

A FAIR SEX



PATTI AZZARA (Playwright) trained as an actor at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy and The New School. Through her rigorous study, one thing became painfully clear, she didn't want a career on the stage. But the theatre was still her home. So she picked up a pen and notebook, and put her years of reading play after play to good use. Ms. Azzara has written and performed two short, one-woman pieces at Lincoln Center in New York City, and is currently drafting the skeleton of another dramatic play, for which she already has a dream cast. She would also like to go on the record that she does recommend this method. Special thanks to Sarah Michaels, Dandy Barrett, Marla Manning, Kelly Connor, Tamara Christians, and Jaime Ferris. I love you all

entirely, and entirely differently.



AVERY BANKS (Amy Collins) is delighted to be making her debut with The Wilton Playshop. Avery holds a BFA in Drama from NYU, where she trained at The Stella Adler Studio of Acting and Stonestreet Studios. Favorite roles include Kathleen in *1980 (Or Why I'm Voting for John Anderson)* with The Actors Company Theatre and Rosalind in *As You Like It* with The Stella Adler Studio of Acting. Avery can also be seen in the web series *Barely Adults*, the Emmy-winning television series *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, and the Oscar-nominated film *The Trial of the Chicago 7*. She is grateful to her family and friends for their love and support and would like to congratulate everyone involved in *The Fair Sex*.



GEORGE BARNETT (Earl Jenkins) is delighted to be making his Wilton Playshop debut with this online performance. George has been a screenwriter since 2006 and has written both feature film and pilot scripts. He runs the LHS Screenwriters and Actors group and is a member of the TW Playwrights Workshop. He has studied acting at the Actors Gym in Hamden, CT and completed Jeffrey Tambor's Creative Workshop with a performance at the Ridgefield Playhouse. He is excited to be working with this talented cast and new original script.



DANDY BARRETT (Director) began her theater experience at The Wilton Playshop nearly 40 years ago, appearing in many productions, as well as making her directorial debut. She also served on the Board in several capacities, including as President. Three years ago she returned to Connecticut after a 20-year absence, most recently from Savannah where she helped form The Collective Face Theatre Ensemble. With TCFTE Dandy appeared as Violet Weston in *August: Osage County*, Dr. Vivian Bearing in *Wit*, Berthe in *Boeing Boeing*, Aurora/Spider Woman in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, and Violet Venable in *Suddenly Last Summer*, among others. She also directed and served as TCFTE's Managing Director. Since her return to Connecticut, Dandy has worked with The Ridgefield

Barn, TheatreWorks in New Milford, and The Brookfield Theater. Now she's come full circle.



MIKE BOLAND* (Harlan Mitchell) is an award-winning actor and writer. He is excited to be working with this talented ensemble in support of the Wilton Playshop, and is grateful to Patti Azzara for the wonderful script. Mike's credits include: BROADWAY - *An Enemy of the People*; OFF-BROADWAY - *Orphans' Home Cycle*; NATIONAL TOURS - *Twelve Angry Men*, *West Side Story*, *All My Sons*. REGIONAL – Hartford Stage, Yale Repertory, Long Wharf, Theaterworks-Hartford, Engeman, Judson, Fulton, Playhouse on Park, Coastal Carolina, Westchester Broadway, Summer Theatre of New Canaan, Bristol Riverside, Queens Theatre, Ivoryton, Music Theatre of CT, Thrown Stone, Greenwich TC, Virginia Stage, Totem Pole, Hampton TC, Chenango River, Saco River. TV –

The Blacklist (recurring), FBI, Person of Interest, Zero Hour, Rubicon. FILM – Yo Andrea (writer), Frank and Ernie (writer/director/producer/co-star), Bobby Dogs. TRAINING: George DiCenzo, Tony Roberts, Penny Fuller, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Alan Arkin, Cotter Smith.



TAMARA CHRISTIANS (Mary Mitchell) is an actress, model, and award-nominated narrator, best known for her audiobook work for award-winning author, Susan Wingate. Recent credits include *The Death of Vultures* and *How the Deer Moon Hungers*, the latter for which she was nominated for the 2020 SABA Award for Best Narrator. Her stage credits include *The Fantasticks* with Montana Theaterworks, *The Diary of Anne Frank* with Sweet Grass County Players, and *Antigone* with Montana Theaterworks. Christians is a graduate of The American Musical and

Dramatic Academy, and an alumnus of the St. Patrick's Cathedral choir. More at www.tamaracreads.com.



HEATHER HANEMAN (Gail Mitchell) is excited to make her virtual debut at the Wilton Playshop. She was most recently seen on stage as Marianne in *Constellations* and virtually as Dahlia in *Hate Mail* at Theatreworks, as well as in the March Madness festival at Axial Theatre. She would like to thank Patti, Sarah Lee, Dandy, and the cast and crew for putting in so much hard work and time and lastly her dog, Penny, for not barking or snoring during recording. She looks forward to filling her days with more theatre in the future so she stops buying so many plants!



ANTHONY MALCHAR (Jake Collins) is thrilled to be making his debut here at the Wilton play shop and first ever online performance! Favorite credits include Tommy (*The Who's Tommy*), Huck Finn (*Big River*), the titular role in (*The Toxic Avenger*), and his award-winning Eugene (*Broadway Bound*) for best leading actor in a professional play. In his spare time he enjoys being a Disney fanatic and making balloon art. Thanks to everyone involved. Fingers crossed in April 2022, you can see him here live on the Wilton

stage as Che in *Evita*! @balloonsbyanthony



KELLEN SCHULT (Benny Mitchell) has been seen in shows all over Connecticut including Wilton Playshop's *A Lion in Winter* (John). Personal credits: *Barnum* (Amos Scudder), Curtain Call's *Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Company* (Peter), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Avram/Bottle dancer), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Riff Raff), *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel's Prince/The Wolf), *Wild Party* (Phil D'Armano). He has also been a featured Detective with The Dinner Detective murder mystery show. A resident of Ansonia, Kellen is a

graduate of Southern Connecticut State University and Stella Adler's Studio of Acting Summer Conservatory. In the last year he has hosted and been a part of numerous online readings of plays and original works. If you wish to learn more, go to www.kellenschult.com



PRISCILLA SQUIERS (Evelyn Mitchell) is happy to be working on this original piece with a fantastic cast and Wilton Playshop creative team. Recent musical credits include a drive-in production of *Assassins* (Emma Goldman), *Mamma Mia* (Donna Sheridan), *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Miss Shingle), *Once* (Baruska), *Ragtime* (Emma Goldman) and *Titanic* (Alice Beane). Among her dramatic credits are *Souvenir*

(Florence Foster Jenkins), *Noises Off* (Dotty/Mrs. Clackett), *MASTER CLASS* (Maria Callas), *The Belle of Amherst* (Emily Dickinson), *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Kate), *The Elephant Man* (Mrs. Kendal), *A Midsummer's Night Dream* (Titania), *As You Like It* (Rosalind), *The Seagull* (Nina) and *Jeffrey* (The Women). Thanks to Patti, Dandy, Laura and Sarah.



JOE STATON (Ray Mitchell) is a British actor based in London and New York City. He is a graduate of the Stella Adler Studio of Acting (Two year Evening Conservatory) in New York and the Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts in London (One year Foundation Diploma). He has performed classical theatre in the UK, the USA and Europe. Originally from Minehead, Somerset, he grew up in France and Spain. Joe founded the Blind Cupid Shakespeare Company in the hopes of spreading his love of Shakespeare and the classics to places that do not have easy access or exposure. He hopes that Blind Cupid shall encourage and inspire for years to come. Credits include: *Edgar* (King Lear, RSCD), *Ezra* (To Touch Infinity, RSCD), *Brutus* (All's Well As It Ends Well: A Virtual Valentine's Production, The Blind Cupid

Shakespeare Company), *Malvolio* (Twelfth Night: Daucus Carota Theatre) *Benvolio* and *Gremio* (R&J and Taming of the Shrew, Shakespeare In The Woods, VT), *Yakov* (The Seagull, The Harold Clurman Lab Theatre, NY), *Frances Flute* (A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Classic Theatre of San Antonio, TX) and *Little Charles* (August Osage County, The Stella Adler Studio, NY)



QUINN WARREN* (Kate Mitchell) made her Off- Broadway debut at Theatre for A New Audience in Ionesco's *The Killer*, directed by Tony Award winner Darko Tresnjak and starring Michael Shannon. Regional credits include the world premiere of Keith Reddin's *Rear Window* at Hartford Stage (directed by Darko Tresnjak, starring Kevin Bacon), the world premiere of *Mrs. Packard* (McCarter Theatre and Kennedy Center, written and directed by Emily Mann), *To Kill A Mockingbird* (Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, directed by Drama Desk Award winner Russell Treyz), the 50th Anniversary production

of Inge's *Where's Daddy?* (William Inge Theater Festival, directed by Karen Carpenter) and many others! BFA in Theatre Arts from Stephens College. www.QuinnWarren.com

* *These Actors are appearing through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.*



THE WILTON PLAYSHOP

A Note from the Playwright

I am equally thrilled and terrified to see this play finally come to fruition at the Wilton Playshop. If I am being honest, I am also a little bit shocked. When I sent it to a friend as an option for a fun script reading exercise, I never expected that it would lead us here. It has been a long road.

Over a decade ago, with my favorite singer-songwriter on shuffle, I watched a story arc construct itself from the music. Thinking nothing of it, I joked that someone should take the story those songs told and make it into a musical. I never thought that I would get the go ahead. So, with the confidence of others telling me I could, I began the task. There were countless nights spent hunched over endless cups of diner coffee, feverishly writing, editing, starting again ... Then, it became clear that this wasn't a musical at all. After a staged workshop reading at Ridgefield Theatre Barn, there were edits to be made, and numerous questions. But there was one that pained me.

"What is the crux of this piece?" With no answer, I laid down the script, and left it until the fall of 2019, when it finally revealed itself to me. Two more workshops, on Zoom this time, and it was finished, or close. I am so grateful for the people who encouraged me to start writing, keep writing, start again, and were there when the truths of the piece were too much to take. Thank you for being part of this adventure with me.

This play deals with very real and serious issues. If you, or someone who know needs help, please go to www.RAINN.org, or call 1-800-656-HOPE (4673). You are not alone.