FOOLS

@SACREDFOOLSLA





# THREE GUYS, ONE GROUPON

by J. Bailey Burcham directed by Rebecca Larsen

JUNE 2022, Hollywood Fringe

Three guys try to choose a Groupon. Enjoy

it, yeah? Stan, Geoff and Craigory are the best of pals. They're not afraid to show their feelings. The only thing they fear is disappointing one another. Can they choose a Groupon that'll make everyone happy? (Warning: this show may be toxic to your masculinity.) | More Info



# THE ART COUPLE by Brendan Hunt (Ted Lasso) directed by Lauren Van Kurin

AUGUST 13-28, 2022 at the Kirk Douglas Theater for CTG's Block Party

So, legendary painters Paul Gauguin and Vincent van Gogh become roommates. If

this sounds like the set-up to a lost Neil Simon play - you're halfway there. THE ART COUPLE is the irreverent new comedy about an odd pair of artists that may or may not have starred in the original draft of *The Odd Couple*. One is a Parisian clean freak. The other is an absinthe-guzzling, Dutch slob. And when these opposites hole up in a French country cabin for a creative retreat, the barbs fly faster than oil splashing across canvas. All the while, in a less distant past, Neil Simon is bouncing ideas off a mysterious stranger trying to come up with his next big play.

Written by Ted Lasso co-creator Brendan Hunt (Emmy Award® winner for Outstanding Comedy Series) and featuring a stellar ensemble cast, this send-up of dueling geniuses paints a portrait of the inner struggles of all artists - from world-famous painters to soon-to-be-famous playwrights. In the meantime, can Vincent and Paul get along before someone loses an ear? I More Info

# THERE IS EVIL IN THIS HOUSE

by Natalie Nicole Dressel <sup>™</sup> directed by Sofija Dutcher <sup>™</sup>

### CAST

Natalie Nicole Dressel	
Cj Merriman	Mom
Dana DeRuyck	Ben
Heather Schmidt <sup>‡</sup>	Emily
Colin Willkie <sup>‡</sup>	Dan
Samantha Barrios	
Marian Gonzalez	Omar / Stage Directions

Member of Sacred Fools Theater Company

‡ Associate Member of Sacred Fools Theater Company

\* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors & Stage Managers in the United States

This production is presented under the auspices of the Actors' Equity Los Angeles Membership Company Rule.

Produced for Sacred Fools by Scott Leggett \*

#### SACRED FOOLS THEATER COMPANY

at the Broadwater, 1076 Lillian Way, Los Angeles, CA 90038 www.SacredFools.org • Social Media: @SacredFoolsLA



## SPECIAL THANKS

Echo Theatre of Dallas, TX Flat Tire Theatre Company

Sarah Marcum, Michael Reyes, Amanda Lloyd, Ali Pinkerton, Jeremy Crothers, Marissa Clark, Kelsey Wang, Tony Kim, Shea Bahnsen, Devin Johnson, Lindsay Kelly

5th Wall Productions of Charleston, SC

**Antaeus Theatre** 

Devin Albert-Stone and Semi-Formal Productions

Ann Thomas and Transgender Talent

Adam Park and the Park/Noack Agency

Point Park University of Pittsburgh, PA

Molly Rice, Elise D'Haene, and Matt Pelfrey

Odelia Rubin and the Family Ghosts podcast

David Crabb, Kevin Alison and the Risk Podcast

Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center

Austin Film Festival

City of West Hollywood

Gina Bigham and Trans\* Lounge

Dream by Wombo

Vanessa Stewart, Aviva Pressman, and Adriana Colón

Lana Rae Jarvis, Shaela Cook

Ian Page, Colleen McCandless, Patrick Cannon, Andrea Dressel, Sean Abley, Corey Klemow, Travyz Santos Gatz, Brian Wallis, Brittney Wheeler, Damian Joseph Quinn, Gnosis

## GRANTORS



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This production is supported, in part, by a grant from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs.



This production is supported, in part, by a grant from Council District 13, City of Los Angeles.

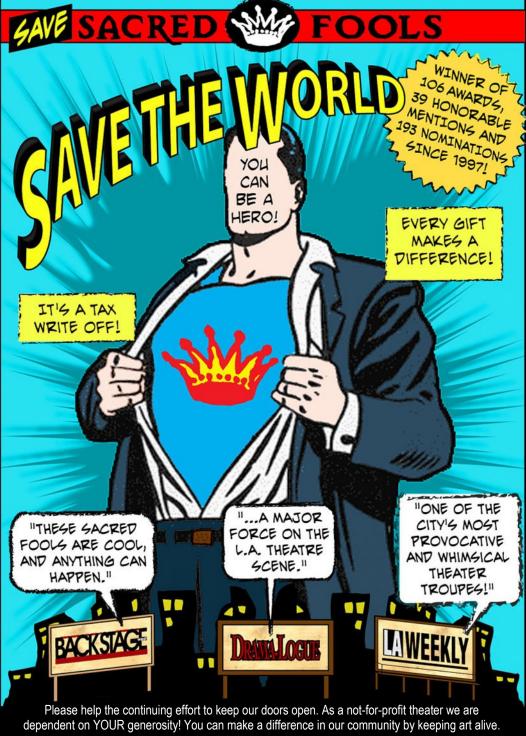


Our educational projects are supported, in part, by the California Arts Council, a state agency.



We acknowledge that we are living and working on the unceded territory of the Tongva, Chumash, Gabrieleño, and Kizh people who were the original stewards of this land. We understand that achieving healing and reconciliation will require a long and sustainable commitment; this land acknowledgment is only a first step, but we hope it will help to raise awareness about histories that are often suppressed or forgotten, though very present all around us. We encourage you to look up what land you work on and live on and continue to learn about the indigenous people who made their homes in and around the area we now call Los Angeles.

Curious what native territory YOU live on?
Visit native-land.ca.



Donate online at SacredFools.org/donate or mail your donations to: Sacred Fools Theater Company ● 1078 Lillian Way ● Los Angeles, CA 90038

Sacred Fools is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. Contributions are 100% tax deductible.

# THANKS TO ALL OUR GRACIOUS DONORS!

Gifts Received from 1/1/21 - 4/1/22

Thanks to all who contributed during this difficult past year. Please accept our apologies if we have made any errors or omissions. Contact us at DevelopmentDirector@sacredfools.org.

## BENEFACTORS' CIRCLE (\$5000+)

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Brandon Clark Family Trust Barbara & Bill Heil

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Stacey Nelms, Kirsten Krieg

the Valley

## **Sacred Fools**

# Summer Theater Camp

#### THIRTEENTH GREAT YEAR!



#### JULY 18-29, 9am-2pm, M-F SUN, JULY 31, 2pm - Performance

Kids 8-16! Write, direct, and improvise your own play and perform it for family and friends!

Taught by working actors who have performed on Broadway and in regional theaters, our 2022 camp is in person. All instructors are fully vaccinated and our camp will follow all city and county safety guidelines for COVID-19. Space is limited, so sign up soon! | More Info



#### Submit an original one-act play to our new contest!

First prize is \$250 and the chance to receive a staged reading of their play presented at the Hollywood Fringe Festival in June of 2022, produced by Sacred Fools Theater Company. Plays will judged by a panel of five judges on creativity, originality, and craft.

**Submission deadline: May 1st, 2022.** Winners will be selected by May 15th, with a final presentation and awards ceremony on Sat, June 11th @ 5pm.

Submit to StartNow@sacredfools.org (Word or PDF format only)

More Info

# CAST



Samantha Barrios (she/her | Em) is honoured to share in the journey of this piece. It is exciting to breathe life into a story as rich, raw and real as this one. This is why theatre is essential for our communities - it offers perspective, knowledge and understanding. Sacred Fools patrons may remember her as the loveable Minnie Williams in the world premier of *Deadly*.

Other recent theatre credits: Pippin (Leading Player), Daddy's Dyin'... Who's Got the Will? (Sara Lee), Dangerous Obsession (Sally), Women of 4G (Baston), Wait Until Dark (Susan), Major Barbara (Barbara), Sordid Lives (LaVonda), Twelfth Night (Feste & Olivia), Lend Me a Tenor (Maggie,) Two Gentleman of Verona (Sylvia), Steel Magnolias (Shelby), The Rocky Horror Show (Magenta), Hedwig (Yitzak). On screen you can catch her in the Ceasar and Otto series. Sam was born in Venezuela (prayers), raised in the Sooner state and is part NYer. Samantha received her BFA from Webster Conservatory. Let's love each other y'all, we need it!! Loves and hugs! samanthabarrios.com Social Media: @TSamanthaB



Dana DeRuyck (she/her | Ben) Most recently seen in the world premiere of Welcome to the Neighborhood in the 2021 Hollywood Fringe Festival. Previous Sacred Fools shows: A Gulag Mouse, Mr. Burns: a post-electric play, Jane Austen's Emma Frankenstein. Other LA Theatre: Sisters Three (Inkwell Theatre); Hole in the Sky (Circle X Theatre); Richard III

(Shakespeare by the Sea); Romeo & Juliet, King Lear, The Merry Wives of Windsor (Porters of Hellsgate); Fifty Shades of Shrew (Broads' Word Theatre). Platinum Award for Best Acting Duo at the Independent Shorts Awards for the short film A Girl Problem. Dana is also a writer, comedian, and voiceover artist. danaderuyck.com



Natalie Nicole Dressel (she/her | Penny) is a transgender writer/actress currently living in North Hollywood, CA. In 2019 she attained her MFA in writing for the Stage and Screen from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA, and in 2013 she earned her BFA in Theater from Michigan State University. She is a graduate of the UCB

LA improv program, and her play THERE IS EVIL IN THIS HOUSE (that she wrote and also starred in) was a Second Rounder at AFF and a 2019 O'Neill NPC finalist. She did various voices on the English language dub of the currently available to watch *Veneno* and dubbed the lead on *Todo Lo Otro* (or *Dafne and the Rest*), both on HBO Max. Recently wrapped a movie on the East Coast and had a grant show of her work put on and funded by the City of West Hollywood. Has written on-the-spot love poetry for strangers passing by at Pride in Los Angeles and Denver on an old fashioned typewriter. @nataliendressel on Twitter. @natalienicole24601 on Instagram.



Marian Gonzalez (its/It | Omar/Stage Directions) is a theater artist and puppeteer from Los Angeles. You might be familiar with Marian's whole deal from several Fringe and late-night shows (Crunch, Serial Killers). Past credits include Long Joan Silver with LOFT Ensemble, and Fifty Shades of Shrew with Broads' Word

Ensemble. And most recently *Waiting for Waiting for Godot* with Sacred Fools. Much love always to its wonderful partner Heatherlynn. Wanna know more? about.me/mariangonzalez



Cj Merriman (she/her | Mom) went to Webster University's Conservatory of Theatre Arts and got a BFA in Acting. She has worked with some great L.A. area companies like LOFT Ensemble, Burglars of Hamm, Theatricum Botanicum, and Sacred Fools, and is also an avid religious follower of the Hollywood Fringe Festival. Cj has gotten to try on a lot of theatrical hats:

choreographer (*Trainwreck, Now or Neverland, Miravel*), director (*Dracula's Taste Test*), and producer (*Serial Killers, Come Back!*), but mostly loves herself some actin'. Some of her favorites include *Night Witches* (HFF), *The Behavior of Broadus* (Burglars/Fools), *Watson* (Fools), and *The Poe Show* (HFF). You can currently catch her co-hosting the ONLY theatre podcast (*Theatre Theater*) with J. Bailey Burcham and Watson castmate, Scott Leggett. Catch her this coming Hollywood Fringe in *Three Guys, One Groupon*!



Heather Schmidt (she/her | Emily) Heather hails from St. Louis and is obsessed with her dog. Her favorite places for theatre shenanigans include Sacred Fools and Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre. Past credits include Crimes of the Heart (Arrow Rock Lyceum), Night Witches (HFF), Tangerine Sunset (Sacred Fools), Hamlet (Ensemble Shakespeare) and the recent world

premiere of Future Tripping.



Colin Willkie (he/him | Dan) is overjoyed to be performing at Sacred Fools Theatre again. Past Foolish productions include Hamlet Shut Up, Watson: The Last Great Tale of the Legendary Sherlock Holmes, and Serial Killers, the long-running late night show that Colin performed in and produced for many years. Most recent credits include many a Zoom reading and

Gatsby: An Immersive Experience, winner of best immersive theatre at the Hollywood Fringe Festival. Many friends and family think Colin is "pretty great."

# CREW

**Sofija Dutcher (she/him | Director)** is a queer theater-maker, visual artist and avid participant in L.A.'s independent theatre community, and has directed, produced and stage managed productions with Sacred Fools Theatre Company, LOFT Ensemble, Flat Tire Theatre Company, Skypilot Theatre Company, and more. As a multidisciplinary artist, she uses her variety of skills to assist in telling and elevating personal stories, encouraging vulnerable storytelling, and providing the freedom to play, heal, and connect with one another through art and performance. She is currently the Administrative Director for About...Productions (aboutpd.org).

Natalie Nicole Dressel (she/him | Playwright) - see CAST

Scott Leggett (he/him | Producer) appeared in the modern farce Tangerine Sunset at Sacred Fools. He performed multiple characters in Burglars of Hamm's critically acclaimed production of Resa Fantastiskt Mystisk which won Top of Fringe at the Hollywood Fringe Festival. He was Monster in Cookie and the Monster at the Hollywood Fringe Festival '15, which won Best Ensemble. He earned praise playing Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle opposite French Stewart in the critically acclaimed Pasadena Playhouse production of Stoneface: The Rise and Fall and Rise of Buster Keaton. Scott is a proud member of Sacred Fools where he played the titular character in Watson: The Last Great Tale of the Legendary Sherlock Holmes as well as its sequel. Other shows include 43 Plays for 43 Presidents and The Swine Show in addition to numerous other productions. He studied theater at Penn State University and has appeared in several commercials and shows. Scott is accomplished director, having staged the hugely successful adaptation of Neil Gaiman's Neverwhere at Sacred Fools. He also directed The Poe Show which won Best Comedy at the Hollywood Fringe Festival '15, and Skullduggery: The Musical Preguel to Hamlet. He has also served as Co-Artistic Director of Sacred Fools.

## SACRED FOOLS THEATER COMPANY

www.SacredFools.org

#### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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### SACRED FOOLS THEATER COMPANY

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

Sacred Fools Theater Company is dedicated to creating and fostering a dynamic, empowered artistic community in Los Angeles. The company is run solely by the ensembled artists. We have an ongoing commitment to the development of new plays and projects which challenge traditional expectations of the theatrical experience. Our goal is to produce work which invigorates, enlightens and entertains. We believe that theater is a popular and vital art form which inspires and transforms its audience and its members.

We hope you enjoyed the show!

Join us after the show at



6324 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles, CA-90038

