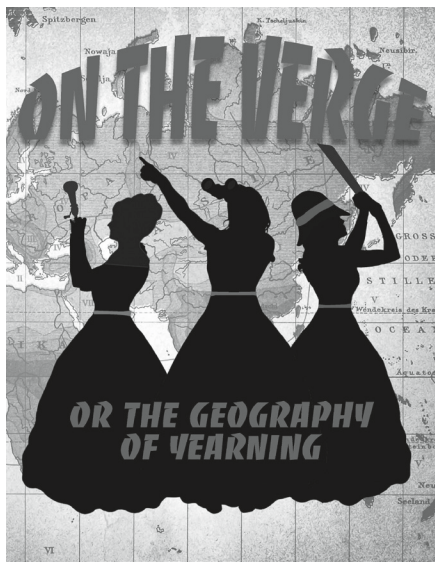


**MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY'S J. WILLIAM AND MARY DIEDERICH  
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION  
DIGITAL MEDIA AND PERFORMING ARTS  
MARQUETTE THEATRE  
JAMIE CHEATHAM, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
PRESENTS**



By Eric Overmyer

First produced by Center Stage, Baltimore

**November 9 – 19, 2017**

Directed by Maureen Kilmurry  
Scenic Design by Madelyn Yee  
Lighting Design by Chester Loeffler-Bell  
Sound Design by Linda Pozen '19  
Costume Design by Amelia Strahan '18

ON THE VERGE OR THE GEOGRAPHY OF YEARNING  
is produced by special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc, NYC  
Marquette University is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).  
The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

## CHARACTERS & SETTING

Mary .....Margaret Tomaszewicz  
Fanny..... Annie Kefalas  
Alex..... Nadja Simmonds

*All three ladies are adventurers.*

Alphonse, Grover, The Yeti, Mr. Coffee, The Gorge Troll,  
Madame Nhu, Gus, Nicky Paradise..... Michael Nicholas

*The play begins in 1888. In Terra Incognita.*

## A NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Thank you for joining us for a few hours of live theatre. Without you as an audience, our work as a theatre is not complete. Your presence is a necessary part of what we do. Also, by purchasing your ticket, you are helping to support our high-quality productions. You help to provide the kind of quality that audiences have come to expect. You also help to provide a professional quality experience from which our students can continue to learn.

Word of mouth is always the best form of advertising. We hope that if you enjoyed your time with us, you will pass along any good words to friends, families and acquaintances. This simple act also helps to keep our productions supported.

Very soon this show will end, the set will go into the dumpster, and all that will be left will be what you remember of your visit. That is the sum of all our hard work, and we hope you will leave with some pleasurable memories.

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This is one of those plays I've always wanted to direct. It charmed me from my first reading of it many years ago. Later, I was lucky enough to direct a reading of it for Renaissance Theaterworks and now I get to spend even more time with it in a full production. I am inspired by these intrepid women travelers who are open to all of the new life experiences they encounter. I love their spirit of adventure, their inquisitiveness and their ability to embrace the future...whatever it holds. Through their journeys they also discover where they "belong" in the universe. May we all be so open to the adventures and challenges in our lives. I truly hope you enjoy a couple of hours in their company.

- Maureen Kilmurry

## CAST BIOGRAPHIES

### **Annie Kefalas** (Fanny)

Annie Kefalas is a senior here at Marquette, and she is thrilled to be involved with *On the Verge*! In her time with Marquette Theatre, she has been in eight mainstage productions including *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Loose Lips Sink Ships*, *As You Like It*, and *In the Red and Brown Water*. Annie will be graduating in May and will go on to travel around Europe, pursue a career in film and theatre, and work as a personal trainer and hopeful dietitian. She would like to thank Maureen for all her amazing work and words of wisdom, the designers for creating the fabulous world of the show, the stage manager and crew for keeping everyone calm and collected, and the cast for always being there for support. She also thanks her family and friends for their continued support, love, and hugs. We are on the verge!

### **Michael Nicholas** (Alphonse, Grover, et al.)

Michael Nicholas is a senior Theatre Arts major from Palatine, Illinois. He's previously appeared on the Helfaer Theatre stage as Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes*, George Antrobus in *The Skin of Our Teeth*, and Michael Wells in *Two Rooms*. When he's not acting, he loves to sing and is the proud president of Marquette's premiere all-male a cappella group, The Naturals. He's delighted to have been able to work with this incredible cast and crew, and he'd like to thank Maureen for all of her ridiculously hard work and wonderful guidance. He'd also like to thank his family and friends for all their constant love and support. He hopes you enjoy the show! ¡Vaya Con Dios!

### **Nadja Simmonds** (Alex)

Nadja, a senior studying Theatre Arts and Digital Media, is incredibly excited to perform with some of her closest friends in *On the Verge*. Previous favorite roles include Theresa in *Working*, Bree in *Fancy Nancy*, Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit*, Tommy in *Wine in the Wilderness*, and Celia in *As You Like it*. You may have also recently seen her in *This Just In*, part of Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's Young

Playwrights Festival, as well as in Summit Players Theatre's *The Comedy of Errors*. She would like to thank her family for their continued support, and Maureen for giving her the opportunity to say 'lacerated fingerbowl' without getting weird looks. Enjoy the show!

### **Margaret Tomasiewicz** (Mary)

Margaret Tomasiewicz is a junior double majoring in Theatre Arts and Corporate Communications. She is thrilled to be in her fourth mainstage show here at Marquette! She was previously seen on stage in *The Skin of Our Teeth* and *Anything Goes*, and she was the Costume Designer for *Working*. Margaret is so happy to have such supportive family and friends with her at every step. She'd like to give a special shoutout to her mom for always answering her phone calls, no matter how late at night. Thank you for supporting Marquette Theatre and enjoy the show!

## **SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT**

### ***A Year with Frog and Toad*, based on the books by Arnold Lobel**

This charming children's musical follows the budding friendship between a cranky toad and a cheerful frog. This imaginative and entertaining tale will delight the whole family!

**January 14, 20, 21, 27, 28**

### ***Student Body*, by Frank Winters**

Several college students learn about a video taken during a recent party. The video shows what could be a sexual assault, which draws the group of friends and strangers into an increasingly personal debate.

**February 15 – 25**

### ***Pericles, Prince of Tyre*, by William Shakespeare**

This rarely produced Shakespeare play is a fairytale adventure about a wandering prince. Sailing from kingdom to kingdom, Pericles flees a dangerous foe, finding romance and adventure and his own happy ending.

**April 12 - 22**

## PRODUCTION STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

### **Jamie Cheatham** (Artistic Director)

Jamie is a professional actor, director, fight director, and theatre educator. After 17 years of working professionally in New York City and 10 years of teaching at UW-Parkside, Jamie is thrilled to be at Marquette. He is a nationally recognized fight director with the Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD) and the Resident Fight Director for the Milwaukee Rep. Other professional work includes such theatres as: Alley Theatre (TX), Actor's Theatre of Louisville, Arena Stage (DC), Shakespeare Theatre (DC), Milwaukee Ballet, the Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, and the Georgia, Illinois, and NY (Delacorte) Shakespeare Festivals. He also happened to work on the 1987 NYC premiere of *On the Verge* as a scenic crew member (one of his first professional theatre jobs).

### **Mary Crosby** (Assistant Stage Manager)

Mary is very happy to be back working on *On the Verge*! A sophomore in the theatre program here at Marquette, she is studying Stage Management and Digital Media. This is Mary's fifth show at Marquette, and her second as Assistant Stage Manager. As always, she would like to thank her friends and family for all their love and support.

### **Stephen Hudson-Mairet** (Chair)

As chair of the Department of Digital Media and Performing Arts, Stephen is blessed to be working with a great faculty, staff, and student body, and he is happy to share their great work with you. This season marks Stephen's 18<sup>th</sup> at Marquette. Thank you so much for your support of Marquette Theatre and Marquette's theatre arts students. We are proud of all of the student contributions for our season. Stephen lives quite happily in a very old house in Wauwatosa with his wife Heidi, and daughters Emma and Grace.

### **Maureen Kilmurry** (Director)

A Speech and Theater graduate of Marquette University, Ms. Kilmurry received her MFA from Southern Methodist University's Professional Actor Training Program. A member of Actors Equity

Association she has acted professionally in Seattle, Dallas, Kansas City, Milwaukee, and at the Oregon Shakespearean Festival, as well as "Off", & "Off-Off" Broadway. Back in her native Milwaukee, she has turned her focus to directing, teaching, and dialect and vocal coaching. Now in her 20<sup>th</sup> year on the faculty at Marquette University she currently teaches Acting Shakespeare, and Auditioning and Career Preparation. Directing credits include Summit Players, Windfall Theatre, The Boulevard Ensemble, Playwrights Studio Theatre, Amethyst Productions, the John Michael Kohler Art Center, Manitowoc Civic Theatre and the Haggerty Museum. Recent projects include *The Comedy of Errors* for Summit Players Shakespeare in the State Parks and *Blithe Spirit* here at Marquette.

### **Emily Kraus** (Assistant Scenic Designer)

Emily Kraus is a current sophomore at Marquette studying Theatre Arts with a Dance minor. While this is her first time working behind the scenes on a Marquette mainstage, she did appear onstage as a member of the Ensemble in *Anything Goes* this past spring. Emily also works in the costume shop here in the Helfaer. Special thanks to Maddy and Nadja for being such wonderful designers to work with, Connie and Chester for being patient with her constant running between the scene shop and costume shop, and her wonderful and incredibly supportive friends and family. Enjoy the show!

### **Chester Loeffler-Bell** (Lighting Designer/ Technical Director)

Chester is pleased to work again with the Marquette faculty, staff, and students on another exciting season of fine work. Other recent experience includes light designing *Chesapeake* for In Tandem Theatre, three seasons as Production Manager for the Chamber Theatre, two years as a faculty member at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, one year as a Milwaukee County Sheriff's Deputy, and four seasons as Lighting Supervisor with the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. He holds a BA in Theatre from Carroll College and a MFA in Lighting Design from

the University of South Carolina. Chester lives in Mukwonago, Wisconsin with his wife Susan and sons Harry, Sam and Joe.

**Connie Petersen** (Costume Shop Manager)  
Connie is happy to return for her 16<sup>th</sup> year with her family here at Marquette University and to have the opportunity to work with this very talented cast and designers. She received her B.S. degree in Theatre from Northwest MO State University and M.F.A. degree in Costume and Scenic Design from SIU in Carbondale, IL. She is currently the Costume Shop Manager for Marquette University. She has also designed for Next Act Theatre, Des Moines Metro Opera, Denver Center Theatre Company, and Playmakers Repertory Company at UNC-Chapel Hill. Connie is enjoying her spare time in Elm Grove with her daughters, Emma and Olivia.

**Linda Pozen** (Sound Designer)  
Entering her third year at the one and only Marquette University, Linda Pozen continues to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Criminology and Law Studies as well as Theatre Arts with a minor in German. This will be the second time that her design has been in the ears of the Helfaer Theatre audience, having previously sound designed for *The Skin of Our Teeth*. Linda will also be light designing for *Student Body* this spring. In her free time, she enjoys smashing the patriarchy and petting cute dogs. Linda hopes that the audience enjoys the show, and would like to thank everyone who has ever sent her a picture of a cute animal. She also wants to give a special shoutout to her best friends, her dogs, Kristy and McSweeney.

**Wendy Rociles** (Stage Manager)  
Wendy is a junior at Marquette majoring in Advertising and double minoring in Theatre Arts and Human Resources. She is beyond excited to work on her first show on the Marquette mainstage as a stage manager. Her previous work as an ASM at the Helfaer includes: *Ivy + Bean: The Musical*, *Two Rooms*, and *Anything Goes*. Enjoy the show!

**Kathleen Rock** (Assistant Costume Designer)  
Kathleen is currently a junior, studying Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Costume Design. She enjoyed serving as the Assistant Costume Designer for *Working* and *On the Verge*. She hopes you all enjoy the show!

**Sarah Schlehlein** (Choreographer)  
Sarah Schlehlein is a senior double majoring in Theatre Arts in stage management and American History. She has 17 years of various styled dance training and is very excited to see her choreography grace the Helfaer stage. She would like to thank Maureen for the amazing opportunity and Annie and Michael for making this experience extremely fun. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Chris Smith** (Assistant Lighting Designer)  
Chris Smith is a sophomore majoring in Biological Sciences and minoring in Theatre Arts. This is his first show that he has the honor as Assistant Lighting Designer. He is also getting the opportunity to sound design the social justice piece *Student Body*.

**Amelia Strahan** (Costume Designer)  
Amelia is a senior majoring in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Costume Design and minoring in Studio Arts through the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design. She is thrilled to design *On the Verge* as part of her Senior Capstone project. Bringing this script to life has been an adventure, and she hopes you enjoy the story as much as she has. Please return this spring for part two of her Capstone when she designs the costumes for Marquette Theatre's production of *Student Body*.

**Madelyn Yee** (Scenic Designer)  
Madelyn Yee is so very excited to be back at her alma mater for this production. Currently residing in Milwaukee, she has worked with theatres around town as a props master and artisan including Skylight Music Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Milwaukee

## PRODUCTION STAFF BIOGRAPHIES CONT.

Rep, Bronzeville Arts Ensemble, and KOHL's Wild Theatre. Some recent favorites include the Azor puppet build for *Zémire et Azor* (Skylight Music Theatre), and prop master for *Great Expectations* (Milwaukee Chamber Theatre). Scenic credits include *Animal Farm* (First Stage), *Black Nativity*

*2016* (Black Arts Milwaukee/Marcus Center) and *The Ballad of Emmett Till* (Renaissance Theaterworks). Many thanks to the Marquette Theatre department, as well as her family and Joe for their love and support.

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director .....	Chester Loeffler-Bell
Stage Manager .....	Wendy Rociles
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Mary Crosby
Choreographer .....	Sarah Schlehlein
Assistant Light Designer .....	Chris Smith
Light Board Operator .....	Mitchell Neunueber
Sound Board Operator .....	Krista Kanderski
Deck Crew .....	Nick Belsanti, Kelsey Harlow
Assistant Scenic Designer .....	Emily Kraus
Scenic Shop Foreman .....	Adam Hastings
Master Electrician .....	Cor Christophe
Scenic Shop Assistants .....	Allie Brotz, Cor Christophe, Mary Crosby, Kelsey Harlow, Adam Hastings, Michael Nicholas, Nick Parrott, Sarah Schlehlein, Nadja Simmonds, Chris Smith, Lindsay Webster
Scenic Shop Build Crew .....	Zgjim Baraliu, Nick Belsanti, Katie Dickey, Patricia Gomez, Jackson Hoemann, Chloe Hurckes, Beck Iannitello, Will Knox, India Martin, Mitchell Neunueber, Deija Richards, Eric Rorholm
Props Designer .....	Nadja Simmonds
Costume Shop Manager .....	Connie Petersen
Assistant Costume Designer .....	Kathleen Rock
Wardrobe Supervisor .....	Raven Ringe
Wardrobe .....	Allie Brotz
Costume Shop Assistants .....	Ian Burr, Agnes Connolly, Liz De Vere Hunt, Marissa Ellison, Rebecca Gardner, Molly Hass, Emily Kraus, Rene Leech, Malaina Moore, Anna Otto, Kathleen Rock, Amelia Strahan, Margaret Tomasiewicz
Costume Shop Build Crew .....	Allie Brotz, Emily Dever, Ashlee Elder, Cambryelle Getter, Annie Kefalas, Caroline Norton, Raven Ringe, Grace Weir
Assistant to the Chair .....	Caroline Norton
Assistant to the Artistic Director .....	A.J. Magoon
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## SPECIAL THANKS

Auburn University Department of Theatre, Frank's Auto Salvage

## MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

### College of Communication

Kimo Ah Yun, Dean  
Joyce Wolburg, Associate Dean  
Sarah Feldner, Associate Dean of Graduate  
Studies & Research

### Full-Time Faculty

Jamie Cheatham  
Fr. Grant Garinger, S.J.  
Stephen Hudson-Mairet  
Debra Krajec  
Chester Loeffler-Bell  
Connie Petersen

### Theatre Operations Coordinator

Courtney Buvid

### Digital Media and Performing Arts

Stephen Hudson-Mairet, Chairperson

### Marquette Theatre

Jamie Cheatham, Artistic Director

### Part-Time Faculty

Amy Brinkman-Sustache  
Todd Denning  
Marti Gobel  
Roxanne Kess  
Maureen Kilmurry  
John Schneider  
Catey Ott Thompson  
Jacque Troy  
Matt Wickey

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# THE KENNEDY CENTER

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*KCACTF is part of JFKC: A Centennial Celebration of John F. Kennedy, inspired by five enduring ideals often ascribed to JFK: Courage, Freedom, Justice, Service, and Gratitude. Support for JFKC: A Centennial Celebration of John F. Kennedy is provided by Ambassador Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, Chevron, the Blanche Irving Laurie Foundation, and Target.*

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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.