

fringe_{NYC}

THE NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL FRINGE FESTIVAL
A PRODUCTION OF THE PRESENT COMPANY

AND

PERFORMANCE
LAB 115

PRESENT

GOD'S WAITING ROOM



“
Gods, my gods! How sad the earth is at eventide! How mysterious are the mists over the swamps. Anyone who has wandered in these mists, who has suffered a great deal before death, or flown above the earth, bearing a burden beyond his strength knows this. Someone who is exhausted knows this. And without regret he forsakes the mists of the earth, its swamps and rivers, and sinks into the arms of death with a light heart, knowing that death alone...

— From The Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov

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a production of the present company
august 12th to 28th, 2005
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Melanie Sylvan (Producer) Melanie is the Executive Director of theatre/flective, a non-profit production company founded in 2000. She received a BFA with Honors from Emerson College in Boston and has since worked in New York as a professional actor, dancer, producer, singer and teacher. She has developed and produced 7 full-scale productions with theatre/flective, including GAWK, an annual festival of music and theatre by NYC's emerging artists. Melanie is a cantorial soloist at The New Shul in the West Village.

Mark Valadez (Sound Designer) Mark is a musician and sound designer native to the Pacific Northwest. As well as composition and sound design for film, he has designed sound for theatre including *Aleceis*, *Machindl*, and *Iphigenia at Aulis*. Most recently he designed the sound for *1+1*, a collaborative performance / dance piece.

SPECIAL THANKS

Special Thanks to Ria Cooper, Steven Chaikelson, the faculty and students of Columbia University's MFA Theatre Division, Camille Davis, Amelia Dombrowski, Kareem Fahmy, the Gershoni family, Tom Gilmore, Cristy Hebert, Hurricane One-Arm, Marty Keiser, Karl and P.S. 122, Dyana Kimball, Libby King, Astro, Ruth Kreshka, Paul Menard, Greta Newgren, Stacy Parker, Alice Regan and chashama, Rock Fashion, Joan Russo, Alexa Shaughnessy, McCormick Templeman, FringenNYC, and angels everywhere...

God's Waiting Room

by Ashlin Halfnight

PERFORMED BY

Jeffrey Clarke	Drummond
Shelley Gershoni	Saskia
Rebecca Lingafelter	Indira
Elena Mulrone	Bordo

DIRECTED BY

Alexis Poledouris

INSPIRED BY

The Master and Margarita
by Mikhail Bulgakov

B. Carter Edwards	Stage Manager
M.E. Peters	Producer
Shaun Rance	Graphic / Set Design
Gina Scherr	Lighting Design
Melanie Sylvan	Producer
Mark Valadez	Sound Design

www.performancelab115.org

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BIO

Jeff Clarke (Performer) Jeff is a graduate of Columbia University's MFA Acting program. Recent credits include: *A Lie of the Mind*, *Ignou*, *Mother Courage* and *Crocodile Eyes*, (the latter directed by Eduardo Machado and toured to Italy in June 2005). The 2001 production *The First Chapter of Peter* garnered his ensemble a "Fringe First" nomination and a "Pick of the Fringe" from the *Scottsman* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He has studied with the SITTI Company.

Shelley Gershoni (Performer) Shelley is a graduate of Columbia University's MFA Acting program. Recent credits include: *Twelfth Night* (tour to Germany and Korea), *Uncle Vanya* and *Faust* at the Metropolitan Opera. She also performed in the production of *Crocodile Eyes*, directed by Eduardo Machado, which toured to Italy in June 2005.

Rebecca Lingafelter (Performer) Rebecca Lingafelter is a recent graduate of Columbia University's MFA Acting program. Favorite roles at Columbia include *Twelfth Night* (Olivia/Feste), *Angustias* (House of Bernarda Alba), and *Cloud 9* (Betty/Edward). Before coming to NYC she worked in Seattle with such theatres as the Union Garage, Akropolis Performance Lab and Seattle Public Theatre. Big thanks to Alexis, Shaun, Melanie, and M.E. for making this play a reality. Love to MV.

Elena Mulrone (Performer) Elena is a graduate of Columbia University's MFA Acting program. Recent credits include: *Faust* at the Metropolitan Opera, *Mother Courage* and *House of Bernarda Alba* (*New York Observer's* "Best Ensemble" 2004). She has trained extensively with the SITTI Company.

B. Carter Edwards (Stage Manager) is a writer living in Brooklyn. He can be seen turning lights on and off in various theatres around the city. Love to Michael and thanks to the robots for all that wine.

Aslin Halfnight (Playwright) is a 2005/2006 Fulbright award winner and will be spending the next nine months in Budapest, crafting a trilogy of plays with the National Theatre of Hungary. He is the recipient of the Howard Stein Fellowship at Columbia's MFA Playwriting program. His play *American Drek* was awarded a Ludwig Vogelstein Artist Grant, and *Good Pictures* was nominated for the 2005 Cherry Lane Mentoring Project. He would like to thank the cast and crew for their hard work - and the 29th Musketeer who, sadly, got left behind.

M.E. Peters (Producer) M.E. graduated from Marquette University with a B.A. in Theatre and English. After college she was Assistant to the Director for the Missouri Repertory Theatre production of Edward Albee's *A Delicate Balance* and Dramaturg and Business Manager at Source Theatre Company in Washington, D.C. Last May M.E. graduated from Columbia University with an MFA in Dramaturgy and Script Development. During her time at Columbia she produced three short films, produced a full-length documentary, dramaturged numerous theatre productions and wrote and developed an original television show for her thesis. Last fall she was Associate Producer on the Naked Angels production of *The Issues Project: Democracy*, and the Writers' Assistant and contributor for their recent benefit production of *Fish Fry*, a roast of Fisher Stevens. This summer, *Latch Key*, a short film she produced, was awarded 'Best Short' at NEWFEST 2005.

Alexis Poleouris (Director) Alexis recently received her MFA in directing from Columbia University where she was a Dean's Fellow. Her Columbia projects include Caryl Churchill's *Cloud 9*, Harold Pinter's *Old Times*, and Anton Chekhov's *Ignou*. Other NYC credits include: *Springtime* by Maria Irene Fornes (The Fall Collection); *Babette Torquemada* (The American Living Room Festival at HERE) and *Bad to Worse: a history play* (Local Hakiri Smash Club), both written by Robert Quillen Camp. Alexis directs and performs with the Dodeska Performance Ensemble.

Shaun Rance (Graphic / Set Designer) Shaun is a graphic and multimedia designer. He has worked with the Seattle-based new media group Spaceboat TV, producing live video at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Experience Music Project (Seattle), and Consolidated Works Contemporary Art Center (Seattle). Shaun has served as Manager of Media and Information Technology at The Kitchen arts center (New York), and is now engaged in freelance design, video production, and media and technology consulting work. He will be attending Parsons School of Design in the Design and Technology program, beginning fall 2005 as a Dean's Scholar.

Gina Scherr (Lighting Designer) recently designed *Cloud 9* at The Theatre at Riverside Church. Other New York design credits include *Bad to Worse* (Horace Mann and Local Hakiri Smash Club), *Jesus is Magic* (Zipper Theatre), *Hamlet* (Stella Adler Conservatory), *India Dreaming* (The Culture Project), *Unrequited Love* (New Perspectives Theatre), FUSE Festival 2003 and *Making of this Play* (HERE Arts Center). Gina is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and is beginning her final year at the Yale School of Drama, where she designed *King John* and *The Lonesome West*.