LOOSE CANON

Six comedies by Brian Reno &
Gabriel Vega Weissman

About Our Theatre

Eclipse Theatre Company offers theatrical opportunities that will thrill audiences and stretch boundaries as we match the talents of the wonderful actors and technicians of central Ohio with the atypical works of many of the world's finest playwrights.

Visit us online at **eclipsecolumbus.com** for news and updates!

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY

under the direction of

Kathy Sturm

presents

LOOSE CANON

Six short plays by
Brian Reno and Gabriel Vega Weissman

with (in alphabetical order)

Scott Clay
Katie Palcsak

Ellie Huber
Zack R. Rodriguez

Youssef Nagaty
Emery Saunders

Stage Manager
Brian A. Palmer

Assistant Stage Manager
Renee Collins

Dramaturg
Rickne Scheid

Eclipse Board Members

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Katie Palcsak

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Member at Large
Brian A. Palmer

Loose Canon is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

Loose Canon Cast

Scott Clay

Ellie Huber

Youssef Nagaty

Katie Palcsak

Zack R. Rodriguez

Emery Saunders

The Elmae

Inspired by the works of Euripides

Characters

Chorus Leader. . . . . Scott Clay
Jason . . . . . .Zack R. Rodriguez
Tiresias . . . . . .Youssef Nagaty
Cassandra . . . . . Katie Palcsak
Helen . . . . . .Ellie Huber
Hector . . . . . Emery Saunders

Setting

A suburban Chuck E. Cheese's. 1996.
It is Jason's 5th birthday party.
The party guests make up the Chorus

Euripides

Euripides, 480-406 B.C., lived in classical Greece. He wrote tragedies like *The Bacchae*, making use of a chorus of actors to move the story along. His plays were written to show the relationship of theater to society and art, and included characters who could destroy one another through intense love and hate.

The Perseverators

Inspired by the works of Moliere

Characters

Guillaume . . . . . .Youssef Nagaty
Hugo . . . . . Emery Saunders
Michelle . . . . . .Ellie Huber

Setting

An IKEA café.

Moliere

Moliere, 1622-1673, was a French playwright who had many royal patrons. He wrote plays like *The Misanthrope* and *Tartuffe* using characters who, due to their hypocrisy, vanity or greed, needed to be punished through laughter. His style included rhyming couplets. (Perseverate means to repeat or prolong an action even after the stimulus for that action has ceased.)

Peanuts & Cracker Jack

Inspired by the works of Neil Simon

Characters

Aidan . . . . . Scott Clay
Gloria . . . . . Katie Palcsak
Carol . . . . . Ellie Huber

Setting

High in the stands of Progressive Field, home of the Cleveland Indians.

Neil Simon

Neil Simon, 1927-2018, was born in the Bronx. He began developing his plays like *The Odd Couple* and *Barefoot in the Park* by first defining rich characters who were not heroic, but were flawed and frustrated. Only then would he develop the plot. His characters are decent, urban working class people facing the pressures of capitalism and success.

Upright & Locked

Inspired by the works of Samuel Beckett

Characters

Woman . . . . . Katie Palcsak
Voice from Above . . . . . .Youssef Nagaty

Setting

An airplane.

Samuel Beckett

Beckett, 1906-1989, was born in Ireland but spent most of his life in Paris. He wrote *Endgame*, a play about apocalyptic disaster. His plays were often bleak tragic-comedies with minimalist gallows humor, and without regard for a conventional plot, time or place. He portrayed a pessimistic version of people struggling to find a purpose for living and control of their lives. His style included repetition of words and phrases.

The Most Lamentable Comedie

Inspired by the works of William Shakespeare

Characters

Murray . . . . . Zack R. Rodriguez
Ross . . . . . Youssef Nagaty
Greg . . . . . .Emery Saunders

Setting

The manager's office of the Amazon.com warehouse.

William Shakespeare

Shakespeare, 1564-1616, was a British playwright who wrote his plays in early modern English using the form of iambic pentameter. This short play considers how the Bard might have written a review on Amazon.com.

The El Taqueria

Inspired by the works of Anton Chekhov

Characters

Amandita . . . . . Scott Clay
Shannonsuela . . . . . Katie Palcsak
Lorelailita . . . . . .Ellie Huber
Tio Cocinero . . . . . .Emery Saunders
Armando . . . . . Zack R. Rodriguez

Setting

A Taco Bell in North Adams, MA.

Anton Chekhov

Chekhov, 1860-1909, was a playwright living in Russia during a period of poor living conditions, poverty and high taxes. He believed that the role of the artist was to ask questions, not to answer them. He used a realistic writing style with a stream-of-consciousness that was blunt and to the point. As in *Three Sisters*, his plays were often sad, bleak, dark and depressing.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY

presents

Jerry Finnegan's Sister

by Jack Neary

February 12 - 27, 2021

Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 7:30

Sundays at 2:00

Visit **eclipsecolumbus.com** for full details!

Presented by special arrangement

with Dramatic Publishing

Who's Who in the Show

***Scott R. Clay** [*Chorus Leader, Aidan, and Amandita*] - Scott has worked extensively throughout Ohio and Southern California, but this is his first opportunity to work with Eclipse Theatre Company. *Loose Canon* has been a rewarding experience paying tribute to the writings of theatrical masters, without taking itself too seriously. Recent credits: *Steambath Blues* [Original Productions Theatre], Holmes in CATCO's production of *Holmes and Watson*, and King Hrothgar in Actor's Theatre's *Beowulf* (world premiere). Favorite Role: Uncle to Makenna and Micah.

**Actor's Equity Membership Candidate*

Renée Collins [*Assistant Stage Manager*]- Renée served as Assistant Stage Manager for tonight's performance. This is the first production that she has done with Eclipse Theatre Company. Past credits include: Stage Manger for *Poe: The Play* [Original Productions Theater] and Stage Manager for *Miss Julie* [The Columbus Civic Theater]. Renée would like to thank Brian and Kathy.

Ellie Huber [*Helen, Michelle, Carol, Lorelailita*] – This is Ellie's first production with Eclipse Theatre Company. Past credits include Alexi Darling and others in *RENT* [Emerald City Players], Alexi Darling and others in *RENT* [Center Stage Players], and various roles in *Love, Loss, and What I Wore* [Emerald City Players]. Ellie teaches high school Spanish for Olentangy Local Schools, and is currently teaching in their Committed Distance Learning program. She enjoys running, talking about running, and especially the feeling she gets after running. Ellie also enjoys cooking and cozy clothes. Ellie would like to thank Steve, Katie, and her parents for their support.

Youssef Nagaty [*Tiresias, Guillaume, Voice from Above,*

Who's Who in the Show

Ross] - Youssef will be portraying the roles of Tiresias, Guillaume, Voice from Above, and Ross for tonight's performance. This is the first production that he has done with Eclipse Theatre Company. Past Credits include: Leaf Coneybear in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* [Hilliard Arts Council], Ernie Cusack in *Rumors* [State of the Arts Productions], and Jorg Muller in *The Wild Hunt* [Midnight Audio Theatre Company]. Youssef would like to thank his parents, Amany and Assem.

Katie Palcsak [*Cassandra, Gloria, Woman, Shannonsuela*] - Katie is pleased to be back on stage at Eclipse. She was last involved here as director of *Kalamazoo*, the premier production in Eclipse's new home. Katie was last seen on stage in Columbus playing multiple roles in MadLab's *Social Distance Theatre Festival.* When not 'working for the man' Katie enjoys expressing herself via art - acting, directing and sound design. She serves on Eclipse Theatre Company's Board of Directors and is an ensemble member at MadLab theatre. Katie is glad to have the opportunity to be a part of these short plays that put a modern twist on classic theatre. She's also very pleased to be the official "gangsta wrapper." Oh, and music is her favorite - she hopes you like jammin' too!

Brian A. Palmer [*Stage Manager*] – Brian served as the Stage Manager for tonight's performance. This is the third production that he has done with Eclipse Theatre Company. Past credits include: Stage Manager for *The Laramie Project* [King Avenue Players], Stage Manager for *Going to St. Ives* [Eclipse Theatre Company], and Stage Manager for *Spamalot* [Little Theatre Off Broadway]. Brian would like to thank Anthony, Carrie, and Renee.

Zack R. Rodriguez [*Jason, Murray, Armando*] – Zack will

be portraying the roles of Jason, Murray, and Armando in tonight's performance. This is the first production that he has done with Eclipse Theatre Company. This is his first official production, however he was a cast member in the sketch-comedy group *Friday Night Live* [Mount Vernon Nazarene University]. Zack would like to thank his family, friends, and his wonderful cat, Indie for being supportive in this new venture.

Emery J. Saunders [*Hector, Hugo, Greg, and Tio Cocinero*] – Emery will be portraying the roles of Hector, Hugo, Greg, and Tio Cocinero in tonight's performance. This is the first production that he has done with Eclipse Theatre Company. Past credits include: Gindleman in *Wetworking from Home* [OG Productions], Detective Richardson in *Covid Interrogation* [OG Productions], and Mark in *Touching Reunion* [OG Productions]. Emery would like to thank Daniel, Katie, and Colleen.

Kathy Sturm [*Director*] – Nothing makes Kathy happier than seeing Eclipse back up and running, providing a creative outlet for so many central Ohio talents, and an entertainment source for all of us who have so missed live theatre! Kathy has been directing, acting, and designing around the Columbus area for over thirty years. She is a cofounder of Eclipse Theatre Company, and looks forward to providing years of enjoyment to all of our friends and theatre lovers. Past directing credits include *The Full Monty*, *Rent*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* [Emerald City Players].

Special Thanks

The company of *Loose Canon* would like to offer a special "Thank you!" to the following people:

Greater Columbus Arts Council
Jim Sturm
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Geri Martin

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