

THE BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE PRESENTS

HOW I LEARNED TO DRIVE



BY PAULA VOGEL

DIRECTED BY ALI KELLER '12

TUSTIN STUDIO THEATRE
APRIL 28, 29, AND 30 2012

Bucknell
UNIVERSITY

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DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE PRESENTS**

HOW I LEARNED TO DRIVE

**WRITTEN BY PAULA VOGEL
DIRECTED BY ALI KELLER '12**

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Female Greek Chorus Eliza MacDonald '14
Male Greek Chorus CJ Fujimara '13
Teenage Greek Chorus Gwenn Gideon '15
Peck Banner White '14
Li'l Bit Emily Hooper '14

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Management Madison Lane '14
Sound Design Alex Alam '13
Makeup Design Hilary Holmes '12
Costume Design Jessica Napoli '13
Lighting Design Aaron Vockley '14
Scene Design Prof. Elaine Williams, Ali Keller '12, Chris Sorrentino '15
Light Board Operator Skyler Hardwood '14
Sound Board and Projections Operator Alex Alam '13
Set/Props TA Chris Sorrentino '15
Photographer Ali Napoli '15
Publicity Christina Cody '12, Matt Dranzik '13
Ethan Van Buskirk '13, Emily Hooper '14
Gwenn Gideon '15, Prof. Paula D. Davis

Please join the director, cast, crew and Bucknell staff psychologist for a talk back after Sunday night's performance.

THERE WILL BE NO INTERMISSION.

Please Note: Smoking, the taking of photographs, and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited. Please turn off your cell phones and mobile devices before the performance begins. Thank you.

CAST BIOS

ELIZA MACDONALD '14 (Female Greek Chorus) This is Eliza's second performance at Bucknell, having debuted last semester in *Almost Maine* for Cocktail Theatre. She also assistant stage-managed *Pride and Prejudice* last fall. Other performances: *Cahoot's Macbeth* (Lady Macbeth), *Pippin* (Catherine), and *Young and Willing* (Muriel) at Mercersburg Academy; *Cinderella* (Cinderella) and *The Odd Couple* (Olive) at The Lovett School. Eliza would like to thank the cast and crew for an incredible show and her parents for always supporting her in everything.

CLAYTON (CJ) FUJIMURA '13 (Male Greek Chorus) has been involved in theatre at Bucknell since his freshman year, during which he worked with Ali Keller on her cocktail *I Really Really Like You*. He is a third-year member of *We Break For Nobody*, the comedy improv troupe on campus. He played Mr. Gardiner in *Pride and Prejudice* last semester. He has also composed scores for *Zoo Story*, directed by Diego Chiri and *Aria Da Capo*, directed by Victoria Moyer. He is excited to be involved in a show under Ali's direction for a second time and is very grateful for the opportunity. Love.

GWENN GIDEON '15 (Teenage Greek Chorus Member) has been in *Pride and Prejudice* (Mrs. Gardiner) and *Aria Da Capo* (Thyrsis) at Bucknell. She is so excited to be a part of this show. She would like to thank Ali, the cast, and crew for such an amazing experience. Hope you enjoy the show!

BANNER WHITE '14 (Peck) is a sophomore Theatre and Film/Media Studies double major, and an Arts Merit Scholar for theatre here at Bucknell. Roles at Bucknell include Mr. Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice*, Murk in *Savage in Limbo*, Greek Chorus in *The Bacchae*, and Joseph in *Ashes*.

EMILY HOOPER '14 (L'il Bit) Previous Bucknell credits include *Pride and Prejudice* (Caroline Bingley), *The Bacchae* (Penelope), Cocktails '10, and *Savage/Love*. Many thanks to Ali, the cast, crew, and designers for all of their dedication, energy, and enthusiasm. Love to Mom, Dad, Jane and Zoey for all your love and support. Break legs, everyone!!

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I first experienced *How I Learned to Drive* by Paula Vogel while reading it during my sophomore year of college. Since then I've read the show roughly 431 times, and each time this play has had something new to say. I thought that when I began directing this show I would discover some kind of answer to the many questions I had. I haven't found any answers, but I do feel that I've come closer to finding the best questions to ask. During my journey to discover new questions, I took solace in the fact that I wasn't the only person left with questions after experiencing *How I Learned to Drive*. The characters in the play work through their lives to make sense of what has happened to them, especially Li'l Bit. Paula Vogel created Li'l Bit as one of the many survivors of sexual abuse that is brave enough to tell her story. However, not every survivor's story is heard. "One in three people in the United States has

been affected by sexual assault. So there are a lot of survivors (survivors, not victims) in every audience we experience.”* As survivors, directors, actors, readers, and audience members we all experience Li'l Bit's story differently. At the end of tonight's show we'll all have been led down the same road, but we'll each have our own stories about where that road took us.

Special thanks to:

CRY HAVOC Theatre Company for helping me grow as an artist and a person and for the incredible help and support they gave to me and the show.

Madison Lane for being a spectacular stage manager and asset to this production.

All the students on the *How I Learned to Drive* production team for their fantastic work.

Hannah Carpenter for helping the actors learn how to harmonize.

My nugget actors for doing such an incredible job and making this experience spectacular.

My Delta Gamma sisters for always supporting my theatrical endeavors.

Ethan Van Buskirk for letting us use his car.

The Department of Theatre and Dance for giving me this opportunity.

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

- Paula D. Davis, chair costume design and history
- Sydney de Briel costume design intern
- Anjalee Deshpande Hutchinson acting and directing (on leave)
- Christine Fry academic assistant
- Mark Hutchinson technical coordinator
- Gary Grant theatre history, theory, directing
- Heath Hansum production manager, lighting and sound
- Er-Dong Hu dance technique and theory
- Kelly Knox, director of dance dance technique and theory
- Dustyn Martincich theatre and dance technique
- Pam Miller costume shop manager
- Samantha Phillips theatre adjunct, acting
- F. Elaine Williams scenography

Generous support by the Bucknell Association for the Arts, the Richard A. Klein Theatre and Dance Endowment, and the Offices of the Dean of Arts and Sciences and the Provost has made our 2011-2012 artistic season, guest artists' residencies, master classes, and workshops possible.

*Quote from a personal conversation with Paula Vogel

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