The Suffrage Plays

Directed by Beth Wolf

Stage Manager Courtney Coppa
Set and Props Design Jillian Gryzlak
Costume Design Rachel Sypniewski
Lighting Design & Master Electrician Becs Bartle
Sound Design Courtney Coppa & Beth Wolf
Dramaturg Lindsay Tornquist
Assistant Director Jinni Barak
Fight Director Scott Myers
Dialects Julie Proudfoot

Featuring:
Megan Delay, Ross Frawley, Lucinda Johnston, Tom McGrath, Vijay Sarathi & Brittani Yawn

November 1 – 24, The Den Theatre, 1131 N. Milwaukee, Chicago

Artemisia’s 2019-20 Theatre Season is partially supported by a Gen Ops Grant from the Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, by a grant from The MacArthur Funds for Arts and Culture at the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, and by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency through funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how NEA grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov.
Artemisia produces plays that empower women, gives playwrights career-altering opportunities and brings groundbreaking feminist theatre to Chicago audiences.

— Producing Artistic Director – Julie Proudfoot

Word of mouth is a powerful audience builder. Thanks for sharing Artemisia’s production of THE SUFFRAGE PLAYS with your world.

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA
Artemisia is on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube – Thanks for tagging us with the hashtag #ArtemisiaTheatre.
Artemisia loves working with new talent, volunteers and supporters. Contact Julie Proudfoot at artemisiatheatre@gmail.com

Artemisia Theatre, c/o Unity Lutheran Church, 1212 W. Balmoral Avenue
Chicago, IL 60640
ARTEMISIATHEATRE.ORG

CAST – A CHAT WITH MRS. CHICKY (BY EVELYN GLOVER)
Mrs. Chicky....................................................................................................................... Megan Delay
Mrs. Holbrook.................................................................................................................. Lucinda Johnston

CAST – MISS APPLEYARD’ S A WAKENING (BY EVELYN GLOVER)
Miss Appleyard .............................................................................................................. Brittani Yawn
Mrs. Crabtree.................................................................................................................. Megan Delay
Morton.............................................................................................................................. Lucinda Johnston

CAST – PRESS CUTTINGS (BY GEORGE BERNARD SHAW)
General Mitchener ....................................................................................................... Ross Frawley
Prime Minister Balsquith .......................................................................................... Tom McGrath
Mrs. Rosa Carmina Banger ...................................................................................... Lucinda Johnston
Lady Corinthia Fanshawe ........................................................................................... Brittani Yawn
Mrs. Farrell .................................................................................................................... Megan Delay
Orderly ......................................................................................................................... Vijay Sarathi

UNDERSTUDIES
Olivia Gregorich, Jennifer Mohr, Marjorie Muller & Josh Pennington. Understudies will never substitute for a listed player unless an announcement is posted at the performance.

SETTING
1913 - Pre-Suffrage London – Various Interiors

ARTEMISIA STAFF
Executive Artistic Director ......................................................................................... Julie Proudfoot
Press & PR ..................................................................................................................... John Olson
Artistic Associates ...................................................................................................... Jinni Barak, Sharai Bohannon, Ann Davis, Anita Kavuu Ng’ang’a, Lindsay Tornquist
Social Media ............................................................................................................... Jinni Barak, Courtney Coppa
Photographers .......................................................................................................... Courtney Coppa, Heather Mall
Marketing & Group Sales Intern ............................................................................. Maitland Thompson
BIOGRAPHIES

Megan Delay (Actor - Multiple Roles) — is honored to be joining Artemisia once again, after being part of the Fall Festival a few years ago! In the Chicago area, she has performed with many fantastic companies like Redtwist, Lifeline, Black Button Eyes, Akvavit, Arc Theatre, Piccolo, Open Door Rep, and she is an Ensemble Member with Promethean Theatre where she was last seen as Lady Croom in Arcadia. Favorite regional credits: In the Next Room, Tartuffe, and Two Gentlemen of Verona at Asolo Repertory Theatre. Megan received her MFA in Acting from FSU/Asolo Conservatory and BFA from Millikin University. www.megandelay.com

Ross Frawley (Mitchener) — is happy to be a part of The Suffrage Plays. He has been seen with other Chicagoland theaters such as Idle Muse, Three Crows, and Promethean to name a few. He also performs theatre for young audiences with GreatWorks Theatre. He hopes you enjoy the show.

Lucinda Johnston (Actor — Multiple Roles) — is delighted to be working with Artemisia again where she was last seen in two of their previous Fall Festivals. Regional roles include Polly Wyeth in The Dunes Summer Theatre’s Other Desert Cities, and Nana Lupita in First Stage’s Luchadora; Favorite Chicago roles include, Camila in Paramount’s In the Heights, Sostrata in A Red Orchid’s The Mandrake, Bonnie in the side project’s Elsewhere and Mitzi Zook in American Theatre Co’s Half of Plenty. She will be seen later this season as Aunt Agatha in First Folio’s Jeeves Saves the Day. Other Chicago theaters she has worked with include Steppenwolf, Court, Goodman, Northlight, Citadel, Remy Bumppo and Stage Left. TV credits include Chicago Fire and Empire.

Tom McGrath (Balsquith) — joins Artemisia for the first time. Most recently performing as Stephano with Midsommer Flight in The Tempest, additional Chicago credits include Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (Promethean Theatre Company); Three Sisters (Steppenwolf); Hand in Hand and Blue Planet (Akvavit Theatre Company), East of Berlin and The Russian Play and Plainsong (Signal Ensemble Theatre); as well as work with Right Brain Project, Shakespeare’s Motley Crew, LiveWire, Circle, and various other companies funct and defunct. A photographer who serves the arts community, additional work can be found at www.tcmcgphotography.com. Thanks to Lucy for not knowing any better than to giggle at jokes and non-jokes alike.

Vijay Sarathi (Orderly) — is a Chicago-based actor proudly making his debut with Artemisia Theatre. On stage he was recently seen as Lloyd in Promethean Theatre’s production of Bluestockings. His most notable film appearance was the lead in The American Dream (Official Selection of The 2018 Chicago South Asian Film Festival & 2019 San Antonio Film Festival). You may also recognize him as the stud college student on Ikea commercials. He trained at The Gately-Poole Acting Studio’s 2 yr. Meisner Intensive. Vijay is beyond thrilled to be collaborating with Artemisia and would like to thank his family, friends and agents at Hayes Talent for all their love and support. He’s an avid tennis player and coach. If you want to keep up with him, check out his site www.vijaysarathi.com or you can follow him on Instagram @vijaysarathi.

Brittani Yawn (Actor - Multiple Roles) — is originally from Cleveland, OH, and earned her BA in Theatre from Miami University. Recently she’s performed in Season Pass: Deux Over (The Plagiarists), the I AM...Fest (Black Lives, Black Words International Project) and The Ridiculous Darkness (Sideshow Theatre Company). She has performed in plays and readings with Hell in a Handbag Productions, Broken Nose Theatre, Stone Soup Shakespeare, the Annoyance Theatre, and io.
Olivia Gregorich – (Understudy – Multiple Roles) – is a recent transplant to Chicago and delighted to take part in her first production with Artemisia Theatre. Some of her roles include Imogen (Cymbeline), Beatrice (Much Ado About Nothing), and Oldie Mama (Gint). In Chicago, she has worked with The Artistic Home and the 2018 Rhinoceros Fringe Festival. A graduate of Lawrence University, Olivia also studied with the Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin and spent several summers with the Shakespeare Academy @ Stratford, CT. Many thanks to the friends and family who have been cheerleaders, tough-love-givers, and joyful playmates along the way.

Jennifer Mohr – (Understudy – Multiple Roles) – is excited to be working with Artemisia again. Most recently, she played Miranda in The Tempest with Midsommer Flight. Other Chicago credits include Captain Blood (First Folio); Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry, The Money Show (GreatWorks); A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Lightninghead Productions); Clara and the Nutcracker (Piccolo Theatre); and Chewing on Beckett (Artemisia Theatre). Regional credits include Noises Off (Tent Theatre); Reeper Madness (Springfield Contemporary Theatre). She also spent a year touring with Missoula Children’s Theatre. Jennifer would like to thank her friends and family for their love and support. As well as a heartfelt thank you to Julie and all the women who work to have their voices heard.

Marjorie Muller – (Understudy – Multiple Roles) – is a Chicago-based actor, playwright, and producer and is ecstatic to be part of her first production with Artemisia. She is a company and staff member of NoMads Art Collective. Most recently, she has been seen as Helena in Arc Theatre’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream, as Mina in The Martin’s Twelve Ophelias, and NoMads’ immersive piece Focus Group, a Focus Group. Marjorie is also a featured voice actor on the audio drama, Immunities. In May of 2020, NoMads will be producing her play, littlespace, or the daddy play, at the Greenhouse. She received her BFA in acting from The Theatre School at DePaul in 2017 and is an alumn of the Latin School of Chicago. For more information, visit MarjorieMuller.com. Endless love to Mom, Dad, Edgar, and Finn.

Josh Pennington – (Understudy – Multiple Roles) – is over the moon to be working with Artemisia Theatre for the first time. Josh was most recently seen in the Chicago Parks this summer in Midsommer Flight’s The Tempest. Recent Chicago Credits: Romeo & Juliet, Hamlet, Twelfth Night, The Wood, Beyond Therapy, Macbeth, The Medium, and Peter and the Starcatcher. Regional Theatre Credits: Twelfth Night, Julius Caesar, and Romeo & Juliet.

Evelyn Glover (Playwright) – Evelyn Glover was one of the most influential writers of Suffrage Plays, and dramatized the arguments of working-class women in particular, because of the criticism that was leveled at the Suffrage Movement - that only middle-class women would benefit from sexual equality and the vote. A CHAT WITH MRS. CHICKY depicts a conversation between a suffragette charwoman and an upper-class matron; and MISS APPLYEARD’S AWAKENING is a comedy in which an anti-suffrage activist comes to realize the fallacies and illogic of her views.

George Bernard Shaw (Playwright) – known at his insistence simply as Bernard Shaw, was an Irish playwright, critic, polemicist and political activist. His influence on Western theatre, culture and politics extended from the 1880s to the 1950’s and beyond. He wrote more than sixty plays, including major works such as MAN AND SUPERMAN (1902), PYGMALION (1912) and SAINT JOAN (1923). With a range incorporating both contemporary satire and historical allegory, Shaw became the leading dramatist of his generation, and in 1925 was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. PRESS CUTTINGS is a farce satirizing British politicians and attitudes against suffrage and imagines a time when suffrage activism led to an imposition of martial law and a chaotic society.
Beth Wolf (Director) — is delighted to return to Artemisia after directing Witch Camp at last year’s Fall Festival. Earlier this year, Beth directed Jeff Recommended productions of Non-Player Character at Red Theater and The Roommate at Citadel Theatre. She is the founder and Producing Artistic Director of Midsommer Flight, where she has directed nine Shakespeare productions in Chicago parks, most recently The Tempest in 2019. Other credits include LIARI, which won first place in the City Lit Art of Adaptation Festival; Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead, Black Magic: An Evening of Shakespeare, Seascape with Sharks and Dancer, Bury the Dead, The Fantasticks, and Shakespeare in the Garden (Promethean Theatre Ensemble); and various staged readings and assistant directing credits with Remy Bumppo, Idle Muse, City Lit Theater, and more. She also co-founded and is the former Artistic Director of Promethean Theatre Ensemble. Beth is a proud Northwestern University graduate with a double major in theatre and gender studies. Much love to her team: Dave, Roxy, and Miles. More at www.wolfatthestagedoor.com & www.midsommerflight.com.

Jillian Gryzlak (Set & Props Design) — has worked with multiple theaters and event companies throughout the Chicagoland area for over 14 years as a costume designer, prop artisan, set designer, and artist. Collaborations include Redmoon, Dance Exchange, Illinois Caucus of Adolescent Health, Cabinet of Curiosities, Adventure Stage, NewMoon, and Elgin Community College. Along with making work, Jillian works with youth across Chicago Public Schools creating large scale murals and installations.


Rachel M. Sypniewski (Costume Design) — is grateful to be designing with Artemisia for the first time! Other companies she has worked with include Goodman, Black Button Eyes, Jackalope, The New Colony, Emerald City, Lifeline, Haven, 16th Street Theater, Griffin, Promethean, Midsommer Flight, CityLit, Oak Park Festival Theatre, Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company, Strawdog, the Factory, Red Tape and Redtwist, and Trap Door. She also has designed at Wheaton College, North Central College, St. Patrick’s High School, Indiana University Northwest, and the Chicago Academy for the Arts. Rachel is an Artistic Associate with 16th Street Theater, the Factory, Trap Door and Griffin. She is a six-time nominee of the Non-Equity Jeff Award in Costume Design, receiving one. More info at www.rachelsyp.com.

Lindsay Tornquist (Dramaturg) — is thrilled to be the dramaturg for The Suffrage Plays! She has worked with Artemisia in many capacities, serving on multiple play search committees, acting one year as Literary Manager, portraying Ellen Clarke in Belfast Girls, directing the fall festival production of RUSH, and assistant directing Chewing on Beckett. Lindsay earned her MFA in Acting from Florida State University/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training, BA in Theatre from Cornell College, and is a graduate of the IO Training Center. She has had the pleasure to also direct or act with Raven Theatre, Akvavit Theatre, Broken Nose Theatre, Chimera Ensemble, Asolo Rep, Theatre at Monmouth, Riverside Theatre, Working Group Theatre, among others. She also teaches Theatre courses and has taught at Cornell College, Chicago Performing Arts, Manatee School for the Arts, and at various Chicago Public Schools through Auditorium Theatre and Beverly Arts Center. Lindsay is a proud member of Actors Equity Association. Learn more at Lindsaytornquist.com.

Courtney Coppa (Stage Manager) — is a director, dramaturg and stage and a new Chicago resident. She has had the opportunity of working with companies such as Studio Tenn, Goodman Theatre, Nashville Shakespeare Festival, and Atlanta Musical Theatre Festival. When she’s not working in the theatre, Courtney loves styling, dabbling in photography, Tex-Mex and the color yellow. Check out her business website at www.courtcopi.com and get to know her more as an artist!!

Jinni Barak (Assistant Director) — is thrilled to be continuing her working relationship with Artemisia Theatre on The Suffrage Plays. Jinni is a Chicago-area director and has worked with Three Brothers Theatre on their July world premiere of Smoke by Karen Nystrom. Jinni has also been an assistant director for the staged reading of Reap the Grove with Artemisia Theatre, as well as Rhizome Theatre’s Nice Town, Normal People in Collaboraction Theatre Company’s 2019 Encounter festival. Jinni is also an Artistic Associate and the Social Media Manager of Artemisia Theatre. Jinni is a proud alumna from Nebraska Wesleyan University, where she obtained her B.A. in Theatre & Social
Change, a degree of her own making. Jinni would like to thank her family back in Nebraska, as well as her partner Joshua, and their cats Pi, & Meeko for their endless support.

Scott Myers (Fight Director) – is thrilled to be working with Artemisia Theatre! A Chicago-native actor and fight director, Scott began his fight training at Columbia College Chicago where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Comedy Writing & Performance and a Minor in Stage Combat. Since graduating from Columbia and earning his Advanced Actor Combatant designation with the Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD), he has staged fights and stunts for over thirty plays, films, and live events. Scott spent the last year abroad earning his Master of Arts in Classical Acting at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) and training with the British Guild of Stage Combat (BGSC) and the British Academy of Dramatic Combat (BADC). Since returning to Chicago, recent theatre credits include Murder on the Nile with Oil Lamp Theater, the world premiere of Shadows of Birds with Glass Apple Theatre, The Tempest with Midsommer Flight, and Proof with Three Brothers Theatre. More info about Scott and his upcoming projects can be found at www.ScottMyersActor.com.

John Olson (Press & Public Relations) – is the principal of John Olson Communications, a marketing and PR firm specializing in arts and entertainment, and provides marketing and public relations support to a wide range of Chicago storefront theatre companies. He holds a M.S. in Advertising from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a BA in Journalism and Mass Communications from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. More info at www.johnolsoncomm.com.

Maitland Thompson (Marketing & Group Sales Intern) – is thrilled to be working with Artemisia remotely from her hometown of Omaha, NE. She attended Nebraska Wesleyan University and graduated with a BFA in Theatre Studies with a minor in Creative Writing. She dedicates herself to writing plays, screenplays, and novels for LGBT audiences, and hopes to create her own theatre company one day where representation is always put first. She is excited to have this opportunity at Artemisia, and enjoys collaborating with others!

Artemisia is a proud member of the League of Chicago Theatres, which will feature EVERY WAITING HEART as a Theatre Thursdays event on June 18, 2020. For more information visit chicagoplays.com/theatre-thursdays
The Suffrage Plays

It has been such a pleasure to work with Julie Proudfoot and the entire team at Artemisia to tell these three stories centered around the U.K. women’s suffrage movement. As I prepared for the rehearsal process, I realized something nearly universal amongst myself, the production team, and every acquaintance to whom I mentioned the show. We all were nodding our heads knowingly at the mention of the U.K. Suffrage Movement as if we knew everything about that part of history, when in fact, we all knew embarrassingly little about what suffragists truly went through to win the vote. As I researched and researched and researched some more, I marveled not only at how much I had never learned in school, but also at how remarkably prescient this history is to our modern moment. These plays written a century ago, these plays about a movement that long ago enjoyed its victory, these plays that ought to be museum pieces by now! -- are astonishingly relevant to our life in 2019 America. As we prepare for a year ahead of contentious election politics here at home, it is more vital than ever to remember how hard people fought for suffrage and to examine the importance of One Person, One Vote. In these plays, Shaw and Glover offer a kaleidoscope view of opinions, political tactics, and opposing values that are very much ‘of their time’ and yet eerily reflect ones that persist today in modern America — all presented with a healthy dose of hilarity and wit. With our own country approaching a crossroads in November 2020, now is the time to bring these 100-year-old British stories back to the stage.

Suffrage came at quite a cost to a number of courageous individuals who fought for the voting rights we enjoy today. I was determined to honor their sacrifice and celebrate the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which granted American women the right to vote. In revisiting Shaw’s PRESS CUTTINGS, I was delighted with his hilarious satire that makes painfully clear it is impossible to suppress women who refuse to be denied their equal rights. I discovered Evelyn Glover’s amazing suffrage plays for the first time - A CHAT WITH MRS. CHICKY and MISS APPLEYARD’S AWAKENING - and was inspired by her brilliant characterizations and witty dialogue. These three one-acts teach a great lesson even as they entertain. Our voting rights are ours to protect and defend. As we prepare for a monumental presidential election in 2020, may we be reminded of the great gift of our democracy and how the power of ‘One Person – One Vote’ protects it for the generations to come.

FROM DIRECTOR – BETH WOLF

SPECIAL THANKS

This production owes special thanks to numerous individuals and organizations for their time, talent and support; including The Den Theatre, Unity Lutheran Church, Promethean Theatre Ensemble, League of Women Voters of Chicago, The Theatre School at DePaul University, Adventure Stage Chicago, Chicago Women’s Bar Association, Nora Dwine, Tina Bach, Donald Scott, Ronald Keaton, Regina Buccola, Jennifer Thompson-Kirlin, Domenica & Jim Pappas, The Saints (Volunteers for the Performing Arts.)

FROM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR – JULIE PROUDFOOT
ARTEMISIA THEATRE PRESENTS
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF

Every Waiting Heart

BY Lauren Ferebee

JUNE 5-28, 2020

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