

Northwestern | WIRTZ CENTER

WATER BY THE SPOONFUL



MAY 20-29, 2022

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

WATER BY THE SPOONFUL

By Quiara Alegría Hudes

Director
JI WON JEON

Scenic and Projection Design
NORA MARLOW SMITH

Costume Design
KOTRYNA HILKO

Lighting Design
DAPHNE AGOSIN ORELLANA

Sound Design
STEFANIE SENIOR

Dramaturgy
LIA CHRISTINE DEWEY

Production Stage Manager
REBECCA J LISTER

Northwestern
arts circle
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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 Editor: Haley Groth and Tessa Kim

Northwestern University
Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts
10 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, IL 60208
Box Office Phone: 847-491-7282
wirtz.northwestern.edu

WATER BY THE SPOONFUL is approximately 2 hours and 10 minutes long with a 15 minute intermission

Audience content warning: Fog/haze, smoking, strong language, drug abuse, addiction, death, suicide, hospice, PTSD, violence.

COVID-19 GUIDELINES: The Wirtz Center complies with COVID-19 guidelines by Northwestern University, as well as local, state and federal governments. For more information, [please visit Northwestern University's Covid-19 site.](#)

WATER BY THE SPOONFUL was originally commissioned by Hartford Stage, Michael Wilson, Artistic Director, Michael Stotts, Managing Director, through the AETNA New Voices Fellowship Program. World Premiere Production presented by Hartford Stage October 28, 201, Darko Tresnjak, Artistic Director Michael Stotts, Managing Director. New York Premiere Produced by Second Stage Theatre, New York, 2013, Carole Rothman, Artistic Director.

SETTING: 2009, NORTH PHILADELPHIA

CAST

Daniel Mares	Elliot Ortiz
Amanda de la Fuente	Yazmin Ortiz
Samara Malik.....	Professor Aman/Ghost/Police
Gabriela Furtado Coutinho	HaikuMom
Sophie Liu David.....	Orangutan
Emefa Dzodzomenyo	Chutes&Ladders
Andy Johnston	Fountainhead
Mario Montes.....	Elliot Ortiz Understudy
Kalpita Chakote	Professor Aman/Ghost/Police Understudy
Alondra Rios	Yazmin and HaikuMom Understudy
Ann Gaither	Orangutan Understudy
Brennan Pringle.....	Chutes&Ladders Understudy

PRODUCTION TEAM

Ji Won Jeon	Director
Adam Wysocki	Assistant Director
Nora Marlow Smith	Set and Projections Designer
Hayley E Wallenfeldt.....	Assistant Set and Projections Designer
Ethan Karas	Assistant Projections Designer
Amelia Reyes-Gomez	Assistant Props Designer
Kotryna Hilko	Costume Designer
Daphne Agosin Orellana	Lighting Designer
Abby Letscher	Assistant Lighting Designer
Stefanie Senior	Sound Designer
Rebecca J Lister	Production Stage Manager
Olive Ferguson	Stage Manager
Lia Christine Dewey	Dramaturg
Courtney Abbott	Intimacy Choreographer
Victor Bayona	Fight Choreographer
Rick Gilbert	Fight Choreographer

SPECIAL THANKS

Mako Yamamoto, Katy Walsh, and the shop staff

We are on sacred ground. Northwestern University is on the traditional homelands of the people of the Council of Three Fires—the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa—as well as the Menominee, Miami, and Ho-Chunk nations. Before it was stolen from them through colonization and forced removal, this land was a site of trade, travel, gathering, and healing for more than a dozen other native tribes. The state of Illinois is still home to more than 100,000 tribal members. In the spirit of healing and making amends for the harm that was done, we acknowledge the native and indigenous peoples who called this land home. And we pledge ourselves as members of the Northwestern School of Communication to turn our statements into action and build better relationships with native and indigenous communities in Evanston, in Chicago, and throughout the region.

COMPANY BIOS

DANNY MARES (he/him/his) is a junior theater major from a small town in Upstate New York who has acted in over 18 productions of theater and film at Northwestern. He's also worked behind the scenes in over 12 film sets. You may have seen him as Papa Grande in the Wirtz production of *Tomas and the Library Lady* or as Yasha in AMTP's *Cherry Orchard*. Enjoy the performance and he sends his love to those involved.

AMANDA ELENA DE LA FUENTE (she/her/hers) Thrown into a production of *Much Ado About Nothing* at age 3, Amanda has not left the stage since. Graduating from ChiArts for Musical Theatre, she has appeared as Julia in *Two Gentleman of Verona* and Anita in *West Side Story* amongst others productions. She is a freshman theatre major/dance minor and has performed in The Dolphin Show's *Freshman Cabaret* and New Movement Project's *Jazz Nutcracker*. She is incredibly thrilled for this opportunity!

SAMARA MALIK (she/her/hers) is a senior theatre major with a minor in art, and is primarily a director. Independent: *The Old Man and the Old Moon* (2019, Director); *Our New Town* (2021, Director). Directing: Northwestern (*Shiv*; *Mercy*; *Carrying*; *Mamma Mia!*), Performing Stars Co. in the Bay Area (Marinship). Assistant Director: Marin Theatre Company (*Suessical*; *Dear Edwina*), Wirtz Center (*Voyeurs de Venus*; *Machinal*; *Something Rotten!*). Film: Mirabai Productions (Summer-Fall 2020), Zala Films (Summer 2021). Externships: Warner Brothers (Feb '22), Sony Pictures (Feb '20). Recently, she completed her directorial thesis production: *The Haunting of Hill House*. Much love to her family and friends!

GABRIELA FURTADO COUTINHO (she/her/hers) Brazilian artist Gabriela Furtado Coutinho is a Theatre and Creative Writing third-year. Recent projects: *The Bloody Bricks and Blows of American Dream High* (playwright) and *Much Ado About Nothing: A Miami Party to Joy* (director). She feels grateful for work experiences with The Kennedy Center, BoHo Theatre, and Television Academy. Gabriela would like to thank Ji Won Jeon and the team for this opportunity, as well as professors, friends, and family for their support.

SOPHIE LIU DAVID (she/her/hers) is thrilled to make her Wirtz debut in *Water by the Spoonful*! She is a

first-year studying Theatre, with a minor in Chinese and Dance. Sophie is an avid member of Graffiti Dancers and SteamHeat Dance Company, as well as the student theatre board Arts Alliance. In addition to performing, Sophie loves the outdoors, drinking coffee, playing poker, and binge-watching CW superhero shows. Thank you to the amazing cast, crew, and production team!

EMEFA DZODZOMENYO (she/her/hers) is a sophomore majoring in Theatre and pursuing a French Minor. She is originally from Columbus, Ohio and transferred from Columbia University this year. She is so happy to be making her Northwestern performance debut! When she's not acting, Emefa enjoys singing in Northwestern Community Ensemble and serving as the Business Manager of Lovers & Madmen. She would like to thank her cast, crew, director, family, and friends for supporting her thus far.

ANDY JOHNSTON (he/him/his) is a third year performer and playwright from Grand Rapids, Michigan. At Northwestern, he is pursuing a Theatre major with a minor in Religious studies. When not on stage, Andy enjoys a range of activities from playing music to birdwatching. His favorite place in the world is Michigan's Upper Peninsula. He would also like to thank his friends and family for all their endless support.

MARIO MONTES (he/him/his) is a first year theater major from Brooklyn, New York. His recent work includes playing Macbeth in *Macbeth* and Rodney in *Small Mouth Sounds*. He would like to thank Ji-Won Jeon and the production team, his cast, and the crew, designers, and everyone else associated with the production of *Water By The Spoonful*.

KALPITA CHAKOTE (she/her/hers) is a senior theatre major in the Creative Nonfiction Writing sequence. Her dramedy pilot "Assimilated" placed first in the Undergraduate Brad Krevoy Screenwriting Competition (2021) at Northwestern University. She is very excited to make her little first-year dream come true and perform in a Wirtz show her last quarter at Northwestern! Thank you to Ji Won, the cast, and the crew for this whirlwind experience! You can see her next at the NU MFA New Play Festival on June 3, 2022. Please dm her on Facebook or Instagram if you are interested in working with her!

ANN GAITHER (she/her/hers) is a first year from

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia majoring in political science, philosophy, and performance studies. This is her time performing in a Wirtz process. On campus, she is also involved in Political Union, Helicon Literary Magazine, and Spectrum Theatre Company. When not in rehearsal, she can be found listening to music or looking for coffee.

BRENNAN PRINGLE (she/her/hers) is so excited to be a part of *Water by the Spoonful*! Brennan is a second-year studying Theatre and is the Director of Internal Education/Co-Chair of Lipstick Theatre. Recent Northwestern credits include: *Illest Dance* (Ensemble), *Mamma Mia* (Assistant Choreographer), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Watchman/Co-Choreographer) and she is currently serving as Assistant Choreographer in *Men on Boats*. She would like to thank the entire cast and crew for making this experience so special!

JI WON JEON (she/her/hers) is a Chicago-based theatre director from Seoul, South Korea working internationally. She believes in the power of theatre and storytelling to jumpstart conversations that challenge our assumption and move us outside our comfort zones. She thinks that the stories we tell about ourselves are formative of who we become as individual, community and society. Her work is therefore centered around the idea of bringing individual and collective cultural history that makes us who we are today and allows us to move forward. She holds BA degree in Theatre and BA in Visual and Performing Arts Studies from University of Southern California and is currently in her final year of MFA in Directing program at Northwestern University. Previously at Northwestern, she directed *Peerless* by Jiehae Park, and her other favorite directing credit includes *Buried Child*, *Polaroid Stories*, *Armstrong's Moon*, *Ubu Roi Project*, *The History Boys*, *No Exit*, and *Pillowman*. www.jiwondirects.com and Theatre Evolve and many more to come.

NORA MARLOW-SMITH (she/her/hers) is thrilled to be working on this team of amazing strong women, telling this powerful story. Nora is about to finish her MFA in Set and Costume Design as well as her Teaching Certificate from the Searle Center. She completed her BA in English Literature and Set Design from Mount Holyoke College in 2012 and a Graduate Fellowship at Amherst College in 2013. Previous Wirtz Credits include *In His Hands*, *Last Stop on Market St*, *Fun Home*, *The Death of the Last Black Man in the Whole Entire World*, and *Peerless*

(costumes). Past professional credits include *Anastasia* (JCP), *Grand Rounds* (LaMama), *Wake... Sing* (IRT), and *Antigone* (Amherst College). Keep an eye out for more work from Nora at the Wirtz Center this summer on *Marisol* (sets) and *Dance Nation* (sets, costumes). www.noramarlowsmith.com

KOTRYNA HILKO (she/her/hers) is a Chicago based costume designer, having designed for theatres including A Red Orchid Theatre, Firebrand Theatre, Definition Theatre Company and The New Colony, Haven Theatre, and Porchlight Music Theatre. She has additionally assisted at Timeline Theatre, Remy Bumpo Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Victory Gardens Theatre, Windy City Playhouse, and The Gift Theater. She holds a BFA in Performance and BA in Costume Design from University of Illinois at Chicago and is currently a third year MFA Stage Design Candidate.

DAPHNE AGOSIN (she/her/hers) is a lighting designer finishing her MFA in Stage Design at Northwestern University. She has worked in theater, dance, and urban design. She designed *Something Rotten* [2022], *Eurydice* [2019], and *Danceworks* [2019/2022] at the Wirtz Center and *Enter Your Sleep* [2017], *Non-Player Character* [2018] and *The Conduct of Life* [2019] at the Yale Cabaret. She co-designed *Intimate Apparel* at Northlight Theater [2022]. She co-founded the performance group Grass Studio Theatre with Hamid Dehghani.

STEFANIE SENIOR (she/her/hers) is a freelance designer and engineer. Chicago credits include: *Wellesley Girl* (Compass Theatre); *8-Track* (Theo Ubique); *Whose Body* (Lifeline). Regional credits include: *Ada and The Engine* (Cardinal Stage); *Working* and *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill* (Depot Theatre); *The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey* and *Topdog/Underdog* (Lake Dillon Theatre Company). She also works on the podcast *I've Been Meaning to Listen to That*. www.stefaniemsenior.com

REBECCA J LISTER (she/her/hers) is a Stage Manager and Teaching Artist based in Chicago, IL. She is thrilled to be back for her 8th show with Northwestern. Her previous credits include: Production Stage Manager for *Home* and *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992* (Fleetwood- Jourdain), and Assistant Stage Manager for *Why Torture...* (Eclipse Theatre Company). She teaches and assists with Mudlark Theatre Company. She holds a BFA in Acting and Theatre Design and Technology from Oakland University.

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We thank our donors who make it possible to develop and sustain the quality of productions at Northwestern University. The following individuals and institutions have made gifts to one or more of the following areas: the Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts, American Music Theatre Project, and the Music Theatre Funds. All gifts were made between September 1, 2020 and August 31, 2021.

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