

day/dream program

The Department of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies Presents

day/dream

step into the unknown

directed by Craig Quintero

Roberts Theatre
February 28–March 1, 2025

CREATIVE TEAM

Directed by Craig Quintero

Scenic Art by Chen Chang-Chih

Lighting Design by S. Benjamin Farrar and Andrew (A) Lim '25

Costume Design by Erin Howell-Gritsch

Technical Direction by Erik Sanning '89 and Kate Baumgartner '11

Stage Management by Amélie Pfister '28 and almond Heil '25

Devised on the set if *Pity*, Designed by Lucie Greene '23

CAST

Adyasha Anindita '28

Bella Villarreal '25

Hemlock Stanier '25

Issac Alexander '28

Joslyn Lilly '27

Akira Keene Teotrakool '28

Sophia Levitas-Goren '28

CREW

Christian Stockman '27, Sound Board Operator

Graham Sundstrom '25, A.V. Operator

Katharine O'Hearn '28, Stagehand

Maddy Rudolph '28, Light Board Operator

Maple Zhao '28, Stagehand

Redd Cortes '27, Wardrobe

Rose McClain '27, Livestream Team

Sophia Dorward '28, Wardrobe

Yoshi Ascencio '27, Livestream Team

MUSIC

Blaire Ko

Adyasha Anindita '28

Bella Villarreal '25

Hemlock Stanier '25

Akira Keene Teotrakool '28

STUDENT STAFF

More than 20 TDPS student staff members have contributed to bring this production to life. We value these students working in front of house, costume studio, scene shop, and admin roles. Due to privacy policies, we are not able to publish the roster of the student staff here. Instead, we will use this space to express appreciation for their collective time, skills, and artistry. Thank you, student staff!

SPECIAL THANKS

Lucie Greene '23

Joel Mankowski

Joyce Bergan

Amy Onstot

Christina Sporer

TDPS Faculty, Staff, and SEPC

Gina Donovan '04

Autumn Wilke

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

What do “experimental” and “avant-garde” mean in 2025? What experiments are we conducting in theatre, art, dance, and music that are really challenging and extending the boundaries of our artistic mediums? Is “experimental theatre” still experimental? Our challenge as artists is to confront the conventions of our mediums, but once we discover a new approach that “works,” we cannot simply repeat our success. Instead, we must continue our exploration. A creative discovery is not an ending but a beginning, the starting point for a new series of experiments.

In talking about his creative process, American theatre director Robert Wilson describes his belief that artists must fight their natural impulses and step out of their familiar patterns. Using the metaphor of traveling in a city, Wilson advises that when you arrive at the same intersection where you always turn right, then you should turn left. It might not be the most efficient or effective way to get to your destination, but you will be able to make new discoveries along the way. Wilson explains that as an artist, “You think of the wrong thing to do... Then you do that.”

Video artist Nam June Paik described the day he brought his new television home in the 1960s and noticed that the instruction manual warned owners not to put magnets on the cathode tube screen. Paik, unsurprisingly, immediately placed a magnet on the screen, causing a white circle to form where he had placed it. He transformed this discovery into his installation *Moon is the Oldest TV* (1965) which features twelve televisions displaying the moon's cycle based on the placement of magnets.

Of course, I am not recommending that you go home and place a magnet on your screen, but I am encouraging this inquisitive spirit that can lead to new discoveries. It's the fundamental wondering of "What if?"

For *day/dream*, I've had the pleasure of collaborating with an amazing cast of seven actors and our creative team to devise a new performance utilizing the scenic design by Lucie Greene '23 for Professor Karie Miller's fall main stage production of *Pity*. Lucie's set was the "script" for our production, serving as the starting point for our creative exploration. The ensemble developed their own original songs, text, and dances as we weaved together our surreal performance that subtly shifts between dreams and reality, fact and fiction.

As you watch the performance, I encourage you to fore- go the logic of everyday life and allow yourself to swim in the moments. Like life, *day/dream* does not present a single meaning or moral; the performance is a series of events that slowly unfold one after another.

We invite you to step into the unknown.

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

Craig Quintero (Director) As the Artistic Director of the Taipei-based Riverbed Theatre Company, Craig has written and directed over fifty original image-based performances, including productions in Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Singapore, China, France, Germany, the United States, and England. He is also a sculptor and installation artist whose work has been shown at the Asian Biennial, Venice Biennale Collateral Events, Kobe Biennale, Taipei Biennale, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei MOCA, and the Shanghai Museum of Contemporary Art. His three VR films (*All That Remains*, *Over the Rainbow*, and *A Simple Silence*) have been screened at over 50 international film festivals including the Venice Film Festival, Tribeca, and Beyond the Frame, winning Best Immersive Experience at the Luxembourg Film Festival, Best 360VR Film at the Kaohsiung Film Festival, and the Panorama Prize at the Festival du Nouveau Cinema. His *Just for You Trilogy* will premiere at SXSW in March 2025, and his new XR experience *Blur* will premiere at the Taiwan International Festival of the Arts. A former Fulbright Senior Scholar and Mellon Foundation Humanities Unbounded Fellow, Craig received his

Ph.D. in Performance Studies from Northwestern University and is a Professor in the Department of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies at Grinnell College, teaching classes in Directing, Acting, and Devised Theatre.

Chen Chang-Chih (Scenic Artist) Based in Taipei, Chang-Chih's multidisciplinary work includes stage design, painting, installation art, and teaching. He was a recipient of the Outstanding Creative Award from the College of Fine Arts at the National Taiwan University of Arts. His artistic practice primarily involves oil painting, watercolor, pencil, colored pencil, and mural painting. His works have been exhibited in Taiwan, the Netherlands, Beijing, and Macau. In recent years, he has contributed to the stage design and visual arts production for Riverbed Theatre's *Dream Factory*, *Dreams and Shadows*, *Taking it Down and Putting it Up*, and *The Forgotten*, as well as the VR trilogy *All That Remains*, *Over the Rainbow*, and *A Simple Silence*. Beyond theatre, he has also been involved in film art production, including *Intimate Encounter* by director Chang Tso-chi and *The Time of Huannan* by director Li Ding. Chang-Chih holds a Master's degree in Fine Arts from the National Taiwan University of Arts.

S. Benjamin Farrar (Lighting Designer) is a designer of light, scenery, and projections for live performance. Benjamin has worked throughout North America in venues such as The Majestic Theatre in Boston, The McCarter in New Jersey, Jacob's Pillow in Massachusetts, Williamstown College's '62 Center, Z Space in San Francisco, Meany Center in Seattle, The Royal Conservatory in Toronto, and Wolf Trap in Virginia. Past venues in New York City include The Public Theater, Joyce Theatre, New Victory Theatre, Cherry Lane Theatre, Connelly Theater, Vineyard Theatre, Lincoln Center, and The Lortel. He has also designed for venues in Australia, Mexico, Argentina, Peru, Brazil, England, Burkina Faso, Scotland, Switzerland, Slovenia, and The United Arab Emirates. Benjamin is now proudly Iowa-based, where he has worked with Riverside Theatre, Theatre Cedar Rapids, Nolte Productions, The University of Iowa, Grinnell College, Cornell College, The Englert, Bruce-More Historical Site, Revival Theatre, and Orchestra Iowa. He is currently resident designer for Soledad Barrio & Noche Flamenca, production manager for Flamenco Arts International, and director of scenic and lighting design for Theatre Cedar Rapids. You can find more at farrardesign.live

Erin Howell-Gritsch (Costume Designer) has designed all mainstage costumes at Grinnell College since 1999, where she is the resident costume designer. As a Lecturer for the College, she has taught Costume Design, Costume Crafts and Construction, Costume on the World Stage, and Introduction to Technical Theatre. She was previously an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Cornell College. Other design credits include the University of Iowa (Theatre, Dance, Playwright's Festival, Black Action Theatre), Riverside Theatre, RT Shakespeare Festival, RT Young People's Company, Graffiti Theatre, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, Ballet Iowa, and Hurley Dancers. Erin holds a

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Design from the University of Iowa and a Bachelor of Science from Iowa State University.

Erik Sanning '89 (Technical Director) is a graduate of Grinnell College. He spent the first two years after graduation working as the Technical Director/Lighting Designer for Ballet Iowa. In the summer of 1991 Erik was able to return to Grinnell as the Technical Director. He is also one of the founding members of Grinnell Productions, a semi-professional theatre company that was based in Grinnell. Erik has also been a member of IATSE, the professional stagehands union, since 1990.

Kate Baumgartner '11 (Assistant Technical Director) is a graduate of Grinnell College. She worked two seasons as a master carpenter with the Colorado Shakespeare Festival and two years for the Grinnell Area Arts Council as a program and facility coordinator. Kate returned to Grinnell College as the ATD in 2016. She has also served as technical director and scenic designer for numerous Grinnell Community Theatre and Grinnell High School productions, as well as tech challenge coordinator for the Iowa Thespian Chapter of the EdTA.

Andrew (A) Lim '25 (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a 4th year TDPS major from San Francisco who has spent the past four years designing and working on Grinnell College theatre productions. In addition to assisting Grinnell mainstage productions, they designed lights for the Neverland Players and the student productions of *I Dig You* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

Amélie Pfister '28 (Stage Manager), was born and raised in Brussels, Belgium. Amélie is a first-year student hoping to major in history with a concentration in European studies. You will most likely find Amélie going on a walk whilst listening to her favorite Spotify playlist, calling her parents, or reading (probably for a class, but hopefully for herself). Amélie has been involved in her high school productions of *Boise, Idaho* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as well as Grinnell College's *Pity!*

almond Heil '25 (Assistant Stage Manager) grew up in Gallup, New Mexico before moving to Santa Fe in middle school. They are a fourth-year Computer Science major and enjoy making programming tools for personal use. almond has worked tech on a handful of shows at Grinnell, including *Blur* (Assistant Stage Manager), *The Haunting* (Stage Manager), and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Run Crew).

CAST BIOS

Adyasha Anindita '28 (cast) grew up in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India. She attended DAV public school, Chandrasekharapur. She has hosted annual shows and events for the school several times in both English and Odia (Odisha's state language). She has also

voice-acted several times for characters in Odia. On campus, she is a member of Grinnell Singers, the Asian American Association, the South Asian Student Organization and treasurer of Dharmic Students Grinnell.

Akira Keene Teotrakool '28 (cast) is a first-year Political Science Major from Bangkok, Thailand. They are a Bass-Bari- tone at the Bangkok Youth Opera and pioneering Opera in Grinnell. Bangkok Credits: *Legally Blonde* (Professor Callahan); *La cambiale di matrimonio* (Norton); *Dido and Aeneas* (Producing Assistant).

Bella Villarreal '25 (cast) is a senior from San Antonio, Tex- as. Her recent performances include Elizabeth in the Grinnell Community Theatre's *Frankenstein*, the one act *Over The Wall*, and the short film "The Pie."

Hemlock Stanier '25 (cast) is from Iowa City, Iowa. They are a fourth year at Grinnell majoring in Religious Studies and GWSS. Grinnell Credits: *Songs of the Scarlet and Wayback* (ensemble, dramaturg), *The Lightning Thief* (dramaturg), *Pity* (dramaturg), *The Thanksgiving Play* (Logan).

Isaac Alexander '28 (cast) is an Iowa native who grew up in Newton. Isaac is a first year at Grinnell whose potential major is computer science. He is also in Grinnell Singers. High school theatre credits include: *The Little Mermaid* (Sebastian); *A Christmas Carol* (Scrooge); *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tevye); *The Music Man* (Harold Hill). Community theatre credits include: *A Christmas Story* (Flick); *The Sound of Music* (Rolf). Grinnell theatre credits include *Pity* (ensemble).

Joslyn Lilly '27 (cast) was born and raised in Sioux City, IA. Joslyn is a second-year student at Grinnell majoring in Psychology and Sociology. She is a member of the Grinnell Singers and a leader of the Dance Organization. Grinnell College credits: *Pity* (Coworker, Sniper, Generous Refugee, Angel); *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Captain Scott, Mr. Grin).

Sophia Levitas-Goren '28 (cast) is a first year from Wisconsin, planning to study English and Philosophy. Profession- al (First Stage): *She Kills Monsters* (Evil Tina). Shorewood High School Drama: *Legally Blonde* (Enid Hoopes), *Working* (Amanda McKenny), *Pippin* (Dance Captain/Berthe/Manson Quintet), *The Skin of Our Teeth* (Gladys Antrobus), *Antigone* (Chorus Speaker). Grinnell College: *Pity* (Daughter).

UPCOMING EVENTS in TDPS

Mainstage: Dance Ensemble Performances

Saturday, April 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 27 at 2:00 p.m. (relaxed)

Thursday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 3 at 2:00 p.m.

FLANAGAN THEATRE

One-Act Playwriting Award Staged Readings

“MY CRIB” by Jack Broadmoore ‘27

“THE REST OF US” by Graham Sundstrom ‘25

Sunday, April 27 at 4:30 p.m.

WALL THEATRE

Balinese Sound Ensemble and Dance Performance

Thursday, May 8 at 7:30 p.m.

ROBERTS THEATRE

Class Showcases and Moffett Award Installation

TBA—use resources below to receive announcements!

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