

The background of the poster is a photograph of a weathered brick building. A metal fire escape is attached to the side of the building, with its stairs and platform visible. A single red lantern with a tassel hangs from the fire escape's platform. The building has several windows, some with multiple panes. The overall tone is gritty and historical.

Northwestern | WIRTZ CENTER

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

JAN 8-10 2021

NEW AUDIO DRAMA

WIRTZ.NORTHWESTERN.EDU

Northwestern University's
Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts

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Theatre Department Chair

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Managing Director

RAMÓN RIVERA-SERVERA
Performance Studies
Department Chair

proudly presents

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

Written by Tennessee Williams

DIRECTED BY
Alvin Chan

PRODUCTION TEAM

Scenic Designer
JOE JOHNSON

Costume Designer
DRINA KRLIC

Lighting Designer
BRIAN JORDAN

CAST

Jim
REMY LAIFER

Tom
JARED SON

Laura
HANNAH YOON

Amanda
EMILY ZHANG

January 8–10
Audio Drama
Available On-Demand

The running time for this production is 2 hours and 26 minutes

The Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts is a member of
Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for
the American Theatre.

Program Cover & Promotional Artwork by Colin Quinn Rice
Program Editor: Chris Wych

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I remember reading this play around eighteen years of age. I couldn't understand it. Maybe it was the language, maybe it was the memory aspect of it, but for some reason, it just seemed...inconsequential to me at the time. Flash forward twenty years, to mid-career in my life as an artist: this play now speaks volumes to me as a first-generation Chinese American son of immigrants who moved to America to pursue their dream of happiness.

I reread this play at the age of thirty-seven. It struck me to the core. What is more, throughout the rehearsal process of this audio drama it struck my actors in a way that I could not have imagined. The story of Tom Wingfield—the story of Tennessee Williams—is the story of any minority group striving for representation and recognition in the eyes of American society. From the outside we are viewed as the “unadventurous,” with no place in American popular culture; moreover, this is how we are often viewed from the inside as well. But there are those of us who long for adventure, who need it to be everyone's dish, “not only Gable's. Then the people in the dark room come out of the dark room to have some adventures themselves.”

I hope that my point of view on this classic can open new doors into my community and perhaps spark conversations about older generations imposing their ideals upon younger generations without opening their ears and hearts to how the world of the young is no longer the world of the old. Because either way, it is not a one-way street. Our current predicament most certainly begs this kind of discourse.

ALVIN CHAN

CAST BIOS



REMY LAIFER (Jim) is a senior Theatre major in the Musical Theatre Certificate program with a minor in History at Northwestern University. At Northwestern, his favorite credits are *The 89th Annual Waa-Mu Show: State Of The Art* (Bradley, lead), *Guys And Dolls* (Nathan Detroit), *American Buffalo* (Teach), and *Scotland, Pa* (Duncan). He is a Sarah Siddons Society Scholarship recipient. Thank you, Alvin, the cast, and technical team for making all this happen! Art will persevere!

JARED SON (Tom) is a second-year studying Theatre, Musical Theatre, Creating the Musical, and Playwriting at Northwestern. Previously, he has been a member of Waa-2, the Waa-Mu winter writing team and the cast of *The 89th Annual Waa-Mu Show: State of the Art*. Favorite characters he has played include Lopakhin in AMTP's *Cherry Orchard* and Edward Blank in *The Very Grey Matter of Edward Blank*. Jared is so thrilled to be a part of this radio-play production of *The Glass Menagerie*.



HANNAH YOON (Laura) is in her final year of undergraduate studies in Theatre, English Literature, and Linguistics at Northwestern. She is delighted to be acting in her first Wirtz production. Recent acting and directing credits include *Sticks and Stones: Tactics for Talking to Bigots* with Spectrum Theatre Company, *Uncle Vanya* (directed by Alvin!), and *Eeyagi* with Northwestern's Undergraduate Research Program. After undergrad, Hannah plans on pursuing her secondary teaching credentials in English. She hopes you enjoy this radio play!

EMILY ZHANG (Amanda) is a junior double-majoring in theatre and psych! Most recently, she was seen as Hecuba in *The Trojan Women*, as well as *The Cherry Orchard*, *Never Not Once*, and *Cry It Out*. On campus, she is Co-President of playback troupe *Playing With Fire*, a proud Co-Production Manager of Spectrum, and NSTV actor. She hopes that everyone finds something familiar, funny, or touching in this reimaging of an American classic that honors not your classic American family, but one that belongs onstage nonetheless. A bajillion thanks to Alvin and the team for making this story of Asian American identity a vision realized. Many wishes of success, happiness, and gentlemen callers to you all!



SPECIAL THANKS

Hamid Dehghani (Directing Consultant), Neil Verma, Stephan Moore, Grover Hollway

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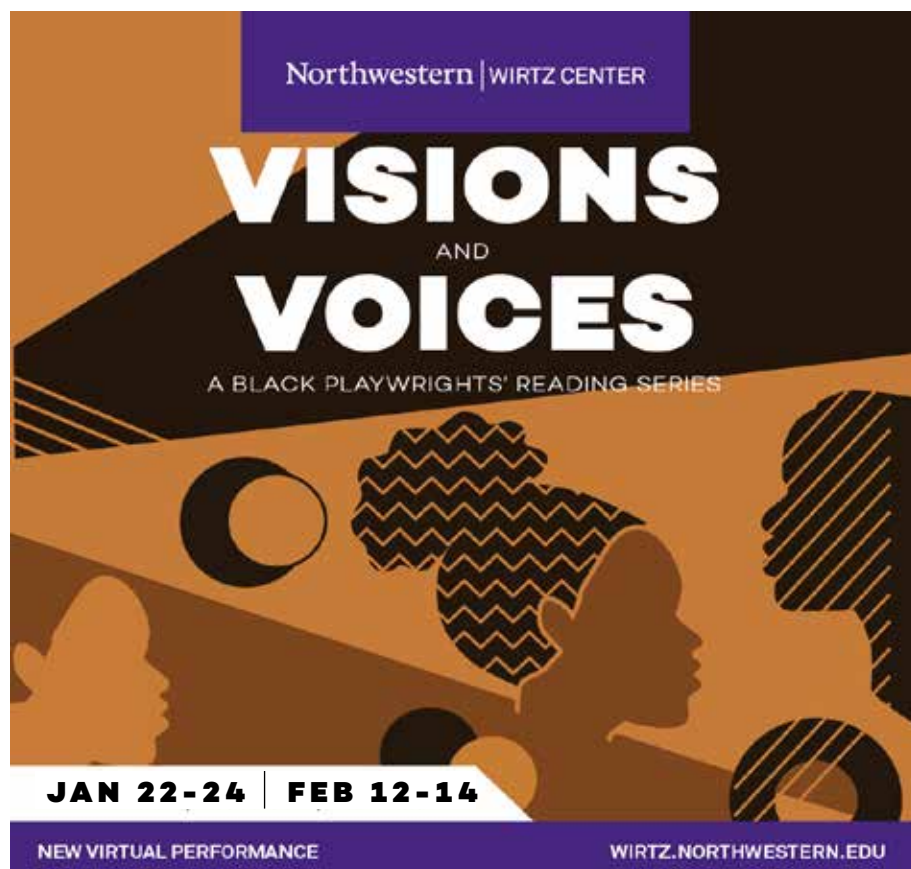
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