

In Good Company

If you're a dedicated reader of *atPlay*, you may remember our announcement in the 2017 newsletter of brand new partnerships between DPS and some of the best theater organizations in the country: The Lilly Awards, co-creators of The Count, an annual data-based report of gender disparity on American stages, and the only major theater organization presenting exclusively to women theater artists; the esteemed new play development organization The Lark; and Waterwell, an incredible theater-education and production company that presents innovative professional work and runs the drama program at the Professional Performing Arts School in New York City.

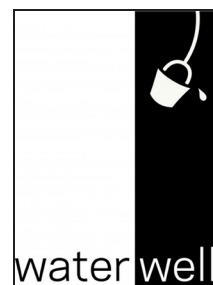
The 9th-annual Lilly Awards were presented May 21st, 2018, at the Minetta Lane Theatre, with social media takeovers by the crack DPS marketing team! Presenters included Lilly Awards founder and DPS playwright Julia Jordan, Ira Glass, Sarah Ruhl, Mandy Greenfield, Celia Keenan-Bolger, David Cromer, and Cusi Cram. We were overjoyed to watch the incomparable Eve Ensler win the You've Changed the World Award, and DPS family member Jocelyn Bioh win Williamstown Theatre Festival's With the Females Award.



In November 2018, The Lark held their annual Playwrights' Week, a week-long reading series of five plays-in-progress. 2018's plays were selected through a rigorous blind-read process of over 1,200 submissions. Playwrights' Week kicks off annually with a Meet the Writers event sponsored by DPS. We heartily congratulate Erin Buckley, Charly Evon Simpson, Franky D. Gonzales, Stacey Rose, and Juliany Taveras for being 2018's five chosen writers, and for presenting excerpts from such beautiful, personal, and thematically varied plays.

THE LARK plays in process for a world in progress

Waterwell's moving and prescient docu-drama **THE COURTROOM** was created from verbatim courtroom transcripts of the trial and appeal hearing of a Filipina immigrant married to a US citizen, who inadvertently registered to vote when applying for her driver's license at an Illinois DMV and was threatened with deportation for election fraud. Transcripts were edited and arranged by Waterwell co-founder Arian Moayed, and the site-specific production premiered in February 2019 at the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse in New York City. **THE COURTROOM** as well as Arian Moayed and co-founder Tom Ridgely's bilingual Persian/English **HAMLET** are forthcoming from DPS.



INSIDE:
2018/2019 GRAND
13 bold playwrights
new to the catalogue **ENTRANCES**



Ngozi Anyanwu

THE HOMECOMING QUEEN

At fifteen years old Kelechi left Nigeria for the United States, leaving her family and her culture behind. Years later, she is now a best-selling novelist and must return to Nigeria to care for her ailing father. After being absent for over a decade, she must collide with her culture, traumatic past, regrets, and the deep-seated love that she thought would always be out of reach. (2 men, 6 women)
Also by Anyanwu: GOOD GRIEF.

Frank Basloe

PLEASE CONTINUE

In 1960, a Yale senior finds himself helping Stanley Milgram pilot his soon-to-be controversial "obedience experiments." Another Yale senior is forced to confront his role in a recent scandal, and mirroring the experimental work that his classmate is undertaking, comes to understand the ways in which conformity can push us to act against our conscience. (7 men, 1 woman)


Jackie Sibblies Drury

FAIRVIEW

Winner of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in Drama. At the Frasier household, preparations for Grandma's birthday party are under way. Beverly is holding on to her sanity by a thread to make sure this party is perfect, but her sister can't be bothered to help, her husband doesn't seem to listen, her brother is MIA, her daughter is a teenager, and maybe nothing is what it seems in the first place...! FAIRVIEW is a searing examination of families, drama, family dramas, and the insidiousness of white supremacy. (3 men, 5 women) Also by Drury: REALLY.

Ned Glasier, Emily Lim, & Company Three

BRAINSTORM



Inside every adolescent brain, 86 billion neurons connect and collide to produce the most frustrating, chaotic, and exhilarating changes that happen to human bodies. BRAINSTORM is a theatrical investigation into how teenagers' brains work, and why they're designed by evolution to be the way they are. Created in collaboration with neuroscientists, the play is a blueprint for a company of teenagers to create by drawing directly on their personal experiences. (flexible casting)

William Jackson Harper

TRAVISVILLE

In 1960s Texas, a black community has managed to avoid the tumult of the Civil Rights movement, maintaining a wary peace with the city's white leaders. When white developers threaten to gentrify the neighborhood, its residents are forced to take sides and take a stand.
(7 men, 2 women, doubling)

Greg Keller

DUTCH MASTERS

It's summertime in New York City, 1992. In NYC's hazy pre-Giuliani, pre-cell phone, pre-MetroCard days, a black kid and a white kid meet in a chance encounter on an uptown D train, chatting hoops, hip-hop, and history. Over the course of one afternoon, fear, guilt, longing, and a cigar filled with weed allow one kid to take the other to a place neither could have anticipated. (2 men)

Mike Lew

TEENAGE DICK

In this brilliant retelling of Shakespeare's *Richard III*, one of the most famous disabled characters in history is reimagined as a 16-year-old outsider taking on the political turmoil of high school. Bullied for his cerebral palsy, Richard plots his revenge...as well as his glorious path to the senior class presidency. But as he falls deeper into a pattern of manipulation and greed, Richard is faced with an unexpected choice: Is it better to be feared or loved? A hilarious and sharp-witted adaptation about perception, disability, and the treacherous road to ascendancy. (2 men, 4 women)
Also by Lew: TIGER STYLE!; microcrisis.

Donja R. Love

SUGAR IN OUR WOUNDS

On a plantation somewhere down south, a mystical tree reaches up toward heaven. Generations of slaves have been hanged on this tree. But James is going to be different, as long as he keeps his head down and practices his reading. Moreover, as the Civil War rages on, the possibility of freedom looms closer than ever. When a stranger arrives on the plantation, a striking romance emerges, inviting the couple and those around them into uncharted territory. (2 men, 3 women)
Also by Love: FIREFLIES.

S.P. Monahan & Alexander Sage Oyen

DIVA: LIVE FROM HELL

When Evan Harris, the hotshot transfer from New York, challenges high school drama club star Desmond Channing, Desmond responded, as any diva would, with lethal force. Now, stuck in The Seventh Circle, Hell's most squalid cabaret venue, Desmond is forced to relive his disturbing tale of woe on repeat. As he presents his one-millionth consecutive show, he performs with a desperate vigor in the hopes that he can prove he's repented and be freed from this eternal, campy torment. (1 man)

Ming Peiffer

USUAL GIRLS

Over the years, Kyeoung is knocked down again and again. By an alcoholic dad. A group of quick-to-judge friends. And an endlessly invasive parade of men. As we follow Kyeoung from the discoveries of childhood to the realities of adulthood, her stories get stranger, funnier, more harrowing—and more familiar. How do girls grow up? Quickly, painfully, wondrously. (2 men, 7 women)

Christina Quintana

SCISSORING

When Abigail Bauer takes a job as a teacher at a conservative Catholic school, she is forced to step back into the closet against the wishes of her long-term girlfriend. As she struggles to reconcile her professional ambitions, personal relationships, religious beliefs, and internalized shame, Abigail receives guidance from First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and Lorena Hickok. Through it all, Abigail must find the courage to be unabashedly herself. (1 man, 6 women, 1 n/s)

Kate Scelsa

EVERYONE'S FINE WITH VIRGINIA WOOLF

In this parody of Edward Albee's classic, Scelsa reinvents the power dynamics of the original play's not-so-happy couple. In the end, no one will be left unscathed by the ferocity of Martha's revenge on an unsuspecting patriarchy. (2 men, 3 women)

Lloyd Suh

CHARLES FRANCIS CHAN JR.'S EXOTIC ORIENTAL MURDER MYSTERY

Frank (born Charles Francis Chan) is a student during the height of the Vietnam War and a proud Asian-American. He has a revolutionary plan to reclaim his identity from decades of "Oriental" humor and to build a new cultural tradition: He's going to write a play. Not just any play, but a murder mystery featuring the fictional Hawai'ian detective Charlie Chan. Suh's play shifts between the worlds of enigmatic fortune-cookie aphorisms and desperate draft dodgers, as one man tries to single-handedly overturn generations of Asian-American alienation.

(3 men, 2 women, 1 n/s, doubling)

Also by Suh: THE CHINESE LADY

Tony Kushner

THE INTELLIGENT HOMOSEXUAL'S GUIDE TO CAPITALISM AND SOCIALISM WITH A KEY TO THE SCRIPTURES, or iHo

In the summer of 2007, Gus Marcantonio, a retired longshoreman, summons his sister and his three children to a most unusual family reunion in their Brooklyn brownstone. With humor and passion, the play examines the importance of connectedness and belonging—to a family, a community, a group, an ideology, a marriage—and what happens when those connections are lost. (6 men, 5 women)

Tom Stoppard

THE HARD PROBLEM

Hilary, a young psychology researcher at the Kroh Institute for Brain Science, is nursing a private sorrow. She needs a miracle, and prays daily for deliverance from a secret regret. Meanwhile, she and the other researchers at the institute are grappling with the troubling "hard problem," which asks: If there is nothing but matter, what is consciousness? For Hilary, the possibility of genuine human altruism, without a hidden Darwinian self-interest, depends on the answer. (4 men, 4 women, 1 child)

in the spotlight:
these illustrious playwrights have
recently joined our catalogue



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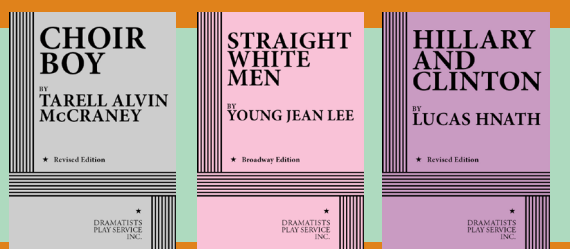
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DPS on Broadway: These DPS plays made their Broadway debut in the 2018-2019 season



CHOIR BOY
by Tarell Alvin McCraney

STRAIGHT WHITE MEN
by Young Jean Lee
HILLARY AND CLINTON
by Lucas Hnath

check out the Play Service's new plays from past years'
emerging playwrights

YOU ON THE MOORS NOW
by Jaclyn Backhaus
THE GENTLEMAN CALLER
and **THE BURN**
by Philip Dawkins

KILL MOVE PARADISE
by James Ijames
ANOTHER MEDEA
and **SQUEAMISH**
by Aaron Mark

GOD SAID THIS
by Leah Nanako Winkler

Meet these writers and the rest of past years' classes on our
atPlay Newsletter page at www.dramatists.com (under **About DPS**).