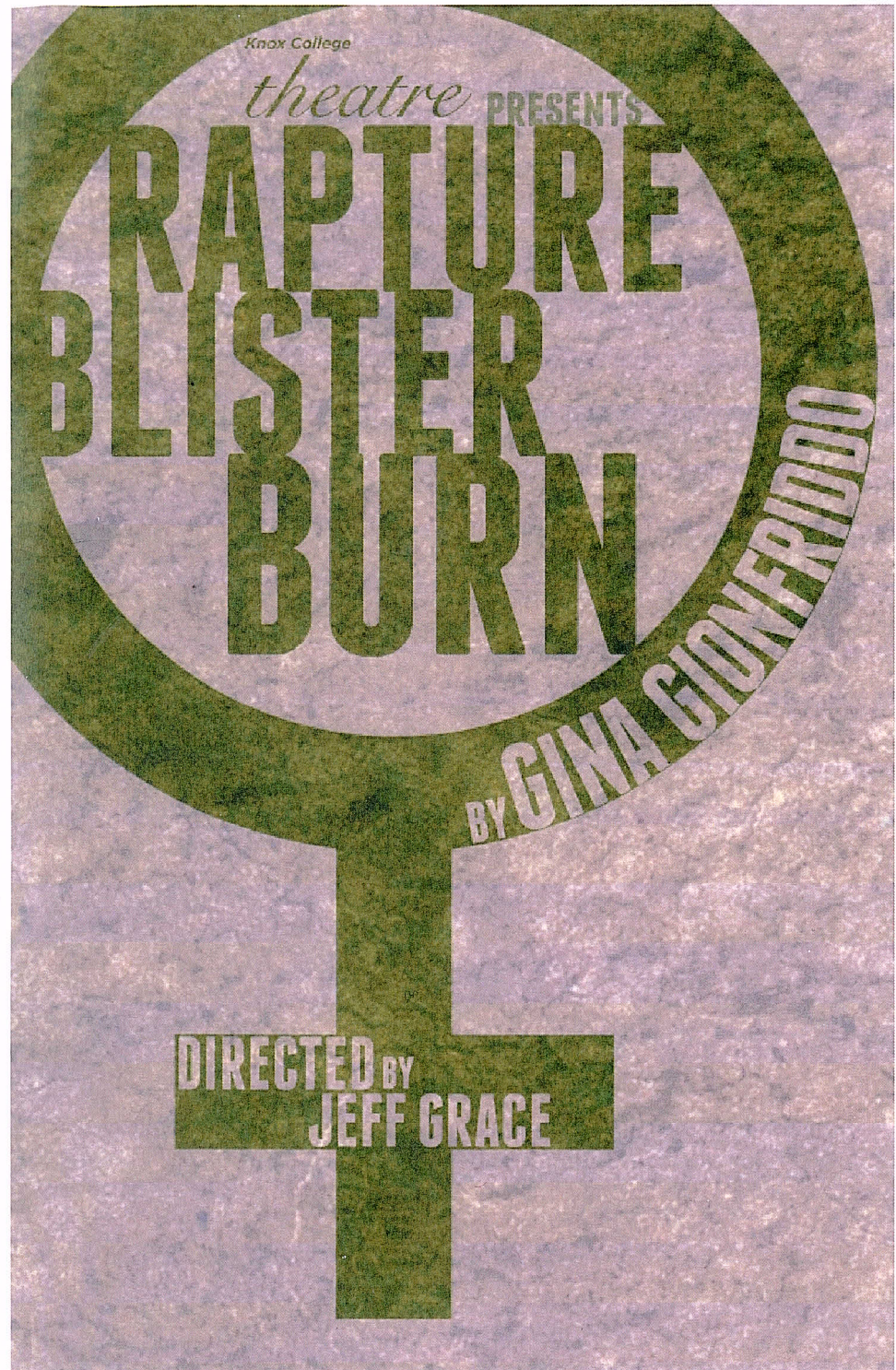


**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU**

Zack Wahlquist, Katie Grace, Knox Facilities,  
Knox Theatre Advisory Board, Peter Bailley,  
Jennifer Lazarz, Kevin Ballard, Tim Guerrero



## WELCOME TO KNOX COLLEGE THEATRE

Welcome to the third and final mainstage production of the Department of Theatre's 2014-15 season. It's been an unusual year, beginning with *The Caffè Cino Project* for which we built a reconstruction of a New York coffeehouse in Studio, and continuing with last term's college world premiere of a new play by Jamil Khoury, *Mosque Alert*. The season ends with Jeff Grace's production of a play we scheduled to coincide with his teaching our popular Women Playwrights class, in which 22 students are enrolled this term. Gina Gionfriddo's *Rapture, Blister, Burn* was named as one of two runner-ups for the 2013 Pulitzer Prize in Drama; the Pulitzer board described it as "A searing comedy that examines the psyches of two women in midlife as they ruefully question the differing choices they have made."

The rehearsal process for each term's faculty-directed show always take place alongside those for several productions in Studio Theatre (and sometimes in other spaces on campus). This term has been a special one in Studio, in that all the work presented in reading and productions - over six weekends - has been student-written as well as student-directed, including two presentations in connection with year-long Honors Projects.

Each year the audiences for our productions in Harbach and Studio number over three thousand. And the students who participate in those shows come from across the academic disciplines, represent all four class-years, and annually number approximately 400. The faculty is proud of the work we present, and we look forward to seeing you next year, when the season will include Repertory Term XVII, and our second New Plays Festival.

Enjoy the show!  
— Neil Blackadder, Chair

### THEATRE DEPARTMENT FACULTY

Professor of Theatre, Chair ..... Neil Blackadder  
Smith V. Brand Distinguished Prof. of Theatre .... Liz Carlin-Metz  
Associate Professor of Theatre..... Craig Choma  
Assistant Professor of Theatre ..... Jeff Grace  
Director of Costume & Makeup.....Margo Shively  
Writer-in-Residence ..... Sherwood Kiraly  
Adjunct Instructor..... Robert Thompson

Knox College Theatre  
presents

# RAPTURE, BLISTER, BURN

BY GINA GIONFRIDDO

DIRECTED BY JEFF GRACE  
SCENIC DESIGN BY CRAIG CHOMA  
COSTUME DESIGN BY AUTY ROHWEDER  
LIGHTING DESIGN BY CRAIG CHOMA  
SOUND DESIGN BY JOEL SCHLEICHER

HARBACH THEATRE  
FORD CENTER FOR THE FINE ARTS  
MAY 13 - 16, 2015

*Please:*

**No photographs, video, texting, or recording.  
Turn off all cell phones, pagers, notification alerts,  
or anything else that may emit light or sound.**

Playwrights Horizons, Inc., New York City, commissioned and produced the world premiere of RAPTURE, BLISTER, BURN Off-Broadway in 2012.

RAPTURE, BLISTER, BURN was commissioned by Playwrights Horizons with funds provided by The Harold and Miri Steinberg Commissioning Program.

This production is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., 440 Park Avenue South, New York City, NY 10016

## THE CAST

CATHERINE CROLL ..... Sam Auch  
GWEN HARPER ..... Rose Dolezal  
DON HARPER ..... Ian Tully  
AVERY WILLARD ..... Missy Preston  
ALICE CROLL ..... Alexia Vasilopoulos

### TIME AND PLACE:

A college town in New England.  
Summer.

### ACT I

Scene 1: Don & Gwen's backyard  
Scene 2: Alice's living room (*two weeks later*)  
Scene 3: Outside Alice's house (*later that evening*)

*10 minute Intermission*

### ACT II

Scene 1: Alice's living room (*second week of class*)  
Scene 2: Living room (*later that evening*)  
Scene 3: Living room (*one week later*)  
Scene 4: Living room (*a month later*)  
Scene 5: Don & Gwen's backyard (*one week later*)  
Scene 6: Backyard (*immediately following*)  
Scene 7: Living Room (*later that evening*)

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Director ..... Jeff Grace  
Assistant Director ..... Emily Antoff  
Stage Manager ..... Emily Ioppolo  
Assistant Stage Managers ..... Emma Lipson  
Mackenzie Lynch  
Technical Director ..... Craig Choma  
Assistant Technical Director ..... Jacob Schneider  
Scene Designer ..... Craig Choma  
Scenery/Lighting Staff ..... Nic Chapin, Moriah Chermak  
Stephen Ford, Katie Greve, Ian Tully  
Sophie Click, Danny Donnelly  
Emily Ioppolo, Nathan Levine  
Emma Lipson, Gregg Miller  
Rhiannon Neuville-Norton  
Scene Shop Volunteers ..... Brady Comenduley  
Emily Harvey, Andre Leewright  
Julia Porter, Ben Rezko, Eunice Shek  
Joel Schleicher, Jack Harman  
Scenic Artist ..... Craig Choma  
Run Crew ..... Emma Lipson, Mackenzie Lynch  
Ben Rezko, Tristan Yi  
Costume Designer ..... Auty Rohweder  
Assistant Costume Designer ..... Margo Shively  
Hair and Makeup Designer ..... Chloe Vollenweider  
Costume Studio Assistants ..... Auty Rohweder, Jayel Gant  
Willia Coufal, Carly Berinstein  
Andrew Purvis, Morgan Jellison  
Chloe Vollenweider, Katie Hutton  
Emily Trevor, Kristina Mengis  
Miranda Loeber  
Dresser ..... Chloe Vollenweider  
Lighting Designer ..... Craig Choma  
Master Electrician ..... Ian Tully  
Lighting Board Operator ..... Emily Ioppolo  
Sound Designer ..... Joel Schleicher  
Sound Board Operator ..... Joel Schleicher  
Props Master ..... Megan Smith  
Properties Crew ..... Sofia Drummond-Moore  
Julia Porter, Stefan Torralba  
Michelangelo Pori

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**SAM AUCH** (Catherine) is a senior with a major in Theatre and minor in Gender Studies. Throughout her time at Knox, she has had the privilege to work with some of the most creative, dedicated, and talented people she knows. Some favorite theatre experiences include *Desdemona, a play about a handkerchief* (Desdemona) and *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play* (Annie). She recently appeared on stage at Knox in *Who Killed My Bald Sister Sophie?* (Sophie) as part of *The Caffè Cino Project*. Sam would like to thank Jeff, Liz, the ladies of CC, the Triumvirate, the boys of Sigma Chi, and all the other goofs who have made every moment at Knox more important than the last. But most of all, she would like to thank you for sharing in this theatrical experience, because without you, we could not do what we do. Sam is from Saint Louis, Missouri.

**ROSE DOLEZAL** (Gwen) is a post-baccalaureate with a B.A. in Theatre. Her memorable roles at Knox include Sarah Ruhl's *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play* (Catherine Givings), Charles Mee's *Iphigenia 2.0* (Clytemnestra), and Paula Vogel's *Hot 'N' Throbbing* (Charlene). In the fall, Rose plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Theatre at the New School for Drama in New York City. She would like to thank her family for their faith and support. Rose is from Columbia, Missouri.

**IAN TULLY** (Don) is a sophomore majoring in Theatre with a minor in Literature. He recently appeared on stage in *A Funny Walk Home* (Steve) as part of *The Caffè Cino Project*, and in *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play* (Leo Irving). In addition to working in the scene shop, Ian has most recently designed and constructed the set for

a wonderful student production of *The Clean House*. He extends special thanks to everyone who regularly contributes to the Knox College Theatre Department and to his family. Ian is from Gays Mills, Wisconsin.

**MISSY PRESTON** (Avery) is a senior majoring in Theatre and minoring in both English Literature and Anthropology/Sociology. At Knox, she has appeared in *Crumble* (*Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake*) (House), *Iphigenia 2.0* (Bridesmaid), *Desdemona, a play about a handkerchief* (Emilia), among others. When she is not pursuing acting, Missy enjoys studying theatre and sociological theory, writing and performing feminist electric folk songs, and participating in the live music scene both on and off campus. She would like to thank the inhabitants of her duplex for their love and inspiration - Forrest, and Stephen, and most specifically her partner in all crimes, Xen. Missy was raised in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

**ALEXIA VASILOPOULOS** (Alice) is a senior with a double major in Political Science and French. At Knox, she has been involved in a variety of theatre productions, such as *The Vagina Monologues* (Ensemble), *Scared Money* (Vee), *Check, Please* (Girl), *Crumble* (*Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake*) (Aunt Barbara), and *Mosque Alert* (Ayesha Khan). She would like to thank her family, both Knox and Greek, the production team, and the cast for their unwavering support in all she strives to do. Alexia would like to also extend her appreciation to the horse, Theatrical Girl, for being the craziest and luckiest reason she decided to pursue acting in the first place. Alexia hails from Greece, grew up in Chicago, but now lives in Toledo, Ohio.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CREATIVE TEAM

**JEFF GRACE** (Director) is an Assistant Professor of Theatre. He received both his M.S. in Education (2004) and his Ph.D. in Theatre History, Theory, and Literature (2008) from Indiana University. Having various productions to his credit, Jeff's work has been seen on stages at Indiana University, Brigham Young University, Brighton High Productions, UHSAA Jordan District, and Street Theatre Jab. Recent directing credits include: *The Caffè Cino Project*, *Next Fall*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Under Construction*, Euripides' *Medea*, *The Serpent*, *This is Your Song*, *The World Goes 'Round*, *Once on this Island*, *Chess*, George Orwell's 1984, *Grease!*, *Cagebirds*, *Up the Down Staircase*, *The Diviners*, *Doors*, *Act Without Words*, *27 Wagons Full of Cotton*, and *Pippin*. Jeff is excited to present *Rapture*, *Blister*, *Burn* at Knox College, and he is thankful to such a wonderful cast and crew for all their hard work. He would especially like to thank his partner, Zack, for the unwavering love, patience, and support through the many hours away from home. Jeff is originally from Pleasant Grove, Utah.

**EMILY ANTOFF** (Assistant Director) is a senior majoring in Theatre and minoring in Art History. At Knox, she directed *The Clean House*, *Laundry and Bourbon*, and *The Marriage Proposal*, as well as directing for the New Plays Festival and Knoxwurst. She was also the Assistant Director for the Knox productions of *Maple and Vine*, *The Green Bird*, and *At Night's End*. Emily recently returned from a semester training program at the O'Neill National Theater Institute where she studied on the east coast and in London. She would like to thank the fantastic cast and team

behind this production, as well as her teachers, friends, and family for all of their love, patience, and support. Emily is from Winona, Minnesota.

**CRAIG CHOMA** (Scenic Designer, Lighting Designer, Technical Director) is an Associate Professor of Theatre, and Knox's resident designer and technical director. His favorite Knox designs include *The Caffè Cino Project*, *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play*, *Next Fall*, *The Green Bird*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Under Construction*, *Twelfth Night*, *A Lie of the Mind*, Euripides' *Medea*, *Angels in America*, *Intimate Apparel*, *Rosa & Blanca*, *The Skriker*, *Noises Off*, *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, *As You Like It*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *War and Peace*, *Arcadia*, and *Macbeth*. Craig is also an inaugural member of Vitalist Theatre in Chicago, whose designs include the award winning productions of *A Passage to India* (sets), *Mother Courage and Her Children* (sets), *Anna Karenina* (sets), *Floating Rhoda and the Glue Man* (sets), *King Lear* (lighting), *The Mill On The Floss* (set and lighting), and the world premiere of *Anung's First American Christmas* (sets). Other Chicago designs include the sets for *Death and the Maiden* (Timeline), *Pippin*, *Night Sky*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Museum*. Craig holds a B.A. in Theatre and Philosophy from Knox College (1993), and M.F.A.'s in both Scenic and Lighting Design from Carnegie Mellon University (1996). He thanks his lovely wife and two beautiful daughters for their boundless creativity and unconditional love. Craig is originally from Chicago, Illinois.

**AUTY ROHWEDER** (Costume Designer) is a senior majoring in Theatre and minoring in Dance. She has worked on costumes for *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play*, *Maple and Vine*, *The Caffè Cino Project*, and *Mosque Alert*. This is her first production as a lead costume designer, working along side Margo Shively. Auty has also worked with dance performances co-designing lights as well as costume construction - not to mention a bit of dancing in between. She would like to thank her friends in the costume shop for their ever present encouragement, and most highly, Margo Shively, for making everything worth while. Auty is from Oneida, Illinois.

**MARGO SHIVELY** (Assistant Costume Designer) began her career in the fashion industry after graduating from the the Art Institute of Chicago. She interned with Oleg Cassini and designed and freelanced for several years before coming to Knox to teach costume design. In her thirty years at Knox, Margo has designed—more frequently co-designed with students— a number of plays. She has also designed for the Black Hills Playhouse in Custer, South Dakota and is a regular designer and consultant for Vitalist Theatre Company in Chicago, where she has been actively involved since its first production of *The Mill On The Floss* in 1997. She is an active member of the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology, participating in symposiums on design and curriculum across the country. Her students have gone on to pursue Master's degrees at Yale, Carnegie Mellon, University of Connecticut at Storrs, and The University of Texas at Austin. Of her many experiences, she is most grateful for, and proud of, the

opportunity to work with students who share her passion for design. Margo is from Galesburg, Illinois.

**JOEL SCHLEICHER** (Sound Designer) is in his first year at Knox, and he is currently majoring in Theatre Design and Technology. He has been working in audio design and system management for theatre and musical productions for the past ten years. He has served as audio tech for *Phantom of the Opera*, *Les Miserable*, *Comedy Sports*, and *RENT*. He also worked as the Sound Designer for *Mosque Alert*, *The Caffè Cino Project*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. Joel is from Northbrook, Illinois.

**MEGAN SMITH** (Props Master) is a junior majoring in Theatre with a double minor in Latin and Religious Studies. Her previous credits include *Hot 'N' Throbbing* (Assistant Director), *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play* (Assistant Director), *Iphigenia 2.0* (Assistant Props Master), and *Stop Kiss* (Props Master). She has served on the Theatre Advisory Board for two years as an added bonus of donating her soul to CFA. She would like to thank all of those who have provided her with opportunities to explore, grow and love. Megan is from Lawrence, Kansas.

**CHLOE VOLLENWEIDER** (Hair and Makeup) is a sophomore majoring in Theatre and minoring in Religious Studies. She has recently designed costumes for both *Mosque Alert* and *Crumble (Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake)*. She has done hair and makeup for *The Clean House* and *The Caffè Cino Project*, as well as works in the theatre costume shop. Chloe is from Kansas City.

**EMILY IOPPOLO** (Stage Manager) is a senior majoring in Theatre and minoring in Psychology. Her most recent credits at Knox include *The Clean House*, *The Caffè Cino Project*, *Maple and Vine*, *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play*, and *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*. She was also credited as Stage Manager and Co-Lighting Designer for Anaemic Theatre Company's inaugural production of *Passion Play* in Chicago last summer. Post-graduation, Emily plans on moving to Chicago and jumping right into the theatre scene by working with Eclipse Theatre as an Assistant Stage Manger on their production of Terrence McNally's *A Perfect Ganesh*. She would like to thank everyone who has made the past four years the best so far, especially Jeff Grace, Craig Choma, her fellow residents of Sea Creature House, the Triumvirate, and all the rest whose names go without saying; past and present. Emily is from Oak Park, Illinois.

**EMMA LIPSON** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a first-year student who plans to major in Theatre and double minor in Music and Business. Her previous theatre experiences include working as an Assistant Stage Manager on *Mosque Alert* and *The Caffè Cino Project*. She also works in the department scene shop. Emma is excited to be finishing her first year with *Rapture*, *Blister*, *Burn*, and she would like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work. Emma is from Norwalk, Connecticut.

**MACKENZIE LYNCH** (Assistant Stage Manager) is in her first year at Knox. As a transfer student, Mackenzie is double majoring in Creative Writing and International Relations. This is only her second term at Knox and her first time working on a mainstage production for this school. She would like to thank all of her family and friends for their love and support. Mackenzie is from Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Chairperson .....	Neil Blackadder
House Manager .....	Jordan Hurst
Tickets .....	Sam Auch
Box Office.....	Sam Auch & Student Volunteers
Poster Design .....	Holden Meier
Programs .....	Jeff Grace
Publicity .....	Peter Bailley, Cast & Crew
Ushers.....	Student Volunteers

## THE PLAYWRIGHT



**G**ina Gionfriddo is an award-winning playwright and accomplished television writer. Her play *Rapture, Blister, Burn* was a finalist for the 2013 Pulitzer Prize in Drama. The play had a twice-extended run Off Broadway at Playwrights Horizons in 2012, and recently had successful productions at the Hampstead Theatre in London and the Goodman Theatre in Chicago. Ms. Gionfriddo's play *Becky Shaw*, also a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Drama (2009), enjoyed a long

run Off Broadway at Second Stage (Outer Critics Circle Award) and in London at the Almeida Theatre where it received two Evening Standard Award nominations. Her other plays include *Guinevere* (O'Neill Playwrights' Conference); *U.S. Drag* (Clubbed Thumb); *After Ashley* (Vineyard Theatre, Obie Award); and the one-acts *Squalor* and *America's Got Tragedy* (commissioned by the stageFARM). Ms. Gionfriddo has received a Guggenheim Fellowship in Playwriting, as well as the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, the Helen Merrill Award for Emerging Playwrights, and an American Theatre Critics Association/Steinberg citation. She has worked as a writer and producer for "Law & Order" and "Law & Order: Criminal Intent," and as a writer for "Cold Case," "The Borgias," and "House of Cards." She has contributed essays on rock music to the literary journal *The Believer*, and short fiction to *Canteen*. Ms. Gionfriddo is a graduate of Barnard College and Brown University's MFA playwriting program. She has taught at Brown University, Rhode Island College, and Providence College.

Mark your calendars to join us for the  
2015-16 Knox Theatre season:

October 28 - 31, 2015

*The Island of Slaves*  
by Pierre Marivaux  
translated & directed by Neil Blackadder

Feb. 25 - March 5, 2016

**\*\* Repertory Term XVII \*\***

NEIL GAIMAN'S  
**NEVERWHERE**  
adapted for the stage by Rob Kazlaric  
directed by Liz Carlin-Metz

*If We Were Birds*  
by Erin Shields  
directed by Jeff Grace

April - May 2016

**New Plays Festival**  
written, directed, and performed  
by Knox Students & Alumni

The Knox College Department of Theatre  
would like to dedicate this performance to the memory of

*Robert Whitlatch, Ph.D. (1935-2015)*  
*Professor Emeritus of Theatre*

With fond memories, "Doc Bob" is deeply missed  
by his students, family, and colleagues.