shapiro, Chris Martin |
| Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor..... | Michael Kamtman |
| Part-Time Instructors..... | Michael Huie, Debra Sayles, Robert Simpson Ketti Shum, Tina Yarborough-Liggins |
| Teaching Fellows..... | Jessie Laurita-Spanglet, Tyler Wilson |
| Accompanists..... | Ray Ebert, Randy Hawkins, Dan Knight, Hashim Saleh |

*Anthony Aston Players member

[†]Presidential Scholar in Theatre

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

2015-2016 Season

February 5, 2016

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THING
HAPPENED
ON THE
WAY
TO THE
FORUM**

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Book by Burt Shevelove & Larry Gilbert*

Directed by Michael Barron

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Mainstage Theatre

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<http://college.wfu.edu/theatre>

The Most Massive Woman Wins
by Madeleine George
directed by Andrea Anderson

February 28-29 at 7:30 PM

March 1 at 4:30 PM

Ring Theatre

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Beth @ SeamlesslivingNC.com

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Marsha Godfrey

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336-692-6632

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