



# *Säve thë Whälës, etc.*

a new play by David L. Caruso  
directed by Noah Putterman

November 3-13 | Tickets: [BostonPlaywrights.org](https://www.bostonplaywrights.org)

Boston University College of Fine Arts  
School of Theatre and  
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences



---

# ***Sävë thë Whälës, etc.***

a new play by David L. Caruso  
directed by Noah Putterman

*A BU New Play Initiative production, produced by Boston Playwrights' Theatre  
and the Boston University College of Fine Arts School of Theatre*

Scenic Designer	Anika Reichelt
Lighting Designer	Margaret Garrity
Sound Designer	Nicholas Y. Chen
Costume Designer	Cortnie Beatty
Stage Manager	Anna Hanh*
Scenic Charge	Anika Reichelt
Production Assistant	Brandon Zang
Master Electrician	Conor Thiele
Electricians	Zachary Connell, Jack Culton, Kevin Fulton, Grant Powicki
Set Crew	Simone Crowder, Matt Leal, Sydney Love
House Manager	Sydney Love
Front of House Staff	Simone Crowder, Tina Esper, Matt Leal

## **CAST**

Robin	Thomas McLaughlin
Pierre	Reanna Valencia
Morgan	Maureen Keiller*
Lyra	Lizzy Kircher
Todd	Keith Robinson
Pony	Lola Kennedy

## **UNDERSTUDIES**

For Robin/Pierre—Nicolas Zuluaga; for Morgan—Madelyn Guyet

***Sävë thë Whälës, etc.* runs 90 minutes with no intermission.**

\*Appearing through an Agreement between Boston Playwrights' Theatre  
and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors  
and Stage Managers in the United States.

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by  
any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.

---

# FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT & THE DIRECTOR

You're driving down the highway, and see an orange sign on the side of the road. This pops into your head: "Road work ahead...uh, yeah. I sure hope it does."

At the grocery store, you reach for "fr e sh a vaca do."

Exasperated with your friend, you sigh, "What the hell, Carl?"

Or,

"Nice, Ron."

Or,

"Way to go, Paul."

Or,

"What the f\*\*\*, Richard?"

Look at all those chickens.

These are all traces of a beautiful shared language, idioms that emerged from a big common space (Vine) and shaped the way we speak with one another. They are shorthand, code, and cannon all at once. This type of language helped us through probably the most awkward years of our lives.

But now we're adults. What shared modality do we use now, without the idiomatic slang we used to rely on so much? Where can we find it again?

In this play, *Sävë thë Whälës, etc.*, our ensemble faces the end of the world. Our climate has collapsed, the warming is irreversible, and the government has even declared that it's over. Yet, each character has needs in the present, and dreams for the future. They are still living life, even as the world around them draws down to a close.

Sound familiar?

It feels so difficult, almost impossible to know how to move forward right now. The obvious is practically impossible. Answers to big, structural questions lead to dead ends. So what other questions can we ask? Maybe we have to reach back to ancient forms of language to find the question to meet this moment, to point us to an answer. Maybe there's something right in front of us that can save the world.

Can I pet that dog?

—Noah & David

---

## CAST & CREW

**DAVID L. CARUSO (Playwright, he/they)** is a playwright from Minneapolis. His plays include *Through Hike* (finalist, Int'l Thomas Wolfe Playwriting Competition), *Forest Knowledge* (Company One, Acts of Joy Series), and *Bill & Stephanie* (High Honors, Wesleyan University). David's plays have been developed at Playdate Theatre, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, and the Boston University School of Theatre. As a dramaturge, David collaborated on shows at the Cherry Lane Theatre, Dixon Place, Wesleyan University, and wrote for *South Wall*, the Walker Art Center's performing arts reader. They are a member of the Breaking & Entering Theatre Collective's Writers Group. David graduated from Wesleyan University with high honors, and is currently an MFA playwright at Boston University. [www.davidcaruso.com](http://www.davidcaruso.com) @d3csport

**NICHOLAS Y. CHEN (Sound Designer)** is a graduate of Boston University's Sound Design program (2017) and has worked on numerous productions with Boston University and the Huntington Theatre Company. After graduating he took his skills as a sound designer and started his own business, Tavern of Tales, which focuses on using sound design to create unique experiences for board games. Each board game experience has a customized sound design to make the game more immersive for the players. Tavern of Tales opened in late 2019 and has gained a dedicated community of board game lovers. For more information, please visit [www.tavernoftales.com](http://www.tavernoftales.com).

**MARGARET GARRITY (Lighting Designer)** is a lighting designer from Marlboro, New Jersey. She is a first-year graduate student at Boston University pursuing her MFA in Lighting Design. Lighting Design credits include *The Little Dog Laughed* (Stella Adler Studio of Acting), *Do You Feel Anger?* (Pace University), *Blood Sweat, Tears* (The Tank), and *Over the Rainbow: The Rock Ballet* (Playwrights Horizons/Hudson Guild). She won the award for Best Lighting Design at New York Theatre Festival Summerfest in 2019. Margaret is committed to creating worlds of light that offer new perspectives and support the emotion that a production carries. Check out her website! [margaretgarritydesign.com](http://margaretgarritydesign.com)

**MADELYN GUYET (Understudy Pony/Morgan/Lyra)** is a senior Theatre Arts major at Boston University and will be serving as a role cover for this production of *Sävë thë Whälës, etc.* This is her first time working with a team at BPT and she is so excited to have been a part of the process and collaborated with this ensemble. During her time at BU, Madelyn has had the pleasure of performing in *Hamlet* (Guildenstern), *Salome* (Herodias), *Mother May I?* (May), *Against a Village* (Fay), *Mud* (Mae), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Helena/Nick Bottom). In addition to her theatre studies, she's also minoring in special education and hopes to incorporate both fields into her work after graduation next year. Thank you to David, Noah, and the whole cast and crew for embracing her so warmly in this process.

**ANNA HANH\* (Stage Manager)** is a new member of AEA who started her journey stage managing *A Comedy of Errors* at Clark University until its abrupt halt

---

---

at the start of the pandemic. She then kept pursuing with all virtual shows with The Umbrella Arts, Pao Arts Center, and Asian American Theatre Artists of Boston (AATAB). Once theatres began reopening, she enjoyed stage managing in person with Studio Theatre Worcester's productions of *The Gift of the Magi* and most recently, *Next to Normal*. Anna is very excited and thankful to continue this journey with BPT to stage manage its next production, *OTP*.

**MAUREEN KEILLER\* (Morgan)** is happy to be returning to BPT, having been awarded the Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Actress for her work here in *The Honey Trap* and *Faithless*. Select credits: *Admissions*, *Between Riverside and Crazy*, *The Whale*, *Nine*, *The Little Dog Laughed*, *The Women* (SpeakEasy Stage); *Universe Rushing Apart/Blue Kettle* (Commonwealth Shakespeare); *Come Back Little Sheba* (Huntington Theatre Company); *33 Variations*, *Into the Woods*, *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby*, *Speech and Debate* (Lyric Stage of Boston); and *Oh God* (Israeli Stage). Television: *A Show-Stopping Christmas*, *Ghost Light*, *The Makeover*, *Castle Rock*, *Brotherhood*. Film: *Spotlight*, *Last Night in Rozzie*, *Fever Pitch*. Maureen is a three-time IRNE Award winner for Best Supporting Actress.

**LOLA KENNEDY (Pony, she/her)** is a student at Boston University, and is thrilled to be making her Boston Playwrights' Theatre debut in this special show. Some of her favorite projects have included Boston University's *Exit the King* (Queen Marie); in Aotearoa, New Zealand, Stagecraft Theatre's *She Kills Monsters* (Tilly); Interlochen Arts Academy's *Tartuffe* (Dorine) and *The Wolves* (Soccer Mom); Indiana Repertory Theatre's *The Giver* (Fiona), *The Crucible* (Betty Parris), and *A Christmas Carol* (Fiona). She will graduate from BU in 2024 with a BFA in Theatre Arts and a minor in Art History. She feels very lucky to be a part of such a wonderful group telling such a dear story!

**LIZZY KIRCHER (Lyra)** is a senior acting major at Boston University and is so excited to be making her Boston Playwrights' Theatre debut! Other notable credits include *Hamlet* (Polonius), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Demetrius), *Stop Kiss* (Callie), and *Far Away* (Harper), all produced by Boston University. Originally from Singapore, Lizzy is so thankful for her family who has dedicated their time and support to help her dream become a reality. She will graduate in May and hopefully move to New York City in pursuit of acting. She wants to express gratitude for her family and friends and her very special pets who make this all worth it.

**THOMAS MCLAUGHLIN (Robin)** is an actor currently pursuing his BFA at Boston University's School of Theatre. He is excited to be back at Boston Playwrights' Theatre bringing new works to life. Last year he played Hornz in *Incels and Other Myths* by Ally Sass. Other credits at Boston University include *Photograph 51* (Ray Gosling) and *Anyone Can Whistle* (Narrator, George). He would like to thank David, Noah, and everyone on the creative team for helping bring such a beautiful story to life.

---

**NOAH PUTTERMAN (Director)** is a stage director, actor, and educator. He previously served as the Director of Education and Theatre for Youth at Casa Mañana Theatre in Fort Worth, TX where he directed dozens of professional and youth productions. Other directing credits include *Men On Boats* (Circle Theatre, Fort Worth), *Newsies* (Lyric Stage, Dallas), *Where Words Once Were* (Theatre Raleigh), and *Gone Nowhere* (Boston Playwrights' Theatre). His acting credits include The Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, The Acting Company, The Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, Casa Mañana Theatre, Alpine Theatre Project, Hope Summer Repertory Theatre and The North Carolina Theatre. His original show *Santa Claus: the Musical* continues to enjoy productions across the country. Noah is a National Foundation for the Advancement of Artists '22-23 YoungArts Fellow. Training: University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program; MFA Directing, Boston University. [www.noahputterman.com](http://www.noahputterman.com)

**ANIKA REICHEL** (Scenic Designer, she/her) is a senior Theatre Arts major in the College of Fine Arts at Boston University. With a focus in scenic design and direction, she has designed and been involved in BU productions including *Proof*, *The Infinite Energy of Ada Lovelace*, *If I Were You*, *Exit the King*, and *Macbeth*. She is currently designing *El Nogalar* and preparing for her thesis. She believes wholeheartedly in theatre as a ritual that allows us to face our own humanity with love and hope. She is grateful to Jim, Jon, and Diane for their support, her parents, Noah and David for trusting her with this story, and perhaps most of all, her cat Inky.

**KEITH ROBINSON (Todd)** is a junior acting major at Boston University. Before BU, Keith has been lucky to enjoy many acting opportunities around the Boston area, including New England Theatreworks' productions of *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Robert), *On the Verge* (Nicky Paradise/Yeti), *1984* (O'Brien), *The Glass Menagerie* (Jim), and *Footloose* (Ren McCormack). Since attending BU, Keith has enjoyed performing in *Everybody* (Usher/Stuff) and *Murder Ballad* (Michael). Keith will study abroad this spring at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. Thank you to Megan Sandberg-Zakian, David Caruso, and the production team for their tireless work bringing this story to life.

**REANNA VALENCIA (Pierre, they/she)** is a junior at Boston University studying Technical Production, with a minor in Art History. They would like to thank their fellow TP classmates and professor for the opportunity to step out of the scene shop to be an actor (for the first time in years) in this amazing show. Reanna is also incredibly grateful to be supported by such a caring and loving cast, director, playwright, and crew. They hope that you take in the show with open hearts and soft souls and to know that happiness leads to action to power.

**NICOLAS ZULUAGA (Understudy Robin/Pierre, he/him/his)** is a third-year BFA Acting major at Boston University. He has recently performed in *Salome* as The Young Prince and *Mother May I?* as Paul, both new works written by other BU students. Some of his favorite theatre experiences in Boston include playing Remy in *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, Player in *Colossal*, and Haimon in *Antigone or And Still She Must Rise Up*. He hopes you enjoy the show!

[@nickzuluaga](https://twitter.com/nickzuluaga)

---

## SPECIAL THANKS

Kate Snodgrass, Addy Marcus, David and Julie McKenna, Sheri Russell, Talia Rubenstein, Ally Schmaling, Heather Scott, Newfoundland Club of New England, Snowhaven Newfoundlands (Kikuko Chang, Lucy, and Olive)



Actors' Equity Association ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. #EquityWorks

## FIND US ONLINE



<http://www.twitter.com/playwrightsbpt>



<https://www.facebook.com/bostonplaywrights/>



<http://www.BostonPlaywrights.org>



<http://instagram.com/playwrightsbpt>

#SaveBPT #BUarts #newplay

A poster for the play 'ONCE' at Booth Theatre. The background is a textured, light-colored wall with a large, stylized figure in the foreground. The figure is wearing a dark jacket and a white scarf, and is holding a large, colorful, abstract object. The text on the poster includes the Boston University logo, the title 'ONCE', the author 'BOOK BY ENDA WALSH', the director 'DIRECTED BY SHAMUS', the music and lyrics by 'GLEN HANSARD & MARKETA IRGLOVA', the dates 'DECEMBER 7-10, 2022', and the location 'JOAN & EDGAR BOOTH THEATRE'. The Booth Theatre logo and address are at the bottom left.

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY**

Boston University College of Fine Arts  
School of Theatre

# ONCE

BOOK BY ENDA WALSH

DIRECTED BY SHAMUS  
MUSIC & LYRICS BY  
GLEN HANSARD &  
MARKETA IRGLOVA

DECEMBER 7-10, 2022  
JOAN & EDGAR  
BOOTH THEATRE

**BOOTH**  
THEATRE  
820 Commonwealth Avenue

---

# JACK WELCH PLAYWRIGHTS' FUND

*We are grateful to our friends for their support of our mission—to provide a home for new works for the stage.*

*If you are interested in making a donation to Boston Playwrights' Theatre, please contact Managing Director Darren Evans at (617) 353-5899 or visit our online donation form at [www.BostonPlaywrights.org](http://www.BostonPlaywrights.org).*

## **Executive Circle (\$1000+)**

Ellen Dolnansky and  
Don Ingber  
June K. Lewin

## **Leadership Circle (\$500-\$999)**

Anonymous

## **Playwrights' Circle (\$100-\$499)**

Rosanna and Gustavo Alfaro  
Susan Almquist  
Anonymous x 5  
Erika Bailey and Fausto  
Espinosa  
Janet Bailey  
Alan Bedenko  
David Berndt  
James Brown  
Andre Compagna  
Maureen Conboy and Marc  
Olivere  
Hortense Gerardo  
Dennis C. Hart  
W.J. Hughes  
Karl W. Kirchwey  
Lowell Partridge  
Dossy Peabody

Charlotte and Ed Peed  
Lourey and Wes Savick  
In honor of Kate Snodgrass  
Martha Sproule  
Joyce Van Dyke  
Debra Wise  
Veronica Wiseman

## **In-Kind Contributions**

Dolly Brooks  
Matthew Goode and  
Jeffrey Petersen  
Melinda Lopez  
Ronán Noone  
Kate Snodgrass

## **Friends' Circle (Up to \$99)**

Anonymous x 21  
E Alexander  
Margaret Ann Brady  
Elisabeth Burdick  
Alexandria Chang  
Tyler Dean  
Natalie Eldridge  
Carol Goldfarb  
John Greene  
Margaret Harris

Jeremy Holstein  
Mary C. Huntington  
Ellen Jamieson  
Daniel Jimenez  
Faith Justice  
Jen Lewis  
A. Nora Long  
Claudia MacDermott  
Kim Mancuso  
Barbara Martin  
Christine Mesarch  
Marc Miller  
Kara Noble  
Carolyn Palo  
Joyce Peseroff  
Yekaterina Ratner  
Anna-Constantia Richardson  
Floyd Richardson  
Jay Sekora  
Ellen Simons  
Bobbie Steinbach  
David Sullivan  
Roland Tec  
Lisa Tucker  
Rachel Watson  
David M. Young  
Rachel Watson  
David M. Young





*The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by **David M. Rubenstein.***

*Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.*

*Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation.*

*Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.*

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

---

 **Boston PLAYWRIGHTS' Theatre**

Boston Playwrights' Theatre is an award-winning professional theatre at Boston University dedicated to new works. Founded in 1981 by Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott, the heart of BPT's mission is the production of new plays by students and alumni of BU's MFA Playwriting Program—a collaboration with BU's renowned School of Theatre. The program's award-winning alumni have been produced in regional and New York houses, as well as in London's West End. BPT's productions have been honored with numerous regional and Boston awards, including awards from the Independent Reviewers of New England (IRNE) and Boston Critics' Association (Elliot Norton Awards).

From class workshops to our Season of New Plays, BPT employs the best of New England's professional actors, directors, and designers to bring each playwright's vision to its first audiences.

Each spring we produce a festival of student-written ten-minute plays, New Noises, the culminating event of the Massachusetts Young Playwrights' Project. In this program, area high schools work with professional playwrights, directors, and actors to see student works on stage for the first time.

Fifty local theatre companies join us annually for the Boston Theater Marathon, a showcase of new ten-minute plays by New England playwrights chosen each year from hundreds of entrants. Each selected play is produced by a different New England theatre company in a single ten-hour event with all proceeds going to charity.

When we are not producing plays, we continue our mission through the New Play Odyssey Program, which makes theatre space available to other New England theatre companies and playwrights for readings and festivals of new plays.

*Megan Sandberg-Zakian, Artistic Director*  
*Darren Evans, Managing Director*  
*K. Alexa Mavromatis, Marketing Coordinator*  
*Alec Haklar, Technical Director*

*Nathan Alan Davis, Associate Professor of the Practice of Playwriting*  
*Melinda Lopez, Adjunct Assistant Professor*  
*Ronán Noone, Adjunct Assistant Professor*  
*Gary Garrison, Visiting Lecturer*

*Derek Walcott, Founder*  
*Kate Snodgrass, Professor Emerita of the Practice of Playwriting*

**We are proud of our mission.**  
**To get involved, visit [BostonPlaywrights.org](http://BostonPlaywrights.org).**

**With your support, we support new plays!**



# *OTP*

a new play by Elise Wien  
directed by Enzo Gonzales

December 8-18 | Tickets: [BostonPlaywrights.org](http://BostonPlaywrights.org)

**Boston University** College of Fine Arts  
School of Theatre and  
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences

