provides plays that empower women, gives playwrights career-altering opportunities and brings groundbreaking new theatre to Chicago audience, who are engaged as a vital part of Artemisia’s play selection process.

Artemisia Fall Festival 2017 is made possible in part by a grant from Illinois Humanities, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Illinois General Assembly.

DONATE TO SUPPORT FIERCE, FEMALE-DRIVEN THEATRE
Live at Fall Festival | On Artemisia’s website – http://artemisiatheatre.org/donate/

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SUBMIT YOUR PLAYS! Artemisia is now accepting female-driven plays to be considered for the 2018 Fall Festival. Please visit ARTEMISIATHEATRE.ORG and click on submissions for specific guidelines.

ROCK YOUR VOTE! See four or more readings and vote to select Artemisia’s next premiere production. Be sure to check in at the box office each time you attend Fall Festival 2017.

CHOSEN BY ARTEMISIA’S 2016 FALL FESTIVAL AUDIENCE

Artemisia presents the Midwest premiere of

SWEET TEXAS

By Tracee Gottfrey
March 9–April 1, 2018

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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Since its founding in 2011, Artemisia has passionately pursued a very important mission, empowering women through theatre, and an innovative production model – we boldly invite our audience to choose each season’s world premiere from our annual Fall Festival. Artemisia Fall Festival 2017 features six remarkable, deeply-compelling and unforgettable new plays, all written by women, and all told through the lens of a leading female character, whose journey is one of empowerment, rather than victimization.

At Artemisia you will see new stories, told in a new way with an experimental approach to production that reveals women’s lost histories, reinvigorates their experiences and identities and fearlessly explores their relationships. Artemisia directly engages you, our audience, in the continuing conversation around women’s empowerment. Each night of the festival, a new play is performed and is followed by a dedicated audience discussion, focused by two questions – Did the play empower women? – Did the play inspire you to see women in a new way? Audience is encouraged to attend all six performances; those who attend four or more will be invited to vote to select our next world premiere.

Why Artemisia? Because despite the many gains women have enjoyed, there are still many obstacles women face and opportunities they miss based solely on gender. At Artemisia, it’s our belief that by experiencing women in a new light – empowered through story – lingering cultural prejudice can be overcome and we can better our world by equalizing the playing field for women. At Artemisia Fall Festival 2017, we invite you into the world of the feminine - to see women as their own heroes, villains, rescuers, mentors, allies and sages. Celebrate their discoveries and then help Artemisia choose the most female-empowering play that challenged you to see women in a new light more than all the rest.

Thanks for taking the adventure with us. Women-empowered thru theatre – for everyone.

Julie Proudfoot
Executive Artistic Director

STAFF

Executive Artistic Director................................................................. Julie Proudfoot
Marketing Creative Director................................................................. Kat Tushim
Literary Manager ........................................................................ Sharai Bohannon
Audience Engagement Director ......................................................... Regina Buccola
Casting Assistant ....................................................................... Briana Schwartz
Production Manager ..................................................................... Julia Rufo
Front of House Manager/Graphic Artist ........................................ Corrin Rosenstein
Marketing and Media Team ........................................................ Sharai Bohannon, Walter Kemper, Matthew Lunt & Dakota Sillyman
Sound Design ........................................................................ Kallie Rolison
Lighting Designer/Technical Director ........................................... Cassandra Fenwick
Lobby Display ........................................................................ Jessica Swim
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**Chair of Artemisia Advocacy Council

ARTEMISIA FALL FESTIVAL 2017

SEPTEMBER 25 @ 7:30 PM

The Rug Dealer, by Riti Sachdeva
An Iranian-American woman inherits her father’s rug store after his death and negotiates the costly business of carpets, family, duty and desire.
Developed in collaboration with Lee Sunday Evans and Rachel Sussman for WP Pipeline Festival 2016

CAST
SHIRAZ..................................................................................................................................................Vahishta Vafadari
AZAR ..................................................................................................................................................Myriam Raymond
MARIAM ............................................................................................................................................Noha Ganzouri
RABA ..................................................................................................................................................Rom Barkhordar

The action takes place during the late 1990’s in New Haven, Connecticut

Director ............................................................................................................................................Anu Bhatt
Moderator ...........................................................................................................................................Regina Buccola

SEPTEMBER 26 @ 7:30 PM

Jarred, by Eileen Campbell
A fresh college dropout moves in with her former fourth grade teacher in order to get away from the mess. Together, the two women must reconcile their monsters.
Workshop Production - University of Iowa, October 2016, Featured in 20% Theatre’s Darkroom Festival, January 2017

CAST
LINNIE ..............................................................................................................................................Shantel Hamilton
IDA ......................................................................................................................................................Diane Dorsey*
MABEL/DOUG .................................................................................................................................Dominic Rescigno

The interior of a ramshackle house, now, then, as long as the Internet has been invented.

Director ..............................................................................................................................................Elizabeth Swanson
Moderator ...........................................................................................................................................Sharai Bohannon
**SEPTEMBER 27 @ 7:30 PM**

**Rush**, by Callie Kimball
A young woman and her brother risk everything to start a new life at the end of the world. But with a Chicago detective on their trail, is the Yukon Territory far enough away to escape their terrible past?

*Originally produced by Soul in the Sea productions (Player's Ring in Portsmouth, NH) for a limited engagement, Workshop Production by Dragon's Egg Studio in Connecticut and New York Equity Showcase by Team Awesome Robot at The Paradise Factory.*

**CAST**
- BELINDA .................................................................................................................................... Patty Malaney
- FRANK .................................................................................................................................... Andrew Clancey
- ROSIE ........................................................................................................................................ Laura Gaona*
- ALICE ........................................................................................................................................ Caitlin Chuckta*
- JEB ........................................................................................................................................... Rasell Holt
- GARRISON ................................................................................................................................. Scott Cummins*
- DOCTOR ...................................................................................................................................... Lucy Pearce
- NEIGHBOR .................................................................................................................................. Janiece Kristin

The action takes place from 1899-1900 in Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, and Dawson City, Yukon.

Director ........................................................................................................................................ Lindsay Tornquist
Moderator .......................................................................................................................................... Marjorie Jolles

**OCTOBER 2 @ 7:30 PM**

**The Malta Play**, by Kirsten Ebsen
Based on actual events, two British Quaker women survive imprisonment by the Inquisition on the Isle of Malta during the seventeenth century.

**CAST**
- KATHERINE ............................................................................................................................... Robin Margolis
- SARAH .......................................................................................................................................... Julie Proudfoot*
- MALACHI ...................................................................................................................................... Christopher Prentice*
- GOVERNOR/PHYSICIAN ............................................................................................................ Christian Isley
- ENGLISH CONSUL/SAMUEL BAKER ............................................................................................ Blake Holen
- BERNARDO/ENGLISHMAN .......................................................................................................... Daniel Chenard
- INQUISITOR ................................................................................................................................. Richard Esteras
- MAGISTRATE/HAZIM .................................................................................................................... Joan Nahid

The action takes place between 1658 and 1663 in Malta and London.

Director ........................................................................................................................................ Rachel Sledd Iannantuoni
Moderator .......................................................................................................................................... Regina Buccola
Reap the Grove, by Caity-Shea Violette
An estranged family is reunited to spend the mother's final days together before she ends her life on her own terms following a terminal lung cancer diagnosis.

CAST
SANDRA ................................................................. Patricia Kane*
BECKAH ........................................................................ Mindy Shore
JUDITH ........................................................................ Charlie Irving
NAN ........................................................................ Genevieve VenJohnson*

Two days since they all knew and three days before it happens. The action takes place in a small town a few hours away from a major city on the west coast.

Director ........................................................................ Leslie Danzig
Moderator ........................................................................ Julie Proudfoot

Parts of Speech, by Janet Burroway
In the 1980's, a female translation teacher waits for news of her journalist brother who has been taken hostage in Lebanon and copes by revisiting and reimagining the past.

CAST
IMOGEN UNGAR .......................................................... Lucinda Johnston*
YOUNG IMOGEN/HEATHER/TAKAYAMA WOMAN ...................... Sarah Serabian
WESLEY UNGAR/REPORTER .................................................. Sean Foer
RALPH UNGAR/WILL ....................................................... JP Thomas*
GLADYS UNGAR/VALERIE/MRS OGILVIE ................................... Justine Serino
HERMAN GOETZ/REPORTER .............................................. Brad Davidson
ADAIR GOETZ/CBS REPORTER ............................................ Madeline Bunke
STU/ MR. FILSON ............................................................. Dan Rodden*

The action takes place in an east coast liberal arts college during the early 1980's and in the Ungar family home in Phoenix in 1943.

Director ........................................................................ Carrie Lee Patterson
Moderator ........................................................................ Julie Proudfoot

*These actors are appearing courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the union for professional stage actors and managers.
RITI SACHDEVA, playwright, THE RUG DEALER  
Born in India, Riti Sachdeva has been creating, watching, listening, and thinking about art in some shape, form, or rhythm for twenty-five years. Sachdeva was a Time Warner fellow with the Emerging Writers Group at The Public Theater and the Women’s Project Theater. Her plays have been developed by The Civilians, PlayWrights Center, National New Play Network, Manhattan Theatre Works, U of Hawaii, Working Theater, American Theater Company, Poetic Theater, Centerstage Baltimore, and Lincoln Center Director’s Lab. She is a recipient of the Kennedy Center’s Quest for Peace award for her play Parts of Parts & Stitches and her play The Rug Dealer made The Kilroys’ 2016 List.

Kirsten Ebsen writes about ordinary women living extraordinary lives. She studied theatre and drama at York University and the Banff School of Fine Arts and spent a season at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival. Kirsten received a grant to participate in the International Theatre Training Congress, where she worked with such luminaries as Joseph Chaikin and Michelle George, among others. Kirsten’s plays include Johanna’s Story, Even In Our Sleep, The Roosters, The Betrayal, and The Malta Play. She received an Eva Koch Scholarship at Woodbrooke College in Birmingham, UK, to research her historical play Margaret of Swarthmoor, which received a public reading in Oxford, UK, directed by Ian Flintoff.

EILEEN CAMPBELL, playwright, JARRED  
Originally from Wayne, IL, Eileen Campbell is a junior studying Theatre Arts and Spanish at the University of Iowa. She divides her time between writing and acting, but is looking to pursue playwriting as a career. Her work has been produced/read at the university (Clockwork, Jarred, Release), Horizon Theatre in Atlanta (Salt), Coneman Running Productions in Houston (Salt), ABC Theatre in New York (Salt), and 20% Theatre in Chicago (Jarred). She will spend the coming year in Seville, Spain studying Spanish and writing her first play in another language. Eileen is incredibly thrilled to be a part of the festival—much love and thanks!

CALLIE KIMBALL, playwright, RUSH  
Callie Kimball earned her MFA under Tina Howe at Hunter College, where she won the Rita & Burton Goldberg Playwriting Award two years in a row. Her plays have been produced and developed at the Kennedy Center, Portland Stage Company, Lark Play Development Center, Halcyon Theatre, Florida Studio Theatre, Stoneham Theatre, Echo Theatre, The Drama League, and at many other theatres, colleges and festivals across the country. Callie won a Ludwig Vogelstein grant to research her play Sofonisba, which won the Clauder Gold Prize, was a finalist for the O’Neill, a semifinalist for the Princess Grace Award, and was included on The Kilroys’ 2016 List.

CAITY-SHEA VIOLETTE, playwright, REAP THE GROVE  
Caity-Shea Violette is a Chicago-based playwright and actress and she is passionate about exploring trauma, invisible disabilities, and gender-based violence by creating new plays for women. Her award-winning work has been seen in numerous cities across the country. She holds a BFA in Theatre from the University of Minnesota, Duluth and is a graduate of the St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists. Her awards include: The Kennedy Center’s National Partners of the American Theatre Playwriting Excellence Award (Winner), Shakespeare’s Sister Playwriting Fellowship (National Semi-Finalist), and Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival Playwriting Contest (National Finalist), among others. She was recently named part of ADA 25 Advancing Leadership’s 2017 Fellows Class and serves as the Manager of Marketing and Communications at Thresholds, a nonprofit that serves over 15,000 people with mental illnesses each year in Illinois. www.caitysheaviolette.com
Special thanks to all of Artemisia’s funders, sponsors, donors, supporters and volunteers. Without you, our work would not be possible.

Please visit our website at ARTEMISIA THEATRE.ORG for a full listing. Thank you for making a donation to empower women thru theatre.

Sponsorship of Artemisia gives you unique marketing opportunities, direct and personal contact with our audience and talent, and powerful, value-based branding. For sponsorship opportunities contact Artistic Director Julie Proudfoot at julie@artemisiatheatre.org.
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