

Knox College
theatre
presents

A Doll's House PART 2

by **LUCAS HNATH**
directed by **JEFF GRACE**

This production is supported in part by the

**ELIZABETH JAHNKE METZ
THEATRE FUND**

Contribute to Knox Theatre by donating to this fund at:
knoxtheatre.org/give_to_knox

WELCOME TO KNOX COLLEGE THEATRE

Welcome to the first Main Stage production of the Department of Theatre's 2019-20 Season. We are pleased to celebrate with you our work in the field of theatre on both the Harbach and Studio Theatre stages. Each year we select a range of plays, which, if considered over the four-year tenure of a Knox student, will expose students to a wide range of lenses with which to view the human condition.

Our current season of faculty directed plays examines human thought, experience, and action through three plays from the modern theatre. All three of these plays consider the status of women. The fall production, *A Doll's House Part 2*, written by Lucas Hnath and directed by Associate Professor Jeff Grace, comes to us from a highly acclaimed 2018 run on Broadway and is rapidly becoming one of the most popular plays being presented in regional theatres across the United States. The play imagines Nora's return to her abandoned home 15 years following the famous "door slam heard round the world." In winter term, we will present Helen Edmundson's provocative adaptation of George Elliot's controversial Victorian novel, *The Mill on the Floss*, as directed by Professor Liz Carlin Metz. This vivid and imaginative adaptation depicts the tragic lives of women when they have no economic control in a world that dictates to them their freedom and behavior. In spring term, Visiting Assistant Professor Deana Nichols will direct *When We Were Young and Unafraid*, by Sarah Treem. This play returns us to the watershed year of 1972 through a humorous and moving examination of the gender politics that defined a movement and set the stage for contemporary feminism. Faculty designers Associate Professor Craig Choma and Visiting Instructor Allison Smith Hahn take the lead positions in designing sets, lights, videography, and costumes, working alongside student designers, technicians, and many other students to realize tonight's production.

In addition to the Harbach productions, Studio Theatre presents the creative work of students as they put into practice what they have learned in the classroom. Additionally, new plays by Knox students will be given stage readings and bare-stage productions featuring students managing, directing, and acting along side one another.

Thank you for joining us at our productions. We look forward to sharing with you another very invigorating year of humanity on stage.

Enjoy the show!
— Liz Carlin Metz, Chair

THEATRE DEPARTMENT FACULTY

Smith V. Brand Distinguished Prof. of Theatre Liz Carlin Metz
Associate Professor of Theatre..... Craig Choma
Associate Professor of Theatre..... Jeff Grace
Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre Deana Nichols
Director of Costume & Makeup Allison Smith Hahn
Writer-in-Residence Sherwood Kiraly

Knox College Theatre
presents

A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2

BY LUCAS HNATH

DIRECTED BY JEFF GRACE

SCENIC DESIGN BY CRAIG CHOMA & CAMMIE STEIN

COSTUME DESIGN BY ALLISON SMITH HAHN

LIGHTING DESIGN BY CRAIG CHOMA

VIDEOGRAPHY DESIGN BY CAMMIE STEIN

SOUND DESIGN BY ERIN N. YU

HARBACH THEATRE, CFA
NOVEMBER 6, 7, 8, 9, 2019

Please:

No photographs, video, texting, or recording.

Turn off all cell phones, notification alerts,

or anything else that may emit light or sound.

A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2 is presented by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Originally produced on Broadway by
Scott Rudin, Eli Bush, Joey Parnes, Sue Wagner, and John Johnson.

Commissioned and first produced by South Coast Repertory.

A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2 benefited from a residency at New Dramatists.

THE CAST

NORA..... Emma Bohman
TORVALD..... Nicodemus Meade-Greenman
ANNE MARIE..... Kaitlyn Hrivnak
EMMY..... Meg Tucker

TIME

15 years since Nora left Torvald

PLACE

Norway
Inside the Helmer house

SCENES

1: Nora
2: Torvald
3: Anne Marie
4: Emmy
5: Nora & Torvald

A Doll's House, Part 2 is performed without an intermission

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Chairperson..... Liz Carlin Metz
House Management..... John Harden
Box Office..... Student Volunteers
Reservations..... Jamie Heller
Tickets..... Jeff Grace
Ushers..... Student Volunteers
Contract Licensing..... Jennifer Lazarz
Publicity..... Cast & Crew
Poster Design..... Craig Choma
Programs..... Jeff Grace

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director..... Jeff Grace
Technical Director..... Craig Choma
Stage Manager..... Jamie Heller
Assistant Stage Manager..... Elise Hanson
Scenic Designers..... Craig Choma & Cammie Stein
Scenery & Lighting T.A.s..... Iris Berto
Mitchel Boyle
Wesley Breyer
Marion Frank
Zach Farmer
Zach Krawczyk
Cammie Stein
Jake Wertz
Joel Willison
Roz Zucker
Scene Shop Volunteers..... Isabella Brennan
Anna Christensen
Nicodemus Meade-Greenman
Students from THTR 121
Scenic Artist..... Cammie Stein
Costume Designer..... Allison Smith Hahn
Assistant Costume Shop Supervisor..... Peter M. Rule
Costume Shop T.A.s..... Morghan Bacon
Emma Bohman
Greta Eanes
Paula Pierce
Amelia Walz
Costume Shop Volunteers..... Cianja Bone
Glen Malast
Allison Stout
Meg Tucker
Charlie Van Kirk
Lighting Designer..... Craig Choma
Master Electrician..... Marion Frank
Lighting Board Operator..... Jamie Heller
Videography Designer..... Cammie Stein
Sound Designer..... Erin N. Yu
Sound & Video Board Operator..... Elise Hanson
Props..... Jeff Grace

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

EMMA BOHMAN (Nora) is a junior majoring in Theatre and minoring in History. She was recently seen on the Knox stages in the ensembles of both *The Laramie Project* and *The Children's Hour*. Other memorable roles at Knox include *The Glass Menagerie* (Amanda Wingfield) and *The Drowning Girls* (Alice Burnham). When she is not pursuing acting, Emma enjoys working in the department costume shop, embroidery, and crocheting with sustainable materials. She would like to thank her friends and family for their love and support, as well as a special thank you to her partner, Zach, for putting up with the intense amount line memorization this term. Emma is from Schaumburg, Illinois.

KAITLYN HRIVNAK (Anne Marie) is a junior majoring in Theatre. Her recent acting credits at Knox include ensemble roles in both *The Laramie Project* and *The Children's Hour* during Repertory Theatre Term XVIII. Other credits include *Before Sunrise* (Annemarie Krause), and participation in Knox's New Plays Festival and Playground. When she was not rehearsing during Rep Term, Kaitlyn was leading the props crew as Crew Chief, and participating in the publicity and paint crews. She would like to thank her friends and family

for their love and support, as well as her directors for the opportunities they have presented to her. Kaitlyn is from Kewaunee, Wisconsin.

NICODEMUS MEADE-GREENMAN (Torvald) is a first-year student working toward a major in Theatre. This is his first show at Knox, and he is beyond excited to have the privilege of acting in Knox's Theatre Department. He was involved quite heavily in theatre throughout middle and high school, and wishes to continue his passion at Knox. Nicodemus is from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

MEG TUCKER (Emmy) is a sophomore majoring in Theatre. At Knox, her previous credits include *Before Sunrise* (Martha), *Hard Same* (Jenny), and *What Vicious Loves* (various). Beyond Knox, Meg has had the opportunity to work on shows such as *The Dining Room* (Peggy/Ruth), *Little Women* (Meg), and *Lucky Stiff* (various). She is beyond excited for this opportunity to breathe new life into these classic characters alongside the incredible work of her castmates, crew, the entire production team, and every other person who put hard work into making this show possible. She would like to thank her family and friends for their continuous encouragement. Meg was born and raised in Batavia, Illinois.

Knox College

theatre

WHO'S WHO IN THE CREATIVE TEAM

JEFF GRACE (Director) is an Associate 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 Knox College, Indiana University, Brigham Young University, Brighton High Productions, UHSAA Jordan District, and Street Theatre Jab. Recent directing credits include *The Laramie Project*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Nether*, *The Secret in the Wings*, *Rapture Blister Burn*, *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 *A Doll's House, Part 2* 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 husband, Zack, for the unwavering love, support, and patience through the many hours away from home. Jeff is originally from Pleasant Grove, Utah.

CRAIG CHOMA (Co-Scenic Designer, Lighting Designer, Co-Videography Designer, Technical Director) is an Associate Professor of Theatre, and Knox's resident designer and technical director. His favorite Knox designs include *The Laramie Project*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Drowning Girls*, *The Secret in the Wings*, Neil Gaiman's *Neverwhere*, *Rapture Blister Burn*, *The Caffè Cino Project*,

In the Next Room or the vibrator play, *The Green Bird*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Under Construction*, *A Lie of the Mind*, Euripides' *Medea*, *Angels in America*, *Intimate Apparel*, *The Skriker*, *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *War and Peace*, and *Macbeth*. Craig has designed both sets and/or lights professionally in Chicago, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Minneapolis, Ohio, Toronto, Canada, and Avignon, France. He designs for both theatre and dance, and enjoys each equally. Craig has designed in proscenium, thrust, and arena spaces, small storefront theatres, converted churches and libraries, and site-specific locations. He has been the production designer for a number of fundraising events, and he has collaborated on court cases, creating forensic models of various scales to be used in the presentation of evidence. 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 amazing wife and two beautiful daughters for their boundless creativity and unconditional love. Craig is originally from Chicago, Illinois.

CAMMIE STEIN (Co-Scenic Designer, Videography Designer) is a junior majoring in Theatre and intending to minor in Art History. She participated in Repertory Theatre Term XVIII. Her notable designs at Knox include *The Laramie Project*, *The Children's Hour*, *Dutchman*, and *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. While at Knox, Cammie has been credited with scenic design, videography design, properties design, master carpenter, scenic artist, and assistant stage manager.

Cammie has also served as the Technical Director of the Theatre Advisory Board. In addition to theatre, Cammie is also involved in Fraternity Sorority Life, and is a three-year starter for the Knox College Softball Team. She has enjoyed her time at Knox working with peers and faculty, and looks forward to continuing to design and pursue a career as a scenic designer. She would like to thank her family and friends for the continued support. Cammie is originally from Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

ALLISON SMITH HAHN (Costume Designer) is the resident costume designer and costume studio manager in the Knox Theatre Department. She studied costume design and artistry, under the mentorship of Margo Shively, at Knox College where she earned her B.A. and was also a Post-Baccalaureate Fellow (2010-11). Since then, Allison has been designing in Chicagoland, which includes designs for *Multitudes* and *Pool (no water)* with Vitalist Theatre. As the resident costume designer for Redtwist Theater's 2014-15 season, she designed *Good People*, *The American Clock*, *Red, I and You*, and *Another Bone*. Her other designs include *Rhinoceros* (Theatre Heist), *Miles Away*, *Mike and Seth*, *Hello Failure*, and *F.X. Kroetz's Through the Leaves and Request Concert* (Side Project Theatre), *All Shook Up*, *How to Succeed in Business [...]*, and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* (Wilmette Center for the Arts), *Next Fall* (AstonRep), *A 1940s Radio Show* (Moon of Hope Studios), and *Leading Ladies* (Black Hills Playhouse). She teaches fashion history and technical artistry for the stage, otherwise known as Intro to Costume Design. Allison is from Chicago, Illinois.

ERIN N. YU (Sound Designer) is a senior double majoring in Theatre and Business. Her most recent credits at Knox include *The Violent Outburst That Drew Me To You*, *The Laramie Project*, *The Children's Hour*, *A Number*, *Striker's Bar*, *Time Flies*, and *Doctor Faustus*. Erin is also happy to be a part of the Theatre Advisory Board as Public Relations Coordinator. During the past summer, she worked at The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey as a General Management Intern. Her time at Knox has shaped her into who she is and will grow even further, so she would like to thank everyone who has supported her on this journey. Erin is from Seoul, South Korea.

JAMIE HELLER (Stage Manager) is a junior with a major in Psychology and minors in Education and Social Services. She recently participated in Repertory Theatre Term XVIII, and is currently the Co-Coordinator of Knox's New Plays Workshop. She would like to thank her friends and boyfriend for encouraging her to keep reaching for her full potential, and the Gizmo for always being open. Jamie is from Plano, Illinois.

ELISE HANSON (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore majoring in History and minoring in French. At Knox, Elise has worked on *Let Me Hear You Whisper* and Playground stage readings. Working as the ASM for *A Doll's House, Part 2* has been a blast, and she can't wait to work on more shows in the future. Elise is from Peoria, Illinois.

LUCAS HNATH



Lucas Hnath grew up in Orlando, Florida. He moved to New York City in 1997 to study pre-med, and then changed to dramatic writing at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where he earned a B.F.A. in 2001 and an M.F.A. in 2002.

His plays include *Dana H.*, *A Doll's House Part 2*, *Hillary and Clinton*, *The Christians*, *Red Speedo*, *A Public Reading of an Unproduced Screenplay About the Death of Walt Disney*, *Isaac's Eye*, and *Death Tax*. Hnath's work has been produced at Actors Theatre of Louisville's Humana Festival, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, New York

Theatre Workshop, Playwrights Horizon, Royal Court Theatre, Soho Repertory Theatre, South Coast Repertory, and Victory Garden Theater.

He has received the Kesselring Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Whiting Award, two Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award Citations, an Outer Critics Circle Award for Best New Play, an Obie Award, and the Windham-Campbell Literature Prize in Drama.

Hnath has been a resident playwright at New Dramatists since 2011, is a member of Ensemble Studio Theatre, and is a New York Theatre Workshop Usual Suspect. He currently teaches at New York University.

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Cathie Brush, Knox Facilities, Flores Printers, Austin Roach, Zack Wahlquist, Knox Theatre Advisory Board (T.A.B.), Camille Smith (Director, The North Crawford Playhouse, Gays Mills, WI), Steven W. Davis

NORA RETURNS:

ASKING FOR FAVORS AND FORGIVENESS

In Henrik Ibsen's original drama, *A Doll's House*, the young wife Nora forges her father's signature and takes out a secret loan to pay for a treatment needed by her deathly ill husband. After covertly saving Torvald's life, she spends several years repaying the loan by scrimping on household expenses. When Torvald discovers what Nora has done, he is outraged, and - ignoring that she saved his life - he declares that she has disgraced him and is morally unfit to raise their children. Realizing that he never has - and never will - regard her as more than a doll/child, Nora returns her wedding ring and walks out, slamming the door behind her and leaving her comfortable, bourgeois life for an uncertain, probably grim future.

When the play premiered in 1879, that slamming door was heard around the world. Audiences were shocked! How dare Ibsen question the appropriateness of men lording over the ladies? How could Nora possibly be a decent, moral person if she wants recognition as an intelligent human being, and not just as a wife and mother? What would keep the chaos at bay if men weren't 'the deciders'? Unfortunately all these years later, we still haven't satisfactorily answered these questions.

A Doll's House, Part 2 is Lucas Hnath's puckish response to Ibsen. The play begins fifteen years after Nora left, with a knock at the very same door she slammed closed. What ensues is a feisty, philosophic sparring match that tests propositions about marriage, power, gender roles, fairness, and family. The delight of this sequel is that all four characters are bracingly honest, nimble thinkers, equally capable of lobbing trenchant bombs of wit. Into this fizzy brew of Ibsen's provocative notions, Hnath adds a new, highly combustive ingredient: self-actualization. Nora left her family so that she might become her best self, leading her best life. While this is a distinctly 21st Century notion, Hnath questions the cost of her actions, and to whom. He examines the complexities and boundaries of that one thing Nora, like most of us, can leave behind but never fully divest ourselves of: family.

Hnath also asks big questions about what we owe to each other and to ourselves - questions that apply equally in both our private and our social lives. If you are weary of the infantile blurting that passes for public discourse in today's world, we hope that you will find it refreshing to hear adults engaged in passionate, articulate, persuasive debates in tonight's performance.

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

FEBRUARY 20 - 22, 2020
Studio Theatre

JIMMY'S SPACE DRAMA

BY MEGAN MOLLOY
DIRECTED BY CHARLIE VAN KIRK

FEBRUARY 26 - 29, 2020
Harbach Theatre

The Mill on the Floss

BY GEORGE ELLIOT ADAPTED BY HELEN EDMUNSON
DIRECTED BY LIZ CARLIN METZ

APRIL 24 & 25, 2020
Studio Theatre

HIDDEN IN THIS PICTURE

BY AARON SORKIN
DIRECTED BY JOHN HARDEN

MAY 6 - 9, 2020
Harbach Theatre

When We Were Young and Unafraid

BY SARAH TREEM
DIRECTED BY DEANA NICHOLS

MAY 14 - 16, 2020
Studio Theatre

DEATH OF A SALESMAN

BY ARTHUR MILLER
DIRECTED BY JOEL WILLISON

OTHER EVENTS:

JANUARY 31 & FEBRUARY 1
APRIL 17 & 18

NEW PLAYS WORKSHOP

Performed periodically in
Studio Theatre

BARE STAGE ONE-ACTS