



**Reading Theater Project's 5-Minute Fringe Festival
Adaptations**

**Friday, February 26, 2021 | Saturday, February 27, 2021 | Sunday, February 28, 2021
7pm**



Order of Performance
FRIDAY, February 26, 2021

Improvising

Created by and performed by Meghan Austin

The Thigh Problem

Written and directed by Rachel Ellis Adams

Performed by Amanda Fuller and Alessandra Bongiardina

Realigned

Arranged and performed by Margot Adams

Left

Written and performed by Joel Gori

Directed and edited by Andrew Pochan

Random Thoughts

Written and performed by Emily Hannon

Winter

Created and performed by Sean Begane

Order of Performance
SATURDAY, February 27, 2021

Halle-Kazoo-jah Chorus

Written by and performed by Kath Godwin
Filmed and edited by John Pacovsky

One Day Older

Created and performed by Griffin Yeyna, Nicklaus Madigan, Jaylyn Rodriguez

Mother Goose Baggage

Written and Directed by Angie Ezell
Performed by Angie Ezell and Michelle Feathers

Darlin'

Written and performed by Nicole A. Gallagher & Ariel Mejia

Absence

Choreography by Jessica C. Warchal-King
Performed Sarena Kabakoff and Kalila Kingsford Smith
Music by Paul Fejko

Skepseis

Written by Jimmy Damore
Performed by Jeanette Fotis
Music by Nico Muhly

Order of Performance
SUNDAY, February 28, 2021

David Ives' *The Sure Thing, But It's 2020*

Written and directed by Taylor Clark Housel
Performed by Caitlin Whelan and Griffin Cook

Jack and the Beanstalk

Written and performed by Bayley Brown
Tech by Casper Earle
Music by Monplaisir

I Can't Make It Okay

Written and performed by Elaine Soltis
Produced by Lone Cricket Productions

Dancing Through the Pandemic

Created and performed by Sean Davis
Directed and edited by Chantel Logan
Music by Clifton Diaz

Scorin' Uglies

Written by and performed by Megan Rose
Composed, recorded and produced by Kernie & Maximus Frank

Plagued: Reflections on Adapting

Written by and performed by Nick Squeri (Green)

Kind of Together: A Zoom Monologue

Written by Adam Richter
Directed by Sean Sassaman
Performed by Bree Ogaldez

WHO'S WHO

MARGOT ADAMS

Margot Adams is excited to be back and working with RTP again - even if it's from afar. Previous RTP collaborations include 5-Minute Fringe: Fairy Tales (2018), Adaptations (July 2020), Fight or Flight, Rose Under Fire and Dead of Winter: Berks Haunting. Margot can currently be seen in Mary Magdalene, an adaptation of a Medieval play for modern times, right here online. She is a graduate of the Musical Theatre program at the Guildford School of Acting, and currently resides in Zurich, Switzerland where she teaches singing, acting and theatre in-person and online, with cameos from a very cute puppy.

RACHEL ELLIS ADAMS

Rachel is a fiction writer and independent film director, new to the Philadelphia area. She has been a student and a teacher of film and film-related things for many years. She is also a vegetarian, and she believes that fiction is the protector of unspeakable truths. Like James Baldwin, she wants "to be an honest person and a good writer."

MEGHAN AUSTIN

Meghan Austin is currently a student of cosmetology residing in Philadelphia, but still finds performance to be her most fulfilling pursuit. Born and raised in Exeter Township, she performed in many community shows and musical ensembles as well as studied dance from a very young age. Meghan still finds time to meet with local performer, dance teacher, and her mentor Michelle Wasik who collaborated with her to create the piece she is performing in this year's Fringe Festival.

SEAN BEGANE

Sean is a recent graduate from the University of Pennsylvania who is looking to get involved in theatre in and around the Philadelphia area. He has experience in acting and directing with a particular interest in experimental theatre. Sean is excited by the opportunity to work with the Reading Theater Project to explore a theatrical experiment.

BAYLEY BROWN

Bayley Brown strives to bring people together. Too often we feel isolated, but recognition of our shared humanity can help us come together to enjoy life to its fullest. Bayley is a graduate of Portland Experimental Theatre Ensemble's Institute for Contemporary Performance and has completed Dell'Arte International's Summer Intensive. She's well versed in clown, pantomime, Alexander Technique and aerial arts.

JEWELL A. BROWN

Jewell is excited to return to Fringe Fest as stage manager for her second year. 5-Minute Fringe is one of her favorite projects to work on, as she loves seeing the creative process in action, from idea to finalized performance piece.

GRIFFIN COOK

Griffin Cook is an aspiring voice actor who has been involved in productions including The Pavilion as the Narrator, Fuddy Meers as Millet, and Bob in The Revenge of the Space Pandas. He has also portrayed the puppet Marvin Martindale in The Pandemic Players of Pennsylvania in addition to writing credits. Griffin has a love-hate relationship with writing but thoroughly enjoys the creative process and collaborating with others in artistic endeavors. In addition to acting and writing, he has a professional background in business and economics. Griffin is currently pursuing formal voice over training and a new career path dedicated toward his artistic passions.

JIMMY DAMORE

Jimmy Damore is a teacher who also makes theater. B.A. in Performance Studies from Brown University.

SEAN DAVIS

Sean Davis is a sophomore at Wilson High School. His love for theater and dance began in sixth grade, and has continued to grow over the past four years. At the present time, Sean is in the cast of two upcoming school plays and actively competing on three dance teams. Being part of the 5-Minute Fringe project has been an amazing experience and he feels truly blessed for this opportunity.

CLIFTON DIAZ

Clifton has been a music producer for many years and has experience working with local artists in the Reading and Allentown areas. He was excited to create a unique musical piece that worked perfectly for Sean Davis's 5-Minute Fringe project.

ANGIE EZELL

Born a performer, Angie Ezell always had a strong connection to the arts. She entertained people with choreographed skits of song and dance as a young child. She wrote an abundance of poetry, a fictional (non-published) novel and received creative writing awards in high school. For decades, songwriting and singing captured her interest as she fronted original bands, including Frozen Poet and Big Beat Tornado. Writing, singing and performing music has allowed Ezell to escape into creativity and fantasy. Acting has been a lifelong desire. 5-Minute Fringe was the perfect way to dip her toes and test the waters.

PAUL FEJKO

Provocative, Challenging and Iconoclastic, Paul Fejko has always been quite fond of extremes. He can often be found treading on the boundaries of accepted limits and traditions. Fej divides his time among many endeavors, most notably with theater and dance as a composer and conductor, but also as a concert organist and pianist. As of this time, he has recorded 13 CDs of large European and American organs, covering a wide range of existing repertoire and his own improvisations. Fej is a product of The Curtis Institute of Music (class of '75) where he studied with Alexander McCurdy, Rudolf Serkin and Max Rudolf.

NICOLE A. GALLAGHER

Nicole Gallagher (she/her) is a Pittsburgh activist/working girl/teller of tales/scrappy and upstanding student of life. She began performing in summer theater camps in high school. This was followed by a variety of comedy classes. In 2019, she completed a miniMythologies residency with FolkLab, a Pittsburgh based interdisciplinary performance project. The product of her summer residency was Mija: one bitch's tale, a one-woman, autobiographical performance about the intersections of being a queer, multi-ethnic person coming to terms with a tumultuous past. In Covid times she runs an online storytelling open mic, "Stories in the Time of..." Follow Nicole on Instagram @storiesinthetimeof.

KATH GODWIN

Kath grew up singing harmony with her sisters. She went on to study Theatre and Accounting and has spent most of her life engaged in those pursuits. A naturally curious person, Kath wondered what it would be like to sing harmony with herself. She finds joy in simple things and hopes this experiment works.

JOEL GORI

Joel Gori is a movement-theater performer and a rostered artist with the PA Council on the Arts for more than 25 years. He is the artistic director of the Metamorphosis Performing Company which creates issue-oriented interactive-theater. He is a resident artist at the Yocum Institute for Arts Education, and founded the Reading Theater Project in 2003.

VICKI HALLER GRAFF

Vicki Haller Graff is an actor, writer and director and the Artistic Director of the Reading Theater Project. In addition to RTP, she has worked at the Yocum Institute in Wyomissing, Fall Festival of the Arts in Reading, TheatreWorks in the Silicon Valley, Touchstone Theatre in Bethlehem, studied at the Patravadi Theatre in Bangkok, and graduated from the University of Evansville with a BFA in Theater Performance.

EMILY HANNON

Fresh off two virtual fringe performances with Luna Stage in New Jersey, Emily is down with keeping things fringy. Emily trained at CAP21 and Stella Adler conservatories. After enjoying a career in auditioning she is now stoked to be writing her own material. She's around.

TAYLOR CLARK HOUSEL

Taylor Clark Housel is an actor, writer, and multiple award winning director. His notable acting credits include Macbeth as Macbeth, Enemy of the People as Mayor Stockmann; notable directing credits include The Pavilion, Biloxi Blues, Revenge of the Space Pandas, and Fuddy Meers. Taylor is also the founder of the Pandemic Players of Pennsylvania, where he and others pioneered original Zoom performance. Taylor currently spends his time as an acting coach with The Actor's School of Lancaster, and is eagerly awaiting the day theatres reopen.

CHANTEL LOGAN

Chantel is an elementary school teacher and Zumba fitness instructor for 10 years. She has taught at various locations in Berks County and is currently teaching Zumba dance fitness classes virtually. Chantel was thrilled to help from beginning to end with Sean Davis's 5-Minute Fringe project.

LONE CRICKET PRODUCTIONS

Lone Cricket Productions is a film and sound design production company based in Reading, PA, owned and operated by David Hall. For more information, please visit www.lonecricket.com

SARENA KABAKOFF

Sarena Kabakoff started her dance training at the age of 8, attending Berks Ballet Theater. She has studied and performed throughout the Philadelphia region. Recently, she performed with JCWK Dance Lab's "HOMEbody" around southeastern and as part of the virtual Fringe Festival in Philadelphia. Sarena is passionate about movement's capability to heal, to show us the stories we've been hiding from, and to move us forward into our own inner light.

KALILA KINGSFORD SMITH

Kalila Kingsford Smith is a Philadelphia native, independent choreographer, performer and dance educator. She builds dances that are responsive to the characteristics of the performance space, whether a theater, a museum, a nature trail, or a Zoom call. Informed by her training in modern and contemporary dance, her movement flows between tension and release, momentum and suspension, improvisation and composition, and storytelling and abstraction.

ARIEL MEJIA

Ariel Mejia (she/her) is a Chicago-based audio artist and freelance producer. She came to audio production by way of feminist organizing and praxis. Her work is featured on The BBC's Radio 4 Short Cuts, The Heart, and Jacobin Magazine's The Dig. In her free time, she is studying tap dancing. To hear her work and to learn more, you can visit her website www.arielmejia.com

BREE OGALDEZ

Bree Ogaldez is a New York City-based actor with roots in Pennsylvania stemming back to graduating with her degree in acting from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA. She is blessed to be performing with RTP again, having been part of 2020's Adaptations as well as the reading of "Home" by Adam Richter. When not onstage, she can be found playing guitar, practicing her Spanish skills, or reading a good book. Feel free to visit her website at www.breeogaldez.com.

ADAM RICHTER

Adam Richter is a journalist and playwright from West Reading, Pennsylvania. His plays have been performed by the Reading Theater Project and Barley Sheaf Players. His nonfiction play, "Second Home: Five Stories of Immigration" was performed in a virtual staged reading by the Reading Theater Project in August 2020. You can find links to his plays at adam-richter.com and find his tweets at twitter.com/richterfic.

MEGAN ROSE

Megan Rose is a local actor and graduate of Villanova University's MA Theatre program. Her most recent credits include Deathtrap (Allens Lane Theatre), Poe's Unhappy Hour (Shumo Theatre), Prospero's Ball (FringeArts), Tea at 4 (NYC Fringe), Pipers Pitch (Reading Theater Project), and various film, TV, and commercial credits. She will next be seen in a virtual production of A Body of Water in the role of Wren with Allens Lane Theater. Special thanks to Dieffenbach's Potato Chips, @MaximusFrankMusic, and @kernie. For more info @meganita.rose.

SEAN SASSAMAN

Sean Sassaman is a native of Reading, PA, and a 2016 graduate of Albright College. He is thrilled to be working on his fourth Fringe Festival with Reading Theater Project. This project is truly one of the highlights of the year and he is amazed at the perseverance of everyone involved, finding a way to continue creating art despite living during a pandemic. He would like to thank Adam for trusting him with Kind of Together and to Bree for breathing life and empathy into its words. Wear a mask, wash your hands, and be kind to everyone you meet.

ELAINE SOLTIS

Elaine Soltis started her pursuit of acting as a summer apprentice at the Green Hills Barn Theater, Reading, PA. She was part of the Hallowell agency for casting in commercial, voice over, model representation, and industrial film, a member of Actor's Equity, and was represented by the Lee Agency, now called the Ford Models and Talent. She also performed with regional theater Maple Leaf Vineyard Theater, in NE Ohio. Elaine returned to Reading in 2003, and currently is a Mixed Media Studio Artist at GoggleWorks, with both solo and collaborative exhibitions throughout the region and state.

NICK SQUERI (GREEN)

Nick is excited to be new to the fringe scene. He currently lives outside of Philadelphia, PA, with an undergraduate degree in English with a Theater minor. He was thrilled to be awarded the J. Harold Brislin Medal for Distinction in Creative Writing from Marywood University upon graduation. He enjoys writing poetry, and this is his first performance piece. He writes, "the pandemic has caused me to focus on the world around me, myself, and what poems that have inspired me throughout the years. I hope we can all reflect and learn from each other now and always!"

GABRIELA MARIE VALOY

Gabriela Marie Valoy is very happy to be working with the Reading Theater Project once again. Gabriela is no stranger to the creative arts and enjoys every moment she can be involved, both behind the scenes and on stage.

JESSICA C. WARCHAL-KING

Jessica C. Warchal-King, described as a "post mod(ern) ballerina" by the Philadelphia Inquirer, is a performer, choreographer, educator, and arts advocate. She is the director and founder of JCWK Dance Lab and the blog "Fieldnotes" through which she investigates the ways that dance can be a vehicle for non-violent, positive social change by creating Joy, Connection, and Wellness through Kinesthetic stories. Jessica is Artist in Residence in Dance at Alvernia University. jcwkancelab.org. Special thank you to poet Dr. Phillip Tietbohl and composer Paul Fejko for their contributions to this project.

CAITLIN WHELAN

Caitlin is a local performance artist and owner of Lightning Rod Reiki. She is ecstatic to be working with the Reading Theater Project once again and is thrilled to be among such talent. She would like to thank Taylor Clark Housel for his tireless work on Sure Thing, Griffin Cook for being a scene partner who pushes her out of her comfort zone, RTP for persisting in the face of questionable times, and you for supporting the arts.

GRIFFIN YEYNA

Griffin Yeyna, local actor and photographer is proud to participate alongside so many talented artists this year in the Reading Theater Project's 5-Minute Fringe Festival. He is equally proud to introduce Nick Madigan and Jaylyn Rodriguez, members of the up and coming independent punk rock band Pullin' Daisies to RTP's audience. Thank you for supporting the arts.

5-Minute Fringe Production Team:

Director: Vicki Haller Graff and Stage Managers: Jewell A. Brown and Gabriela Marie Valoy

5-Minute Fringe is generously sponsored by:

www.RestorePropertyCare.com

Elaine and Ed Soltis

www.LightningRodReiki.com

Reading Theater Project is supported by:

Berks Arts

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts

Reading Musical Foundation

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WHO IS THE READING THEATER PROJECT?

Reading Theater Project Board:

Jen Reimer, President
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Reading Theater Project Creative Team:

Vicki Haller Graff, Artistic Director
Kath Godwin, Finance
Chris Heslop, Music

The Reading Theater Project is a **locally-focused, professional theater company**, based in Greater Reading/Berks County, PA. We **create new theater**, like the 5-Minute Fringe, giving the audience a unique and original experience. **Risk-taking and art-making** are at the forefront of what we do. Past productions have included full productions inspired by local history and current events, play readings by local writers, a reading series at libraries across the county, and storytelling telling nights.

Up next:

Reading Reading on BCTV - Talking with Playwrights and Reading New Plays

March 16, 6:30pm, with Adam Richter

May 18, 6:30pm, with Rachel Ellis Adams

on BCTV or livestreaming at BCTV.org

Want to get involved? Contact us:

ReadingTheaterProject.org | 484-706-9719 | info@readingtheaterproject.com

Special Thanks

David Guest and BCTV

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