

WOMEN PLAYWRIGHTS SERIES 2015

April 8, 15, & 22

Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Sitnik Theater of the Lackland Performing Arts Center

Now it its 23rd season, the WPS is a developmental program dedicated to providing a working forum for the unique and underserved voice of women writing for the theatre today. Each season 3-4 plays are selected for a collaborative workshop process, with a professional director and actors. At the end of the rehearsal, a staged reading of the play is presented at CSC (50 miles w. of NYC) for our regional audiences, giving CSC audiences larger exposure to new work, as well as offering the playwright an opportunity to get feedback from the audience during the developmental process.

FUTURAMA by Samantha Charlip

Wednesday, April 8 at 7:30pm

In this charmingly funny and perceptive play, a 1950s-era amusement park in southern Florida claims to see into the future, which has in fact turned out quite differently from the original version. When the self-help guru Brian Gold brings his "Greatness Weekend" to the park, the young employees April and Otis, who has been adrift in their lives and their jobs, begin to have revelations about their own futures.

START DOWN by Eleanor Burgess

Wednesday, April 15 at 7:30pm

Technology and education collide when a San Francisco programmer develops a program which will change the face of teaching, and ultimately threaten his fiancé's own job.

TRUE LOVE by Tracy Thorne

Wednesday, April 22 at 7:30pm

Paul and Frankie come from very different worlds- will their past rise up to disrupt their love for each other? A play about the mystery of marriage... And all the family history that comes with it.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHTS:

Samantha Charlip is a New York based playwright and Writer/Producer for television networks including A&E, Turner and Viacom.

Her plays include: Futurama (Development: Strange Sun Theatre's Greenhouse Project, Reading: NEWvember New Plays Festival, Finalist: O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, Finalist: Susan Glaspell Award, Source Festival, Ingram New Works Lab at the Tennessee Repertory Theatre, Athe Award of Excellence in Playwriting; Semifinalist: Shakespeare's Sister Playwriting Fellowship, Princess Grace Playwriting Nominations: Kennedy Center Mark Twain Comedy Award, Kennedy Smith Playwriting Award for People with Disabilities, Readings: Glass Eye's Fresh Produce'd Series, Obligatory Theatre; Below (Finalist: O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, Reading: Rita and Burton Goldberg Theatre), Love in the Time of Gonorrhoea (Tiny Rhino), Youtube Superstars (Reading: Village Playwrights), One Universal You (Know Theatre, The Piney Fork Theatre). Samantha is also a television writer whose original pilots were selected as semi-finalists in Storyboard TV's 2011 and 2012 pilot competition and as second-rounders at the Austin Film Festival. She is recent graduate of NYU's Tisch Dramatic Writing MFA program where she studied playwriting under Pulitzer Prize winner, Annie Baker (The Aliens, The Flick, Circle Mirror Transformation), Pulitzer Prize winner Suzan-Lori Parks (Topdog/Underdog), Eduardo Machao (The Cook, Broken

Eggs, Hung) and Oskar Eusitz, Artistic Director of The Public Theater. Samantha was awarded the Tisch School of the Arts Full Tuition Departmental Fellowship.

Eleanor's play MOCHA was produced by the Last Act Theatre Company last January as part of Austin's Fronterafest, and her short play PARK SLOPE MINSTREL SHOW was featured in the Samuel French Off Off Broadway Festival this past summer. She has also had work produced by Everyday Inferno Theatre Company, the Emerging America Festival and the One Minute Play Festival and developed at the Vineyard Theatre, New Georges, Broad Horizons, Reverie Productions, and the Crashbox Company in Boston and a member of the writers' group at the Arcola Theatre in London. Originally from Brookline Massachusetts, she studied history at Yale College and subsequently taught history, filmmaking and creative writing in London and New Haven. She is currently pursuing an MFA in Dramatic Writing at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts which will conclude in May of 2015.

Tracy Thorne's play, WE ARE HERE, received its world premiere on the mainstage in New York Stage and Film and was also produced at the Contemporary American Theater Festival. It was nominated for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize and is published by Dramatists Play Service. Her play, THE NATURE OF THINGS, developed and workshopped at SohoRep in 2013, was nominated for The Kilroys list. Tracy recently finished a new play, TRUE LOVE, and her others include WILL AND TESTAMENT, A RIDICULOUS TRADE, and QUICK BRIGHT THINGS. Her plays have been finalists and semi-finalists at the O'Neill, PlayPenn, New Harmony, Bay Area Playwrights and Seven Devils. They have also received workshops and/or readings at various American theatres-MCC, The Cherry Lane, NYS&F, Florida Stage, The Lark, The Dramatists Guild and The Women's Project- to name a few. Tracy is a recent recipient of the Elizabeth George commission from South Coast Rep. She was a member of the SohoRep Writer/Director Lab, a playwriting fellow at The Lark and is currently a member of Page 73's 2015 Interstate 73 writers group. She's written a screenplay called NATURAL HISTORY and just finished a television pilot, LUCY LIVES UPTOWN. Tracy worked as an actor in New York and London, collaborating with directors such as Matthew Warchus, Phyllida Lloyd, Anna Deavere Smith, Tony Kushner and Thomas Babe. So too, she appeared in some movies and on TV. Tracy studied History at Smith College, is a graduate of The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art and lives in Harlem USA with her family.