

AUGUSTANA COLLEGE THEATRE
2020-2021 Season

Andrew Borell's
*Speaking in
Tongues*



Augustana College

**Featuring students from Augustana College Theatre.
Help raise funds for Mississippi Bend Players!**

*Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse
and the Quad City Theatre Community presents*

*Let's Fall
in
LOVE*

A virtual celebration of love and the arts!
All proceeds go to benefit our theatre community!

Streaming February 13-21!

**Get your tickets now by visiting
ShowTix4U.com and searching Circa '21.**

Featuring



Augustana College Department of Theatre Arts
proudly presents

Andrew Borelli's
Speaking in Tongues



Directed by
James Wheeler

Speaking in Tongues is present by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Originally produced in New York City in 2001 by Roundabout
Theatre Company, Todd Haimes, Artistic Director.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

What does it mean to be loyal? Is forgiveness better than retribution? Is trust enough? These are the questions we will be pondering tonight during the performance and hopefully afterwards when the stage is empty yet again.

I agree with the playwright, Andrew Bovell, when he confessed to hoping these characters haunt audience members as they leave the theatre. Some characters are more likeable than others. Certain characters may have a similar life philosophy to you while others may not. This show is about right and wrong. Truth and lies. Love and loathing. But these answers will not be performed. Merely the situations. The answers will be up to those in the audience. I simply ask that you keep an open mind as you navigate through these characters' life struggles along with them.

The challenges associated with this show came in the form of connecting all the dialogue in a cohesive way, as well as staging it in such a way that highlighted the divided and mirrored nature of these characters. It is my hope that the audience will be fully immersed in the world that the actors create, and I have no doubts that the work they've put into this production will do just that. I cannot express enough how grateful I am for the effort the cast and crew has put in, and I am beyond thrilled to share it with you all.

Finally, thank you on behalf of the cast, crew, and Augustana Theatre Department for supporting live theatre during this challenging and confusing time. We are grateful for the opportunity we have been given to provide you all with an evening of entertainment and reflection. Thank you again, and enjoy our performance of Andrew Bovell's *Speaking in Tongues*.

-James Wheeler

CAST

Sonja/Sarah.....Ariela Policastro
Leon/Nick.....Bradley Heinrichs
Jane/Valerie.....Sarah Walton
Pete/Neil/John.....Keenan Ellis

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....James Wheeler
Stage Manager.....Kasia Olechno
Assistant Stage Manager.....Miles Potje
Dramaturg.....SophiaRose Brown
Co-Lighting Designers.....Noah Hill and Riley Scranton
Sound Designer.....Sam Ramont
Assistant Sound Designer.....Roger Pavey
Costume DesignerMegan Hoppe
Composer.....Kaitlin Jacobson
Props Master.....Emily Kiener
Board OperatorRoger Pavey
Backstage Crew.....Payton Cullison, Kaitlin Jacobson, Kate Normolye
Costume Run Crew.....Jacqueline Isaacson
Make-up Crew.....Virgil Hajdys
House Manager.....Annaliese Croasdale and Trinity Filut
Poster Design.....Michael Tarchala
Camera Operator.....Zoe Page
Boom Mic Operator.....Mark Wroblewski
Editor and Videographer.....Itosa

ABOUT THE CAST

Keenan Ellis (Pete/Neil/John) is from Seneca, IL. He majors in theatre performance and psychology. After graduating, Keenan hopes to receive his masters degree in psychology or theatre and teach classes at a college or university. While previously performing in *The Crucible* (Willard) and *She Kills Monsters* (Chuck), this is his first Black Box show. Keenan would like to thank James Wheeler, Kasia Olechno, and the crew for working hard to make this show work in a safe, healthy environment. He would like to dedicate his performance to Matt Brudnak and Trevor Till.

Bradley Heinrichs (Leon/Nick) is a senior majoring in musical theatre from Davenport. He has been in seven Augie main stage shows as well as multiple studio and student run shows, and looks forward to many more. He is also involved in Augie Choir and Greek Life. He would like to thank his friends for always supporting his dreams, and his mother. Without his mother he would not be who he is today and thanks her for helping him find his dream and always supporting him. He would also like to thank James, Kasia, and the crew for making this process such an enjoyable one. Enjoy the show!

Ariela Policastro (Sonja/Sarah) is a junior from Geneva, IL, majoring in vocal music education and completing an endorsement in theatre. You might recognize her from Augustana's production of *Noises Off* (Brooke/Vicki), *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (ensemble/Rosemary's understudy), *The Why* (Sara), and *Elegies for Angels, Punks, and Raging Queens* (Ensemble). Ariela is also a member of Outside the Box. She is the historian for Alpha Psi Omega, Service Chair for Augustana's National Association for Music Educators chapter, and a member of Augustana's American Choral Directors' Association. Thanks to Ariela's family who has supported her in all of her musical endeavors. Thanks to James, Kasia, and crew for making this short time working on the show memorable. Lastly, a big thank you and much love to the Flea Market for challenging Ariela creatively and supporting her and her questionable decisions always.

Sarah Walton (Jane/Valerie) is a sophomore majoring in MJMC and communication studies and minoring in theatre arts from New Lenox, Illinois. Some of her favorite past roles include Elle Woods (*Legally Blonde*), Fiona (*Shrek*), Belle (*Beauty and the Beast*), Bette Logan (*Heaven Can Wait*), and Foreman (*12 Angry Jurors*). Sarah is also an Augustana Bound Q+A Host, member of Heywire, Outside the Box, Enactus, Sigma Pi Delta sorority, Jenny Lind Vocal Ensemble and Augustana's upcoming production of *Into the Woods*. She would love to thank James, Kasia and the production team for this amazing opportunity and to her family and friends for their unending support through it all.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION STAFF

SophiaRose Brown (Dramaturg) is a senior at Augustana majoring in theatre with a concentration on performance/directing and theatre history. This is her first time as dramaturg and would like to thank James for allowing her this experience! She is also involved in her sorority Sigma Kappa Tau and Outside the Box here on campus.

Payton Cullison (Backstage Crew) is a sophomore Accounting major from Plano, IL.

Virgil Hajdys (Make-up Crew) is a senior with a Theatre major and History and Women and Gender Studies minors. He considers himself mainly an actor but has done work for various other shows in a variety of roles. Prior to this he has worked as run and make-up crew for *The Madwoman of Chailot* and *The Crucible*. His favorite backstage role was ASM for *Flemming: An American Thriller*. He is currently serving as President of Alpha Psi Omega. He is also an actor for Outside the Box and the Social Chair for Phoenix.

Noah Hill (Co-Lighting Designer) is a junior from Cisne, IL majoring in theatre arts (musical theatre emphasis) with a minor in religion. He is thankful for the chance to play with lights again as well as for the friends and family who choose to put up with him. He hopes that 2021 brings you some great things, and a little bit of fun.

Megan Hoppe (Co-Costume Designer) is a senior from Robins, Iowa majoring in history, French, and creative writing. She has worked in the costume shop since her freshman year and it is her favorite place on campus. She would like to thank her roommates for listening to her ramble about costumes, her fellow shop workers for being amazing, as well as Ellen for her extreme patience. Her favorite costume period is the turn of the 20th century.

Jacqueline Isaacson (Costume Run Crew) is a sophomore from Belvedere, Illinois and is double majoring in Theatre, concentration Musical Theatre, and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Onstage you might have seen her as Agnes (*She Kills Monsters*) or Judy (*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*). She is beyond excited to be working on anything with costumes and currently works in the costume shop on campus. She thanks James Wheeler from this opportunity, Ellen Dixon for her unconditional patience, and her mom and dad for buying her Eve (Jacqueline's sewing machine).

Kaitlin Jacobson (Composer of the song “Words”) is a sophomore majoring in creative writing from Sycamore, Illinois. Kaitlin was recently seen in *35mm* at Augustana, and Ariel in *Footloose* at Sycamore High School. She is involved in the Jenny Lind Choir, OTB, Greek Life, The Observer, SAGA Magazine, and Her Campus. Kaitlin would like to thank her family and friends for all of their love and support.

Emily Keiner (Props Master) is a senior majoring in vocal music education with a minor in theatre from Sycamore, IL. She has been involved in theatre since her 8th grade year, both on and offstage. At Augie Emily has done props for multiple shows (*She Kills Monsters*, *The Children’s Hour*), worked in stage management (*Songs for a New World*, *Noises Off!*), and been featured onstage (*How to Succeed*, *Doctor Faustus*). She is also involved in Augustana Choir, Sigma Pi Delta, and works at the brew. Emily would like to thank all her wonderful friends and family for their endless support, and hopes you all enjoy the show!

Kate Normoyle (Backstage Crew) is a senior from Moline, Illinois majoring in history and art history. She has previously worked on the run crew for *The Crowsy Chaperone*, *The Crucible*, *The Children’s Hour*, and *Noises Off*.

Kasia Olechno (Stage Manager) is a senior, majoring in pre-nursing and psychology, with a theatre minor, from Morton Grove, IL. She has previously assistant stage managed *The Children’s Hour*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *The Crucible*; and stage managed *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *She Kills Monsters*, *Junie B. Jones is not a Crook*, and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*. She is an active member of Sigma Pi Delta and Alpha Psi Omega. She would like to thank her director, James Wheeler, for making this show that had only been a dream into reality; the cast for a wonderful rehearsal process; and the production team and crew for creating an amazing production.

Roger Pavey (Assistant Sound Designer) is a first year theatre major. On campus, he is involved in *Outside the Box* sketch comedy, and was involved with *Doctor Faustus* as an actor and the sound designer. He is happy to be a part of another Augustana Theatre production.

Miles Potje (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore at Augie who has been involved in theatre for four years this month, and has absolutely loved every second of it... for the most part. Miles’ current favorite role was as Handsome Warren in an Augustana production of *Junie B. Jones is Not a Crook!* because he got to do what he knows best: act like a child. Though Miles has tried his hand at multiple facets of theatre prior to his role of assistant stage manager in *Speaking in Tongues*, he’s never had an experience like this one. “*Junie B.* might end up being my second favorite show pretty soon” says Miles, as he hopes to carry lessons he’s learned from the cast, crew, and the rehearsal process as a whole.

Sam Ramont (Sound Designer) is currently a senior at Augustana College. He is a theatre arts major and focuses on sound designs. This is his twelfth show sound designed and couldn't be more proud of the work he has done. He would like to thank his family for keeping him on the right track and his friends for being so understanding. Also, I love you mom and dad.

Riley Scranton (Co-Lighting Designer) is a sophomore double majoring in theater with a concentration in design and tech along with art history, from Quincy, Illinois. This is his second year working in the Augustana Theatre department and this year he is working closely with the technical team to organize and keep everything in shape. He is also a member of Alpha Psi Omega, the National Theatre fraternity here on campus (Go Pterodactyl Family) and spends any free time hanging out with his friends. He would like to thank his roommates, AYO family members, the other scene shop workers, his professors, his high school theater directors the Buckley's, and most importantly his mom who always pushes him to follow his dreams.

James Wheeler (Director) is a senior here at Augustana College double majoring in theatre arts and communication studies with a minor in sociology. He has performed in a number of shows at the college including *The Crucible* as Deputy Governor Danforth, *Boyas Adam/Samantha*, *Three Musketeers* as Athos, and *In the Next Room* as Leo Irving. James is excited for this show however, as it is his first full length directing project. The process has been both challenging and rewarding, and he cannot wait to share it with audiences. James would like to thank his cast for being unbelievably hard working, his family and his partner for their unwavering support, and the Augustana Theatre Department for giving him the opportunity to bring this show to life. Please enjoy *Speaking in Tongues*.

THEATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT

- Chair/Professor.....Jeffrey Coussens
- Associate Professor.....Jennifer Popple
- Assistant ProfessorShelley Cooper
- Technical Director.....Mark Lohman
- Brunner Theatre Outreach Coordinator.....Jackie McCall
- Costume Supervisor.....Ellen Dixon
- Theatre Arts Department Assistant.....Christina Myatt

HONKAMP BLACK BOX THEATRE

The Honkamp Black Box Theatre is named in honor of Heidi Honkamp Myhre '90 who died in 1997 after a battle with cancer. During her life she showed a great talent, appreciation, and deep love for the arts. In naming this space in her honor, it was her family's desire to provide students who share Heidi's passion for the arts with a space that offers the opportunity to create, produce, and ignite discussion within the Augustana and Quad City community.

COMING SOON...

Into the Woods

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, Book by James Lapine

February 26 & 27 at 6:30pm

Centennial Hall & Brunner Mainstage Theatre

Into the Woods is a timeless, yet relevant, darkly comical reimagining of beloved fairy tales. When favorite storybook characters must come together in an effort to break a curse, they begin to question if what they've always wished for is what they truly want. Sondheim's lush Tony-winning score and Lapine's Tony-winning book remind us that even in the darkest of times "no one is alone."

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

By Mark Haddon, adapted by Simon Stephens

March 4 -7

Virtual Presentation

Christopher's extraordinary brain processes math with ease, but leaves him ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. After he stumbles upon his neighbor's dog lying dead, he is determined to discover who murdered Wellington. Christopher dares to step outside his comfort zone, embarking on a journey that upturns his world and allows a glimpse into what it's like to live on the spectrum.

SPECIAL THANKS

The Augustana College Department of Theatre Arts would like to thank the following for their generous assistance to this production:

Danielle Roman, Ticket Office Manager
Theatre Arts Faculty/Staff
Jeff Coussens
Christina Myatt
Kelli Feigley
Fresh Films

The Augustana College Department of Theatre Arts would also like to thank the following patrons for their generous contributions to our Annual Fund:

Anonymous	James Holgersson
D. Gail Bakkom	Vince and Hildasue Honts
Nancy Honette Bauer	Norm and Janet Moline
Kim '71 and Donna (Huber) '75 Brunner	Bob and Pat Schluter
Bob Ericksen	Peter '79 and Sandee Simshauser
Dori Garro	Dr. Cynthia Singer
Eva M. Gregory	Kurt W. Steinhauser
Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Guse	Marilyn D. Sundin
Thomas and Wanda Hanson	Michael and Jennifer Tallman

The Augustana College Department of Theatre Arts would especially like to thank the Augustana Endowment Society, Russell and Nancy Mueller, the family of Ruth Evelyn Katz, and the family of Ruth Allison Anderson for their ongoing program support.



A photograph of the Augustana Theatre building at night. The building is a long, two-story structure with a dark brick upper level and a lighter brick lower level. The upper level has several large, colorful glass panels in shades of yellow, green, and red. In the background, a large, white, domed building with a blue dome is illuminated. The sky is dark blue, and there are trees and a bench in the foreground.

**Rehearse Boldly /
Perform Brightly**

**Unleash your passionate
curiosities
at Augustana.**



**AUGUSTANA
THEATRE**