

Bucknell Theatre & Dance Presents

# GROSS INDECENCY

THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE

BY MOISÉS KAUFMAN



DIRECTED BY BRYAN M. VANDEVENDER



Harvey M. Powers Theatre - 2023

**Bucknell**  
UNIVERSITY | Theatre  
& Dance

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE PRESENTS

# Gross Indecency

## The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde

by Moisés Kaufman

Directed by Bryan M. Vandevender

**Stage Manager:** Alice Jackins '25

**Scene Designer:** F. Elaine Williams

**Costume Designer:** Carly Holzwarth

**Light Designer:** Alice Jackins '25

**Sound Designer:** Heath J. Hansum

**Projection Designer:** Zoe Wilson '23

**Associate Lighting Designer:** Heath J. Hansum

**Intimacy Designer:** Dr. cfrancis blackchild

**Sign Language Advisors:** Dr. Jaye Austin Williams and Serena Rush

**Dialect and Vocal Coach:** Samantha Norton

**Movement Consultant:** Dustyn Martincich

**Lead Dramaturg:** Zoe Wilson '23

**Additional Dramaturgs:** Maddie Buckley '24, Nathaniel Samuels '25, Paige Gilmartin '26

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The Department of Theatre and Dance respectfully acknowledges and recognizes our responsibility to the original and current caretakers of this land, water and air: the Susquehannock peoples and all of their ancestors and descendants, past, present and future. We live and create our art here within the Bucknell community and we strive to honor those caretakers of this homeland in our presence and work.

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**Please Note:** Taking photographs, and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited. Please turn off your cell phones and other electronics before the performance begins. Thank you.

## CAST

Wilde .....	Reid Fournier '24
Douglas and Lockwood.....	Kieran Calderwood '24
Clarke.....	Bethany Fitch '23
Carson and Others.....	Ana Eckert '26
Gill and Others.....	Maddie Buckley '24
Queensbury and Others.....	C.F. Gould '23
Narrator 1 and Others.....	Tessa Brizhik '26
Narrator 2 and Others.....	Isaiah Mays '23
Narrator 3 and Others.....	Isabel Steinberg '23
Narrator 4 and Others.....	Nathaniel Samuels '25
Parker.....	Adam Walker '26
Wood.....	Matthew Alexander '26
Atkins .....	John Wallace '25
Mavor .....	Gabe Gross '23
Understudies.....	Paige Gilmartin '26, Caroline Pritchard '26

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Stage Managers.....	Mackenzie Zerbe '25, Harper Dick '25, Jennaye Pointer '26
Costume Assistant.....	Jennifer Lippert
Costume TAs.....	Emma Burns '24, Nicole Chesla '24, Anneliese Smith '24, Eliana Estes '25, Violet Freeney '26
Properties .....	Nina Vitulli '23, Maddie Buckley '24
Hair and Makeup TAs .....	Ainsley Manlowe '25, Zoha Nadeer '25
Wardrobe Crew.....	Zoha Nadeer '25, Mackenzie Zerbe '25
Lightboard Operator .....	Katherine Leschner '23
Sound Board Operator.....	Haley Dickinson '23
Projection Operator .....	Jennaye Pointer '26
Scenery and Lighting Production Crew.....	Gabe Gross '23, Peter Guzman-Navas '24, Riley Steere '24, Harper Dick '25, Joe Dox '25, Alice Jackins '25, Evelyn Pierce '25, Cory Sanderson '25
Publicity.....	James Howe '23, Libby Hoffman '24, Clea Ramos '25, Aisling McGrath '26, Jennaye Pointer '26, Katie Schadler '26
Poster Design .....	Clea Ramos '25

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

On June 24, 2022, when the United States Supreme Court delivered its ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* (a decision that overturned the constitutional right to abortion), Justice Clarence Thomas issued a concurring opinion that questioned the legitimacy of the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause. Established to prohibit state governments from depriving any person of "life, liberty, and property without due process of the law," the clause served as the legal foundation for several landmark Supreme Court decisions, including *Griswold v. Connecticut* (1965), *Loving v. Virginia* (1967), *Roe v. Wade* (1973), *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey* (1992), *Lawrence v. Texas* (2003), and *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015). In his concurrence, Justice Thomas declared that all of the court's due process precedents should be reconsidered, and thereby acknowledged (however tacitly) his support for the criminalization of contraception, same-sex marriage, and queer sexuality. Four days later, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton announced that he intended to enforce the state's anti-sodomy laws (currently rendered defunct by the *Lawrence v. Texas* ruling) should the Supreme Court nullify prior due process decisions. In addition to Texas, thirteen states have anti-sodomy laws that will activate in the event the *Lawrence* decision is overturned: Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and South Carolina.

While the events depicted in *Gross Indecency* occurred in a different country over 125 years ago, the questions that undergird the play are the same questions that pervade much of the current American political discourse. When I chose *Gross Indecency* as my directing project for this academic year, I had no idea it would be so timely. Beyond its attention to sexuality, the play depicts the British government's attempt to regulate the performance of gender and modes of artistic expression, chiefly literature. Recent legislation (in states like Florida, Tennessee, Texas) targeting libraries, educational curricula, drag performances, and transgender citizens demonstrate that anti-queer animus and attempts to suppress queer sexuality is not new. The play is an example of verbatim theatre and much its language is taken directly from the transcripts of the Oscar Wilde trials. If you listen carefully, the rhetoric espoused by certain players sounds remarkably (and chillingly) current.

The production you are about to see owes much to the students who enrolled in my "Introduction to Dramaturgy" course last semester. Over the past eight months, the students have researched Oscar Wilde's life and literature. They have also investigated the other major players in the Wilde trials, mores and codes of conduct in Victorian London, and scholarship related to sexuality and gender performance. Together, the students created resources for the production's actors and designers that oriented everyone to the world of the play. With the generous support of the Dalal Innovation and Creativity Grant for Student-Faculty Collaboration, the students continued their work into this semester and created public-facing resources to aid in your understanding of the play's events. The QR code posted on the lobby doors will direct you to a website with short articles, images, a glossary, a timeline, and other forms of digital content. I hope you will take some time to peruse the website, and in so doing, learn more about Oscar Wilde from some very thoughtful and talented Bucknell students.

— BRYAN M. VANDEVENDER

## SPECIAL THANKS

Dr. Erica Delsandro (Women's and Gender Studies)

Dr. Virginia Zimmerman (English)

Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble

Serena Rush — Interpretation and Translation with Sign Language from Rochester Institute of Technology

# CAST & CREW BIOGRAPHIES

**MATTHEW ALEXANDER '26** he/him (**Wood**) from Monroeville, PA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Kodachrome* (History Professor), *Cocktail Theatre - Ever-Fixed* (The Man).

**TESSA BRIZHIK '26** she/her (**Narrator 1 and Others**) from Poolesville, MD - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Kodachrome* (Mystery Novelist), *Lost Girl* (Assistant Stage Manager), *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Debra the Crew Member).

**MADISON "MADDIE" BUCKLEY '24** she/her (**Gill and Others**) from Hanover, PA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Lost Girl* (Nibs/Detective), *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Stage Manager); Harrisburg Area Community College: *Vermillion Sunset* (Assistant Stage Manager), *I Always Knew You Were Around* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Hansel and Gretel* (Hansel), *Carmageddon* (Costume Coordinator).

**KIERAN CALDERWOOD '24** (**Douglas and Lockwood**) from New York, NY - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Love/Sick* (Mark), *Bliss* (Apollo Understudy), *Appropriate* (Rhys), *Hapox* (Detective Hayes), *Electra* (Orestes), *Lost Girl* (Slightly).

**HARPER DICK '25** they/them (**Assistant Stage Manager**) from Ebensburg, PA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Fun Home* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Lost Girl* (Curly/Doctor), *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Max).

**ANA ECKERT '26** she/her (**Carson and Others**) from Lancaster, PA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Kodachrome* (Photographer III).

**BETHANY FITCH '23** she/her (**Clarke**) from Westminster, MD - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Love and Information* (Ensemble), *Dancing in the Afternoon* (Jill), *The Revolutionists* (Olympe Understudy), *Truth, Beauty, Authenticity* (Ensemble), *As You Like It* (LeBeau/Jacques Understudy), *Appropriate* (Toni), *Lost Girl* (Wendy).

**REID FOURNIER '24** he/him (**Wilde**) from Mechanicsburg, PA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Love/Sick* (Keith), *The DMV One* (Man), *Taming of the Shrew(s)* (Petruchio), *Caution* (Director), *Lost Girl* (Peter), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Orin), *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Director).

**PAIGE GILMARTIN '26** she/her (**Understudy**) from Foxboro, MA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Kodachrome* (Librarian), *Lost Girl* (The Boy/Slightly Understudy); *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey Two Puppeteer), *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Annie).

**C.F. GOULD '23** he/him (**Queensbury and Others**) from Jim Thorpe, PA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *The Taming of the Shrew(s)* (Petruchio 2), *Electra* (Aegisthus), *A Coal Country Christmas Carol* (Director/Narrator).

**GABE GROSS '23** he/him (**Mavor**) from CT - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Unheard/Unspoken* (Light Op/Noah/Frat Guy), *Delivery* (Joel), *The Revolutionists* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Truth, Beauty, Authenticity* (Designer), *Love/Sick* (Light Designer), *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Trevor), Stage Manager/Lighting Designer Fall Dance Concert '21/'22-Spring Concert '23 - Fall Dance Showcase '21.

**ALICE JACKINS '25** she/her (**Stage Manager**) from Norwalk, CT - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Anxious People* (Stage Manager/Lighting Designer/Sound Designer), *Electra* (Stage Manager), Fall Dance Concert '21 (Lighting Design), Choreographers Showcase '22 (Lighting Design), *Etudes on the Nature of Joy* (Deviser), *Kodachrome* (Lighting Designer), Fall Dance Showcase '22 (Lighting Design), Fall Dance Concert '22 (Lighting Design), *Cocktail Theatre - Light The Way Back* (Director), Choreographer's Showcase '23 (Choreography).

**ISAIAH MAYS '23** he/him (**Narrator 2 and Others**) from Washington, DC - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Love and Information* (Ensemble), *As You Like It* (Phoebus), *Crumbs from the Table of Joy* (Godfrey).

**JENNAYE POINTER '26** she/they (**Assistant Stage Manager**) from Lewisburg, PA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Kodachrome* (Stage Manager), *Lost Girl* (Assistant Stage Manager), Assistant Stage Manager Fall Dance Concert '22, *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Assistant Stage Manager).

**CAROLINE PRITCHARD '26** she/her (**Understudy**) from Andover, MA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Kodachrome* (Photographer I), *Lost Girl* (Cora/A), *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Sandra).

**NATHANIEL SAMUELS '25** he/him (**Narrator 4 and Others**) from Houston, TX - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Electra* (Nicolas/Male swing), *A Coal Country Christmas* (Marley/Ghost of Christmas Present).

**ISABEL STEINBERG '23** she/her (**Narrator 3 and Others**) from Bethesda, MD - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Love and Information* (Cast Ensemble), *A Sign* (Sara), *Truth, Beauty, Authenticity* (Cast Ensemble), *Bliss* (Antonia Understudy), *As You Like It* (Madame), *Fun Home* (Helen & Joan Understudy).

**ADAM WALKER '27** he/him (**Parker**) from Bethlehem, PA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Kodachrome* (Hardware Store Owner).

**JOHN WALLACE '25** he/him (**Atkins**) from Park Ridge, NJ - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Chris).

**MACKENZIE ZERBE '25** she/her (**Assistant Stage Manager**) from Mt. Carmel, PA - Bucknell Theatre & Dance: *Electra* (Female Swing); *Lost Girl* (Chorus Swing), *The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong* (Denise).

## DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE

cf Francis Blackchild ..... post-doctoral fellow  
Jack Filpi ..... entertainment technology assistant  
Katie Hanes ..... academic assistant  
Heath J. Hansum, *co-director of theatre* ..... lighting and sound design  
Carly Holzwarth ..... costume design and history  
Er-Dong Hu ..... dance technique and theory  
Anjalee Deshpande Hutchinson ..... acting, directing, devising  
Mark Hutchinson, *co-director of theatre* ..... technical coordination, stage management  
Kelly Knox, *director of dance* ..... dance technique and theory  
Jennifer Lippert ..... assistant costumer  
Dustyn Martincich, *chair* ..... theatre and dance technique and theory  
Sierra Pete ..... costume studio manager  
Bryan M. Vandevender ..... theatre history, theory  
F. Elaine Williams ..... scenography

### THEATRE & DANCE AFFILIATE FACULTY

Dr. Jaye Austin Williams (Critical Black Studies)

Dr. Meenakshi Ponnuswami (English)

Generous support by the Bucknell Association for the Arts, Richard A. Klein Theatre and Dance Endowment, the Lisa Lu Foundation, the Skvarla Family, and the Benson Fund have made guest artists' residencies, master classes, and workshops for our 2022-23 artistic season possible.

## Upcoming Theatre & Dance Events

### Choreographer's Showcase

Friday, April 14, at 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, April 15, at 2pm and 7:30 p.m.  
Tustin Studio Theatre

### Spring Dance Concert

Friday & Saturday, April 28, 29, at 7:30 p.m.  
Weis Center for the Performing Arts



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

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*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.

# Bucknell Theatre & Dance Presents

## 2022 - 2023 Theatre & Dance Contributors

Laurie Aburdene P'98/00, Robin Adams, Georgia (Lenfest) Armstrong '69, M'92, P'89, Chuck Arnao '69, P'14, Justine Bailey '10, Emma Battle '22, Jill Baumbach '14, Ashley (Elder) Bishop '98, Nancy Boo P'25, John Bravman and the Board of Trustees, David Bristol P'16, Isabelle Bristol '16, Marcie (Baria) Bristol '81, P'16, Jamie Brouse, John Brunner '15, Helly (Schwalm) Bullwinkel '72, Katie Cantagallo '20, Phyllis (Horine) Carlson '64, Leslie Carney '00, Stacey Carpency '16, Tyler Chadwick '13, Kim Cipolla '90, Kyle Cohick '20, Rich Conti '63, Patrick Cook P'25, Lexie Corcoran '22, Shirley (Parker) Curry '58, Eleanor (O'Connor) Dallabrida '72, Emily Delanty '16, Thomas Delanty P'16, Megan (Blamble) Dho '95, Diane Dickey '66, Sydney Dickinson '22, Chelsea Dieck '13, Anthony DiFazio P'24, Rich Dionne '96, M'98, Brooke Echnat '21, Mimi Elder P'98, Gillian Fabijanac '22, Susan (Ball) Faeder '76, Sara Fenstermacher '08, Gail (Wade) Firestone '67, P'89/93/94, Pam Fornero P'24, Erin (Braun) Froelich '96, Abigail Garrett '17, Ilene Garrett P'17, Evan Gingrich '15, Kourtney Ginn '12, Karen Gregory P'18, Mackenzie Gross '21, Brent Guenthner P'22, Michelle Haitz '13, Greg Hart '10, Meg (Frye) Helsel '98, Margi (Pew) Hill '74, Richard Hoffman P'24, Margaret Hoffman P'24, Karen Hoyle P'04, Brittany Hurley '17, Hope Hutchinson, Liana Irvine '20, Richard Johnson '84, Megan Karakelian '93, Faith (Hunter) Kimberling '92, P'23, Robert Kittell P'22, Richard Klein '69, Joseph Koletar '60, M'61, Cheryl (Klinger) Lease '84, Millo Lazarczyk '21, Carole Levesque-DuBose P'23, Isabelle Levesque-Du Bose '23, Lisa Lu GP'24, Sarah Lynch '81, P'14/16, Bob Mandel '67, Jane Mandel, Bethany (Haines) Martin '08, J Suena Massaquoi P'19, Rhatia Mays P'23, Eric Molitor '01, Kristin (Dite) Monty '97, William Nelson '90, Deb North P'04/06/07, Lisa Olson P'24, Cara O'Neill '22, Marisa Patti '16, Dana Pardee '22, Edward Pierce P'25, Jack Pyper GP'16, Pam (Martindell) Rank '75, Lauren Scott '17, Rachel Sherbill '09, John Shinske '87, Andrew Sidman P'08/11, Brian Simon P'18, Pamela Simon P'18, Kurt Skvarla '10, Trey Snow '16, MB Sodini '90, Donna Spinweber '81, P'08/10, Mary Ann Stanton '89, Mallory Steffey '19, Elizabeth Suczewski '17, Melanie Taylor '99, Jeffrey Urenko P'25, Christine (Francello) Van Benschoten '72, Renne Venico '22, David Vosbikian P'22, Richard Wagner P'94/01, Adam Weiss '96, Linda (Ensminger) Welch '67.



# GROSS INDECENCY

## THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE



Reid Fournier as  
OSCAR WILDE



Kieran Calderwood as  
DOUGLAS AND  
LOCKWOOD



Bethany Fitch as  
CLARKE



Ana Eckert as  
CARSON AND  
OTHERS



Maddie Buckley as  
GILL AND  
OTHERS



C.F. Gould as  
QUEENSBURY AND  
OTHERS



Tessa Brizhik as  
NARRATOR 1 AND  
OTHERS



Isaiah Mays as  
NARRATOR 2 AND  
OTHERS



Isabel Steinberg as  
NARRATOR 3 AND  
OTHERS



Nathaniel Samuels as  
NARRATOR 4 AND  
OTHERS



Adam Walker as  
PARKER



Matthew Alexander as  
WOOD



John Wallace as  
ATKINS



Gabe Gross as  
MAVOR



Paige Gilmartin as  
UNDERSTUDY



Caroline Pritchard as  
UNDERSTUDY

