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NOVEMBER 28 – DECEMBER 9, 2018
PREVIEWS NOV 25 + 27

FEFU AND HER FRIENDS

BY **MARÍA IRENE FORNÉS**
DIRECTED BY **VALERIE CURTIS-NEWTON**

*With generous support from Joan and Howard Voorheis,
The UW School of Drama presents:*

FEFU AND HER FRIENDS

By María Irene Fornés
Directed by Valerie Curtis-Newton

Spring 1935
New England

Part I: Noon
Part II: Afternoon
Part III: Evening

*"There are two of you, one who wants to write and one who doesn't.
The one who wants to write better keep tricking the one who doesn't."
-María Irene Fornés*

Fefu and Her Friends runs 85 minutes with no intermission

This production contains gunshots

Fefu and Her Friends (Single Stage Version) is produced by special arrangement
with Broadway Play Publishing Inc, NYC.
www.broadwayplaypub.com.

Major Donors

We wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who have made a financial contribution to the School of Drama in the past year. Your gifts make a genuine impact in the lives of our students, and in turn, within the greater theatre community.

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The School of Drama would like to acknowledge the members of the former School of Drama Advisory Board, who have now been deemed our School of Drama Angels.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our students and program!

Stephen Alley	Randy Everett	Scott Mertel	Howard Voorheis
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UW School of Drama
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Geoff Korf, *Professor and Associate Director*

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Catherine Cole	
Valerie Curtis-Newton	<i>Principal Lecturer</i>
Odai Johnson	Catherine Madden
Thomas Lynch	

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	Mark Jenkins
	Judith Shahn
	Aurora Valentinetti
	Barry Witham
	Jack Wolcott

Cast

Fefu.....	Alyssa Franks*
Cindy.....	Jessica Thorne*
Christina.....	Tricia Castañeda-Gonzales*
Julia.....	Allyson Lee Brown*
Emma.....	Alana Cheshire*
Paula.....	Hailey Henderson*
Sue.....	Anaïs Galpois [°]
Cecelia.....	Annie Willis [°]

Creative Team

Scenic Design.....	Wenzheng Zhang*
Costume Design.....	Luna McMeen [°]
Lighting Design.....	Chun Yen Huang*
Assistant Director....	Kristie Post Wallace*
Stage Manager.....	Brittany Thomas [°]
Props Master.....	Andrea Bryn Bush
Technical Director....	Alex Danilchik
Master Electrician.....	Jay McAleer

Acknowledgments

Geoff Korf, Andrew D. Smith

*MFA student at UW
[°] Undergraduate student at UW

Crew

Asst. Costume Designer.....	Isabella Reed Harris [°]
Asst. Lighting Designer.....	Stokke Xu [°]
Asst. Stage Manager.....	Katherine Good [°]
Audio Engineer.....	Avril Martinez
Wardrobe Supervisor.....	Chanté Hamann*
House Managers.....	Olivia Davies [°]
	Katyrose Jordan [°]
Light Board Operator.....	Haylee Hawkins [°]
Sound Board Operator.....	Taylor King [°]
Run Crew.....	Sagen Berry [°]
	Dane Castleton [°]
	Joy Park [°]
	Eduardo Perez [°]
Costume Crew.....	Karina Castro Gonzales [°]
	Kendra Kolasinski [°]
	Jordan Roche [°]
	Maria Rojkova [°]
	Emily Smith [°]
	Hua Wu [°]
Graduate Staff Assistants.....	Em Allen*
	Xavier Bleuel*
	Trevor Cushman*
	Joshua Legate*
	Shin-Yi Lin*
	Adair MacCormack*
	Chih-Hung Shao*
	Jordan Twaddle*

*MFA student at UW

[°]Undergraduate student at UW

designer for Rebate Ensemble's *Richard III*, Theatre Battery's *We Are Pussy Riot*, UW UTS' *Fortinbras* and Theatre Schmeater's *The Country Wife*. She thanks the wonderful support of her friends and family and the School of Drama for this amazing opportunity.

Chun-Yen Huang (Lighting Designer)

Hometown: Taiwan

Previous degrees: National Taiwan University School of Drama

Chun-Yen Huang is a second-year MFA student at the UW School of Drama, studying lighting design. He designed his first show in the U.S., *Goldie, Max and Milk*, in May 2018. Later this season Chun-Yen will design UW's production of *In the Heart of America*.

Name: Brittany Thomas (Stage Manager)

Hometown: Spokane, WA

Previous degrees: Deer Park High School

Brittany has worked on several School of Drama productions including *As You Like It* as Costume Crew and *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark*, *Trojan Women: A Love Story*, and *12 Ophelias* as a part of the stage management team. Brittany also works as the Production Manager for The Undergraduate Theater Society (UTS). She is so excited to be working with the School of Drama again and wants to thank her friends and peers who remind her everyday just how important art is.

Kristie Post Wallace (Assistant Director)

Hometown: Salt Lake City, Utah

Previous degrees: A.S. with emphasis in Theatre, Salt Lake Community College,

B.A. Theatre Education, Spanish Education Minor, Brigham Young University

Kristie is a first year in the M.F.A. Directing program. Most recently she has directed *The Giver*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *Crazy for You*. One of her favorite projects to work on was *The Lion King, Jr.* with ASL shadow interpreting.

Kristie would like to thank her husband Josh, her three daughters and her family and friends for their tireless support.

Annie Willis (Cecilia)

Hometown: Portland, OR

Annie is delighted to return to the UW stage after appearing in last spring's epic *Angels in America: Perestroika* (Aleksii, etc.). Other UW credits include *Trojan Women: A Love Story* (Polyxena), the title role in *Orlando, As You Like It* (Phebe), *The Inexplicable Redemption of Agent G* (Molly, Abby, Sexy White Girl, Pham, Wife), and others. Before coming to UW, Annie was performing with Northwest Children's Theater in Portland, where her stage credits include the world premiere adaptation of *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel), *The Drammy* and PAMTA award-winning *Mary Poppins* (Ms. Lark, Chimney Sweep, Ensemble, Miss Andrew u/s), and *Goodnight Moon* (Old Lady). Annie would like to thank Val for seeing her in this role and her family for coming to all her shows.

Valerie Curtis-Newton (Director)

Hometown: Vernon, CT

Previous degrees: College of the Holy Cross, University of Washington
Currently the Head of Directing at the University of Washington School of Drama, Valerie serves as the Founding Artistic Director for The Hansberry Project, an African American theatre lab. She has worked with theatres across the country including: The Guthrie Theatre, Playmakers Repertory Company, Actors' Theatre of Louisville, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Intiman Theatre, Seattle Children's Theatre, The Mark Taper Forum, New York Theatre Workshop, and Southern Repertory Theatre among others. She has been awarded the 2016 Artists Trust Arts Innovation Fellowship, the 2016 Seattle Times Footlight Award (Best in Show), The 2014 Stranger Genius Award in Performance and the Crosscut Courage Award for Culture.

Wenzheng Zhang (Scenic Designer)

Hometown: Taiyuan, China

Previous degrees: BA at Arizona State University

Wenzheng Zhang (Wen) is a third-year scenic student and this is his thesis show. His previous designs at UW include *Goldie*, *Max and Milk* and *Monstrosity*. He wants to thank his professors, scene shop heroes and everyone who comes to see the show.

Luna McMeen (Costume Designer)

Hometown: Denton, TX

Luna has worked in crew positions for multiple School of Drama shows such as *Iphigenia and Other Daughters*, *Agent G*, *Maple and Vine*, *Pippin*, and Washington Ensemble Theatre's *The Nether*. Luna was the costume design assistant for School of Drama's *As You Like It*. She has worked as a costume

Director's Note

María Irene Fornés died on October 30, 2018. She was a titan in our field who will be sorely missed.

So, why this play? Why now?

Because María Irene Fornés will continue to be an inspiration to theatre artists. Because she nurtured and coaxed art from everyone she met. Because we need reminders that we can only create the world we want to see by first fiercely challenging the world as it is. She did that and so much more.

The play was written during a period of women's consciousness-raising. It looks back to a time before the modern Women's Movement. It questions the male gaze and implicates us all in continuing to perpetuate internalized sexism and classism. The acknowledgment of the ways that women are challenged and support each other is a powerful message even today. Perhaps, especially today.

María Irene Fornés left a legacy as an advocate for finding and using one's voice. The testimonials that have poured out since her death underscore her significance. My hope is that our production will keep that legacy alive.

- Valerie Curtis-Newton

ARTIST BIOS

Allyson Lee Brown (Julia)

Hometown: New Orleans, LA

Previous degrees: BA, Drama/Theatre Arts, Spelman College

Intelligent, charismatic, compassionate and outgoing are just a few words that aptly describe the persona of third-year PATP actor, Allyson Lee Brown. Allyson most recently appeared in ArtsWest Playhouse's production of *Skeleton Crew*. Her other credits include *Milk Like Sugar* (ArtsWest Playhouse), *The Bluest Eye* (Le Petit Theatre,) *Trojan Women: A Love Story* (UW Drama) and *Angels in America: Perestroika* (UW Drama). In addition to her passion for acting, Allyson enjoys mentoring and encouraging youth to tap into their greatness. She would like to thank her friends and family for their constant love and support.

Tricia Castañeda-Gonzales (Christina)

Hometown: Monterey Park, CA

Previous degrees: BA in Theatre Arts, Linfield College

Tricia is a third-year actor in the Professional Actor Training Program. Originally from Southern California, Tricia moved to the northwest and obtained her BA in Theatre Arts from Linfield College, in McMinnville, Oregon. Prior to moving to Washington Tricia worked as an actor and teaching artist in Portland, Oregon for Milagro Theatre and Oregon Children's Theatre. Previous UW credits include *Goldie Max and Milk*, *Trojan Women*, *By the Way*, *Meet Vera Stark*, *Cock*, *The Richest Girl in the World Finds Happiness* and *Fucking A*. She'd like to thank our fearless leader Val and the cast/crew...what a blessing to be in the room with such incredible women.

Alana Cheshire (Emma)

Hometown: Atlanta, GA

Previous degrees: BS in Vocal Performance/Theatre at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music

Seattle credits: Lisa in *Goldie, Max and Milk*, Helen in *Trojan Women: A Love Story*, QZ in *The Few*, The Richest Girl in *The Richest Girl in the World Finds Happiness*, Ensemble in *Sueño* (University of Washington), and Gower/Diana in *Pericles* (Wooden O). Other favorite regional credits: Evil Angel in *Doctor Faustus* (Resurgens Theatre Company, GA), Suzy in *The Marvelous Wonderettes* (Art Station, GA), Love Cursed Bride in *Lucia di Lammermoor* (Atlanta Opera, GA), Celia in *As You Like It* (Shakespeare at Notre Dame, IN), Girleen in *The Lonesome West* (Cardinal Stage Company, IN), and Sunny Freitag in *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* (Brown County Playhouse, IN). Love and thanks to my classmates, my professors, my family, Steven, and my cats, Rupert and Reginald.

Alyssa Franks (Fefu)

Hometown: Salt Lake City, UT

Previous degrees: Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts, BFA in Acting
Alyssa has most recently been seen in Island Stage Left's *The Tempest*, and *Angels in America Part II: Perestroika* and *Trojan Women* at the UW. Prior to starting her MFA, she worked as a high school theatre teacher, a freelance voice-over artist and an actor in educational simulations for medical and law students at the University of Utah. Alyssa would like to thank the faculty of the PATP and all of the courageous women in her life.

Anaïs Gralpois (Sue)

Hometown: Mercer Island, WA

Previous training: The British American Drama Academy

Anaïs most recently appeared in Seattle Shakespeare Company's Wooden O production of *King Lear* this past summer. Last fall, she starred as Eve in *Her Naked Skin* in London, directed by Jessica Turner. Her previous UW credits include *Iphigenia & Other Daughters* and Jet City's *Beginnings: First Breath*. When she is not acting, Anaïs is a playwright. She would like to thank her friends and family for always supporting her.

Hailey Henderson (Paula)

Hometown: Moab, Utah

Previous degrees: BFA in Theatre Performance, Westminster College

Hailey's UW credits include Harper in *Angels in America Part II: Perestroika* and Mina in *Twelve Ophelias*. Other credits include Charlotte Corday in *The Revolutionists*, Nina in *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, Ismene in *Antigone*, Janet in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and Catherine Givings in *The Vibrator Play*. Before moving to Seattle she spent a few years performing for various theatre companies in Oregon and is delighted to be in her second year of training with the PATP.

Jessica Thorne (Cindy)

Hometown: Roswell, GA

Previous degrees: Bachelors of Music in Musical Theatre, Catholic University
Before coming to Seattle, Jessica worked as an actress and teacher in Washington, D.C. Some favorite credits include *The Tempest*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Shakespeare Theatre Company), *Threepenny Opera*, and *Cabaret* (Signature Theatre), *My Fair Lady Gala* and *Defiant Requiem* (The John F. Kennedy Center). Jessica is a proud member of Actor's Equity Association and sends her love to R. jessicathorne.org