

memonica

a new play by Eliya Smith



THE GOAT EXCHANGE

+

HERE

HERE Arts Center, 145 6th Ave | August 2-4 | 6:30PM | \$20 | here.org

SUBLET SERIES @HERE

2021-22 SEASON

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Welcome!

Thank you for coming to *Memonica*, a SubletSeries: Co-Op presentation. This program provides artists with discounted space and equipment, as well as technical support.

HERE also supports the work of artists at all stages in their careers through our HERE Artist Residency Program (HARP), which develops and produces the work of our 10 resident artists, and Visiting Artist presentations for adult and family audiences. Please check out our other performances and events at HERE.org.

Like all the work at HERE, this SubletSeries: Co-Op presentation was curated based on the strength and uniqueness of the artist's vision.

We hope to see you HERE again soon.

Best,

Kristin

KRISTIN MARTING

Founding Artistic Director

ALSO AT HERE

SubletSeries: Co-Op
THE CHOICE
AUG 5 – 7

SubletSeries: Co-Op
STELLA, COME HOME
AUG 6 – 7

HERE SUPPORT

HERE is extremely grateful for the support and encouragement of an important group of Foundations, Corporations, Government Agencies, Elected Officials, and dedicated individuals. We would not be HERE without them.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

HERE'S programming is made possible with Public Funds from: National Endowment for the Arts; New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the New York State Legislature; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, Office of the Mayor of New York, and Speaker Corey Johnson; The Office of Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer; and New York State Assembly Member Deborah J. Glick. We are extremely grateful for the support and advocacy of all of our dedicated elected officials: Senator Charles E. Schumer, Senator Kirsten R. Gillibrand, Representative Jerrold L. Nadler, Mayor Eric Adams, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer and the Cultural Affairs Committee of the City Council, and State Senator Brad M. Hoylman.

PRIVATE AND CORPORATE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY

Alliance of Resident Theatres/ New York, Axe-Houghton Foundation, Booth Ferris Foundation, Edison Properties, Fund for the City of New York, Howard Gilman Foundation, Jerome Foundation, Inc., Jim Henson Foundation, Joseph and Joan Cullman Foundation for the Arts, Leon Levy Foundation, mediaThe Foundation, Mental Insight Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, New York Foundation for the Arts, Select Equity Group, Inc., The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Barbara Bell Cumming Charitable Trust, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Scherman Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Venturous Theater Fund of the Tides Foundation, and the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation.

HERE, in partnership with Resident Playwright Taylor Mac, is a participant in the Mellon Foundation's National Playwright Residency Program administered in partnership with HowlRound. HERE is a proud member of the Hudson Sq Connection & Lower Manhattan Arts League & The National Opera America Center & TCG.

Memonica

by Eliya Smith

Directed by Mitchell Polonsky

The Cast:

NOT MONICA'S FRIEND: Juliana Sass*

NOT MONICA: Eliya Smith

MALE HISTORY TEACHER: Sturgis Warner*

LINDEE: Julius ZR Wade

WILL: Sabrina Wu

The Team:

Stage Manager: Abigail Sage

Lighting Designer: Finn Bamber

Sound/Video Designer: Mitchell Polonsky

Props Supervisor: Sarah Rossman

Dramaturg: Anisa Ahmed

Directing/SM Assistant: Ricky Misha

Producers: Emily Bergquist & Victoria Ungvarsky

Warning: This production contains flashing lights.

* Equity Member appearing with permission of Actors' Equity Association without benefit of an Equity contract in this Off-Off Broadway production.

Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 50,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org



Bios

JULIANA SASS (Not Monica's Friend) is an actress based in New York. Most recently, she originated the role of 'Shelby' in the world premiere of *John Proctor is the Villain* at Studio Theatre in DC. Her Off-Broadway credits include *Mac Beth* at Hunter Theater Project and *Julius Caesar* at Theater for a New Audience. Her film credits include *A Call to Spy*, *Radium Girls*, and *The Sisterhood of Night*. She graduated from Harvard University with a degree in Comparative Literature and a minor in Theater, Dance and Media, and she studied at the British American Drama Academy and the Atlantic Acting School. julianasass.com.

ELIYA SMITH (Playwright/Not Monica) is a writer from Ohio. Her play *Dad don't read this* won the 2020 Phyllis Anderson Prize for best play by a Harvard student. In 2019, her original musical *The Emperor's New Clothes* premiered as part of the American Repertory Theater's mainstage season. Her prose writing has received awards from New Letters and the Society of Professional Journalists and been nominated to "Best American Essays." As a performer, she was awarded the Isenberg Fellowship Grant to train at LAMDA in London and nominated for the Jonathan Levy Award for the most promising undergraduate actor at Harvard. She will begin her Playwriting MFA this fall as a Michener Fellow at UT Austin, where she will jointly pursue her lifelong ambitions of making plays and becoming a cowgirl.

STURGIS WARNER (Male History Teacher) has been active in New York theater for many years as an actor, director, and occasional producer. He specializes in new plays and new play development. He recently produced and helped create Signe Baumane's animated feature film *My Love Affair With Marriage* which premiered at Tribeca Festival in June and is now screening at numerous international film festivals. He is thrilled to be back on stage once again and working with this talented company of artists.

JULIUS ZR WADE (Lindee) (he/him) is an award-winning, early-career film, music, and theater artist based in Berlin, Germany, and New York City. Born in Miami, Florida, Julius takes his job as a “Florida Man” very seriously. He graduated from Harvard University with a joint BA in American History/Literature and Theater; upon graduation, Julius was recognized by the Harvard Council for the Arts as the university’s most promising actor. Julius is currently developing his debut short film and casting about for spare change from whatever projects will have him. On Instagram, you’ll find him at: @julius.zr

SABRINA WU (Will) (They/Them) is a Brooklyn-based comedian, writer, and actor who can soon be seen starring as a lead in an upcoming Point Grey/Lionsgate feature directed by Adele Lim. Their stand-up has been featured in the New York Comedy Festival and this year’s Just For Laughs New Faces Showcase in Montreal. On the writing side, Sabrina is a story editor on DYING FOR SEX, an upcoming show for FX, and they previously staffed on DOOGIE KAMEALOHA M.D. for Disney+.

MITCHELL POLONSKY (Director) Mitchell is a director and designer from Cincinnati, Ohio. He is the co-Artistic Director of The Goat Exchange with whom he’s directed more than 15 original productions, both in the US and abroad. In addition to his work with The Goat Exchange Mitchell has worked as an assistant with Tania Bruguera, Daniel Kramer, and Sam Gold at venues including Festival d’Automne, Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Kampnagel, Vlaamse Opera, and the Burgtheater. He studied Theater, Dance and Media at Harvard, and received a George J. Mitchell Fellowship from the US-Ireland Alliance to pursue an MFA in Theatre directing from The Lir/Trinity College in Dublin. www.thegoatexchange.com

ABIGAIL SAGE (Stage Manager) (she/her) is a London-based stage manager and theatre technician. She graduated from Harvard University in 2021 with a degree in History and Literature, and she is currently a second-year student on the (cont).

Technical Theatre and Stage Management course at RADA. Abbie is thrilled to be back in New York working with this great team. Recent projects include *JASON* (London), *The Wolves* (London), and *Dad don't read this* (New York).

FINN BAMBER (Lighting Designer) is a Boston-based lighting designer and photographer. Finn's work involves collaborating to create visual experiences through live performances, spatial installations, and still image sequences / installations. NYC: *Dad Don't Read This*; Boston: *A Streetcar Named Desire*; Queens: *Marriage or MADE* (S. Walker-Webb); *NIGHTTOWN*; *Shimcheong* (staged reading); Other: *Gruesome Playground Injuries* (BroadwayWorld Maine Best Lighting); www.finnbamber.com

SARAH ROSSMAN (Props Supervisor) is an actor, singer, writer, comedian, and collage artist based in NYC. Sarah holds a degree in Theater, Dance, and Media from Harvard University and has also trained at the Atlantic Acting School, UCB, Groundlings, and as an acting apprentice at the Williamstown Theatre Festival. Currently, Sarah is pursuing her MFA in the Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program at NYU Tisch School of the Arts. Sarah's work has been performed at the Williamstown Theater Festival and at the American Repertory Theater.

ANISA AHMED (Dramaturg) (she/her) is a New York based writer and dramaturg. She graduated from Harvard University in 2020 with a degree in English and currently works with a writer/director in film and theatre. She is excited to be working with such a great team on this show.

RICKY MISHA (Directing/SM Assistant) (they/he) is an Atlanta native who has been doing theatre since they were 5. They have just completed a technical theatre internship at Atlanta Workshop Players.

EMILY BERGQUIST (Producer) (she/her) is a producer and arts administrator committed to supporting innovative and radically inclusive theater-making. Favorite projects include: *Dad don't read this* by Eliya Smith, dir. Thomas Peterson; *Ragtime* on Ellis Island, dir. Sammi Cannold; *Burn All Night*, dir. Jenny Koons at the American Repertory Theater; *'Tis Pity She's A Whore*, dir. Eliza Blair Mantz with Harvard University; *OSCAR at The Crown* dir. Mark Mauriello at Club OBERON. Emily has worked with A.R.T, Ars Nova, Powerhouse Theater, Three Day Prior, and The Neon Coven, and she is currently part of the Seaview team bringing *POTUS...* and *Lempicka* to the stage.

VICTORIA UNGVARSKY (Producer) is a New York-based producer and manager. Prior experience includes: *Dad don't read this*; *Mandy Patinkin in Concert: Diaries*; *Don't Monkey with Broadway* with Patti LuPone; *Shadows 'Round the Moon*, with direction by Susan Stroman; and *A Taste of Things to Come*. She has also worked with Groundswell Theatricals, TDF, Chickenshed NYC, 54 Below, and Ricochet, among others. Victoria is an MFA candidate in Theatre Management and Producing at Columbia University.

THE GOAT EXCHANGE is an interdisciplinary ensemble founded at Harvard in 2016. We develop site-specific theater, new plays, and irreverent reimaginings of classic texts and verbatim transcripts. Our work is multidisciplinary and deeply collaborative, often pulling from obscure, forgotten corners of history and incorporating wide-ranging influences from opera, dance, literature, film, vaudeville, slapstick, pop-culture, and public art. We have developed over 15 productions both in traditional theaters and in a range of site-specific venues, from museum galleries to football stadiums. www.thegoatexchange.com

Memonica was made possible with generous support from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts along with the following individuals:

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Susan Tomasky and Ron Ungvarsky

Carole Ungvarsky

SPECIAL THANKS

ART NY, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, Frank Garland, Adam Gopnik, Staci Levine, Em Murdock, Norah Murphy, New Georges, Thomas Peterson, Victoria Weinberg, Maddie Woda