



David Zak,
Executive Director

Nelson Rodriguez,
Artistic Director

Derek Van Barham,
Associate Artistic Director

Presents

Homos, or Everyone in America

By Jordan Seavey

FEATURING

Jordan Dell Harris, Niko Kourtis, Nelson Rodriguez, Jessica Vann

Set Design

G. Max Maxin IV

Light Design

G. Max Maxin IV

Costume Design

Uriel Gomez

Sound Design

G. Max Maxin IV

Props Design

G. Max Maxin IV

Intimacy Design

Sasha Smith

Assistant Director & Dramaturg

Justin J. Scaramone

Stage Manager

Damian Portz

Director

Derek Van Barham

Opening September 5th, 2018

Pride Films and Plays extends great thanks to Qantas Airlines,
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The Broadway at Pride Arts Center | 4139 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60613
www.pridefilmsandplays.com www.prideartscenter.com

Homos, or Everyone in America

WE ARE MORE THAN A COMMUNITY

WE ARE FAMILY

OUR 2018-2019 SEASON

HOMOS, or EVERYONE IN AMERICA

BY JORDAN SEAVEY DIRECTED BY DEREK VAN BARHAM

A FEARLESS, FUNNY, HEART-ON-ITS-SLEEVE EXAMINATION OF THE MOMENTS THAT CAN BRING TWO PEOPLE TOGETHER – OR RIP THEM APART.

IT'S ONLY A PLAY

BY TERRENCE MCNALLY DIRECTED BY JON MARTINEZ

A HILARIOUS SEND-UP OF SHOW BUSINESS AND ITS OFTEN BIZARRE PRACTITIONERS. A DISASTROUS OPENING NIGHT PARTY LEADS TO ONE WILDLY FUNNY COMIC SEQUENCE AFTER ANOTHER.

I KNOW MY OWN HEART

BY EMMA DONOGHUE DIRECTED BY ELIZABETH SWANSON

INSPIRED BY THE SECRET, CODED DIARIES OF YORKSHIRE GENTLEWOMAN ANNE LISTER, THIS PLAY SUBVERTS ALL THE CONVENTIONS OF REGENCY ROMANCE.

SOUTHERN COMFORT

BOOK & LYRICS BY DAN COLLINS, MUSIC BY JULIANNE WICK DAVIS DIRECTED BY DAVID ZAK

BASED ON THE 2001 SUNDANCE DOCUMENTARY, THIS MUSICAL FOLLOWS THE LAST YEAR OF ROBERT EADS, A TRANSGENDER MAN IN GEORGIA, AS HE NAVIGATES MORTALITY WITH HIS CHOSEN FAMILY.

DESIRE IN A TINIER HOUSE

BY RYAN OLIVEIRA DIRECTED BY NELSON RODRIGUEZ

IT ONLY TAKES THREE SECONDS FOR TREVIN AND CARLOS TO LOCK EYES. BUT HOW MANY MINUTES, MONTHS, MILLENNIA WILL IT TAKE TO PULL THEM APART?

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Pride Arts Center - 4139 N Broadway

pridefilmsandplays.com

1-866-811-4111



CAST LIST

The Academic	Nelson Rodriguez
The Writer	Niko Kourtis
Dan	Jordan Dell Harris
Laila	Jessica Vann

HOMOS, OR EVERYONE IN AMERICA is performed without an intermission

Understudy The Academic.....	Matthew Harris
Understudy The Writer	Kyle Deininger
Understudy Dan.....	Sean William Kelly
Understudy Laila.....	Ashley Joy

HOMOS, OR EVERYONE IN AMERICA premiered at New York City's LAByrnth Theatre Company, NYC October 20th to December 11th 2016.

HOMOS, OR EVERYONE IN AMERICA is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French.

Setting:

the play takes place in Brooklyn, New York,
jumping around in moments scattered throughout 2006 - 2011

ABOUT PRIDE FILMS AND PLAYS

Pride Films and Plays creates diverse new work (or work that is new to Chicago) with LGBTQ+ characters or themes that is essential viewing for all audiences. We accomplish this mission through fully-staged productions, writing contests and staged readings, and filming one short film each season.

PFP is the primary tenant in the Pride Arts Center, which connects and promotes other artists who share our values, creating a safe environment for all. PAC books one-night events or limited runs, cabaret, film, dance, comedy, and other events. In 2015, Huffington Post called PFP "A powerful and empowering entity."

PFP is a member of the Belmont Theater District, League of Chicago Theaters, Buena Park Neighbors, LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois, Northalasted Business Alliance, and Uptown United. PFP is part of the Smart Growth program at Chicago Community Trust.

PFP is funded by the Illinois Arts Council, The Alphawood Foundation, Arts and Business Council, The MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, Chicago Community Trust, Elliott Fredland Charitable Trust, League of Chicago Theaters PAV Fund, Exxon Mobil, The Saints, Taproot Foundation, Pauls Foundation, Amazon Smile Foundation, Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelly Foundation, Arch & Bruce Brown Foundation.

SPECIAL THANKS

Royen Kent, **Promotional Make-Up Design;** Collin Quinn Rice, **Promotional Photography;** Evan Frank, **Technical Director;** Isaac Mandel, **Master Electrician**

Homos, or Everyone in America



Jordan Dell Harris (Dan) Chicago credits include *Leave Me Alone!* (Story Theatre), *A Little Night Music* (BoHo Theatre), *Wonderful Town* (Good-man Theatre), *BAT BOY: The Musical* (Griffin The-

atre, Joseph Jefferson Award nomination - Best Ensemble), and *The Civility of Albert Cashier* (Permoveo Productions/Pride Films & Plays). He has also been involved in readings and concerts at Porchlight Music Theatre, Refuge Theatre Project, Chicago Dramatists, and Pride Films & Plays. Originally from Georgia, Jordan was involved in over a dozen shows at eight different theaters in the Atlanta area before moving to Chicago. Represented by Gray Talent Group. www.jordandellharris.com



Niko Kourtis (The Writer) most recently appeared in Haven Theatre's production of *Fear & Misery in the Third Reich*. Other credits include: *Three Days of Rain* (BoHo Theatre), *The Assembled*

Parties (Raven Theatre), *The Good Person of Szechwan* (Cor Theatre), *A Splintered Soul* (ARLA Productions), *Animals Commit Suicide* (First Floor Theatre), *Bent* (The Other Theater Company), *Angels in America Parts I&II* (Kansas City Repertory Theater), *Cock* (Profiles Theatre), and *The Normal Heart* (TimeLine Theatre). Niko is represented by Gray Talent.



Nelson Rodriguez (The Academic) is Artistic Director of Pride Films and Plays where he appeared in *Men on the Verge of a His-Panic Breakdown* for which he received a Joseph Jefferson Award

nomination. Additional onstage credits include Steppenwolf for Young Audiences, 16th Street, Adventure Stage Chicago where he is an Associate Artist, and many

more. His on camera credits include the feature films *A Place to Be - En Algun Lugar* (TLA Releasing) and *Soul Sessions* (Gravitas Ventures). He is a member of The Alliance of Latinx Theatre Artists' playwrights circle, El Semillero. He is the recipient of *Windy City Times'* 30 Under 30 Award. Mr. Rodriguez is represented by Gray Talent Group.



Jessica Vann (Laila) is excited to be making her Pride Films and Plays debut! Other Chicago works includes *Disaster! The Musical*, Chicago Theatre Workshop; Jeff Recommended *Billy Elliot:*

The Musical, Porchlight Theatre; Jeff Nominated, *'Story of a Story (The Untold Story)'*, Underscore Theatre Company; Big Noise Theater Company, *HAIR: The American Rock Musical*, *Ragtime* and *Beehive The 60s Musical*; New Millennium Theater Company, *Crazy for Swayze: A Swayzical*. Other than performing, she is ridiculously passionate about equal arts education for ALL youth! Love you Mom, Dad, broham, and Granny, you all are my rock!

UNDERSTUDIES

Kyle Deininger (u/s The Writer) is excited to make his Chicago storefront debut understudying for *Homos*, or *Everyone in America*. He studied improv at iO and is currently in the Second City Conservatory Program. For the past 12 years he has been involved with Speech and Debate, instructing at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He has been in various independent short films, commercials, and hand modeling gigs. He is a level 35 Pokemon Go master. Kyle is represented by Stewart Talent and thanks everyone who got him to the stage you see him on tonight.

Matthew Harris (u/s The Academic) is so proud to be part of the *HOMOS* team! He has been seen on the Chicago stage with Aston Rep (*The Laramie Project*, *The Lyons*, *Lieutenant of Inishmore*, and *Wit*), Eclectic

CAST BIOGRAPHIES CONT.

Full Contact Theatre (*History Boys* and *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*), Broken Nose (*From White Plains*) and The National Pastime Theatre (*Lydia*) just to name a few. All the Love to his family, J, U, and N. (IG @ Tacotantays)

Ashley Joy (u/s Laila), a Chicago native, is thrilled to make her Pride Arts Center debut. Recently graduating from Columbia College Chicago, Ashley is honored to be welcomed by such a kind and enthusiastic cast and is especially happy and grateful for such a beautiful introduction into Chicago's wonderful theatre community. In addition to acting, Ashley dedicates her time as a secular disciple of Shaolin Kung-fu, a poet, and dancer. She can also be seen in *Scraps* with the New American Folk Theatre here in Chicago!

Sean William Kelly (u/s Dan) is so excited to make his PFP debut with this amazing show and ensemble. He has worked with Oak Park Festival Theatre (*Hamlet, Macbeth*), Lakeside Shakespeare (*Cymbeline, Taming of the Shrew*), The Shakespeare Project of Chicago (*The Revengers Tragedy*), Spartan Theatre Company (*Seminar*), and Artemisia (*Shrewish*). He has also appeared in readings and workshops with the Women's Theatre Alliance, New American Folk Theatre, and Typeset Theatre Company. Outside of Chicago Sean has performed in the New York Theatre Festival, helping debut *The Last Session*, and with *The Hedgehog Ensemble* in Memphis. He is a company member with Quicksilver Shakespeare and was a cast member in their inaugural production of *Mercury Hamlet*. BFA from Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts.

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

Uriel Gomez (Costume Design) Design credits include the Chicago premieres of *The Madres*, *The Wolf At The End Of The Block*, *Parachute Men* (Teatro Vista); *De Troya*, *The River Bride* (Halcyon Theatre); and many more. He would like to thank his friends, and family for all their support. For more information & designs please visit ugomez.com.

G. "Max" Maxin IV (Set, Lighting, Props, & Sound Design) is a full-time Instructor at Northeastern Illinois University & a Freelance Theatrical Designer in Chicago. Max holds an M.F.A. in Theatrical Production Design from Michigan State University. Favorite Credits: *Cyrano* (Jeff Nomination Lighting), *A Little Night Music*, *Urinetown* (Jeff Nomination Lighting), *Three Days of Rain*, *Next to Normal*, (BoHo); *Forever Plaid* (Theatre at the Center); *Oklahoma* (Marriott); *Pippin*, *Cabaret*, *Bare*(Another Door); *Perfect Arrangement*, *The Nance*, *Angry Fags*, (Pride Films & Plays); *The View Upstairs* (Circle Theatre); *First Date* (Royal George). www.ivMaxin.com

Damian Portz (Production Stage Manager) is a fresh face in Chicago from Memphis, TN making his PFP debut. Damian works as the literary management intern at PFP, and will be the PSM for *I Know My Own Heart* later this season. Damian will also be the PSM for Theatre Y's *Self Accusations* and their devised piece *The Camino Project* in 2019. Damian is also a freelance director, literary manager, and circus performer, previously creating an aerial adaptation of Edward Albee's *The Zoo Story* for Rhodes College, and is the intern assistant to Actor's Gymnasium Artistic Director Sylvia Hernandez-DiStasi. *In bocca al lupo!*

Justin J. Sacramone (Asst. Director/ Dramaturg) is making his Pride Films and Plays debut with *Homos, Or Everyone in America*. He is a freelance director, dramaturg, and producer who is originally from Boston, Massachusetts, with recent assistant directing credits including the world premiere of *Blind Date*, directed by Robert Falls at Goodman Theatre, *Wolf at the End of the Block*, directed by Lili-Anne Brown at 16th Street Theatre and *Bus Stop*, directed by Steve Scott at

Eclipse Theatre Company. Recent directing credits include an entry into the 9th Annual Chicago One Minute Play Festival, *I Like You So Much* by Maria Wesler at Eclectic Full Contact Theatre, and *Addressing the Nation* by Cassandra Rose at Headline Theatre Project. Justin was the 2017 fall literary management and dramaturgy intern at Goodman Theatre where he helped develop plays with Paula Vogel, Rogelio Martinez, Mat Smart, and Ike Holter. Prior to Chicago, Justin lived in Central Florida where he directed for the Orlando International Fringe Festival and developed live entertainment with Walt Disney Imagineering.

Sasha Smith (Intimacy Choreographer) is a Chicago based actor and violence and intimacy choreographer. Recent acting credits include *Hintor* (Steep Theatre), *Hookman* (Steep Theatre), *Aristophanesthon* (The Hypocrites), *Wild Party* (Bailiwick) *Stay Lit* (The Roustabouts). She has been seen on television in *Chicago Fire*, *Chicago PD*, and *Green Screen Adventures*. Recent choreography credits include *You Got Older* (Steppenwolf), *Smart People* (Writer's Theatre), *Fear and Misery of the Third Reich* (Haven Theatre), *The Toilet* (Haven Theatre), *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Gynecologic Oncology Unit At Sloan-Kettering Memorial Cancer Center Of New York City* (Route 66), *Ideation* (Jackalope), *Octagon* (Jackalope). She is a proud company member of Steep Theatre and a graduate of Columbia College Chicago. She is represented by Shirley Hamilton Talent.

Derek Van Barham (Director) is the Associate Artistic Director of Pride Films & Plays and a member of the Red Tape

Theatre ensemble. For PFP, he has directed *Perfect Arrangement*, *Angry Fags* (Steppenwolf Garage), *Songs from an Unmade Bed* (Jeff nomination), and (co-directing) *PRISCILLA, Queen of the Desert: The Musical*. Other directing credits include *The View Upstairs* (Circle Theatre), *Three Days of Rain* (Boho), *Miracle!* by Dan Savage (Hell in a Handbag), and *HOT PINK* (New American Folk Theatre). Choreography credits include *The Civility of Albert Cashier* (Permoveo/PFP), *Nevermore*, *Shockheaded Peter*, *Coraline* (Black Button Eyes) and *Salonathon*. He was named one of *Windy City Times' 30 Under 30*, recognizing Chicago's LGBTQ+ community. Up next: directing *When Adonis Calls* and *Poseidon! An Upside Down Musical*.

Jordan Seavey (Playwright) Plays include *Homos*, or *Everyone in America* (New York Times Critic's Pick; named one of *New York Magazine's* 10 Best Theater Events of 2016; *The Advocate's* Top 10 New York Theater of 2016; OBIE Award for performance, Michael Urie), *Wight*, November 4, 2008, *The Funny Pain*, *The Truth Will Out*, *Children at Play*, 6969 and *This is a Newspaper*. Since 2003 he's co-created more than fifteen new plays with theater company CollaborationTown. These include *Candy* (a commission from LCT3 / Lincoln Center), the all-ages puppet musical *Riddle of the Trilobites* (as residents of New Victory Theater's LabWorks), *Family Play (1979 to Present)* (named one of *The Advocate's* 10 Best LGBT Plays of 2014), and *The Momentum* (2012 GLAAD National Media Award nomination). He is a Usual Suspect at New York Theatre Workshop, and an alum of The Public Theater's Emerging Writer's Group and the Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab. He eagerly awaits a new President of the United States of America.

PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTE

"We hear music better at night, did you know that? Because of from when we used to have to listen for the sound of some animal coming out of the dark to kill us by our little fires. So music sounds better when it's dark. Music. Because we're listening for our murderer. A shaggy animal with a thirst for blood, a hunger for muscle and bone, lurking somewhere in the bushes and notes."
from Tragedy: A Tragedy by Will Eno

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"Baby I'm afraid of a lot of things, But I ain't scared of lovin' you...Baby I know you're afraid of a lot of things, but don't be scared of love...And baby I can see you've been fucked with too, but that don't mean your loving days are through."
from Poor Song by The Yeah Yeah Yeahs

PRIDE FILMS AND PLAYS ARTISTIC TEAM

David Zak, **Executive Director**
Nelson Rodriguez, **Artistic Director**
Derek Van Barham, **Associate Artistic Director**

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Pride Films and Plays thanks donors who pledged a recurring donation to PFP to defray monthly costs of rent, utilities, wifi, staffing and much more. Return members are invited to special rehearsals and other behind-the-scenes activities. We couldn't make this big space work without your help!

Anonymous, Robert Bailey, Andrea Bennett, David Bentlin, Michael Daigle and Bradley Borowiec, Judge Tom Chiola (Retired), Alan Eddington, Tom Elkas & Don Johnson, Katherine Harris, Dennis R. Kane, Masahiro Kasai, Christopher Kidder-Mostrom, Don Voigt & Michelle McKenzie-Voigt, Rick Kinnebrew & Martha Meyer, Jack Meyer, Amy J. Moncher, Nelson A. Rodriguez, Rusty Hernandez and Jeffrey Sanfilippo, Michael Schoenig, Stephanie Hardiman Simon, George Smart, Amber Mandley & Cheri Tatar, Aiiika Thomas, Transformations by Rori, Christopher Kirbabas & David Zak.

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- 1)** Join The Wilson Society, and made a monthly recurring donation of at least \$5. You will be invited to special events throughout the year.
- 2)** One time donation.

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