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BY NICK PAYNE

CONSTELLATIONS

A PLAYFUL AND PROFOUND ROMANTIC DRAMA
ABOUT TIME AND MEMORY, HEARTBREAK AND HOPE.

BY NICK PAYNE

Directed by
Jere Lee Hodgin

Starring
Kelly Quinnett & Craig A. Miller

FORGE THEATER, 404 SWEET AVE. MOSCOW

July 21–30, 2023
A Message from the Director

This play is unique and challenging, not only in the magic Nick Payne incorporates in its daring and complex structure which doesn’t unfold chronologically, but also by questioning the way life and death work in our astounding universe. The attraction of Marianne and Roland, the two characters in this romance, is comedic and painful. Their journey introduces us to the spectacle that is Theoretical Early Universe Cosmology and the majesty of Quantum Multiverse science. It asks us to dispute long held, simplistic worldviews and to explore life and death without confining, reductionist assumptions.

Most importantly, Constellations questions predictability. Why should the universe have a sole purpose, only one path, one orientation, one meaning, or one answer? As Marianne says “…if every possible future exists, then the decisions we do and don’t make will determine which of these futures we actually end up experiencing.” That means that if the answers to our questions of determination are limitless then the possibilities are limitless.

This play ultimately probes our need to have predictability despite the infinite possibilities in each moment. As we worry our way through minutes and hours of “what if I had…” and “what if I hadn’t… “; “what should I…” and “what shouldn’t I…,” might it not be of greater value to consider abandoning a sense that there is a single right choice? Pursuing the theory that there is only one single possibility is pointless if there is infinite possibility in each moment.

Nick Payne wants us to question, to search, for the act of searching creates longing and longing invites possibility.

Jere Lee Hodgin
Director, Constellations

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CONSTELLATIONS
is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. www.dramatists.com

CONSTELLATIONS
was originally produced on Broadway by the Manhattan Theatre Club, Lynne Meadow, Artistic Director, Barry Grove, Executive Producer, and The Royal Court Theatre by special arrangement with Ambassador Theatre Group and Dodgers on December 16, 2014.
KELLY QUINNETT (Marianne) is head of performance at the University of Idaho. Kelly was the recipient of the National Irene Ryan Scholarship presented by the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, which led to her being placed under a development contract with ABC. She appeared on “All My Children” as Maria Monterey and on “One Life to Live” as Blaine Adams. Films include: “The River Murders” with Ray Liotta, “Without a Ladder” with Jack Bannon, “Frank” with John Gries and Britt Robertson, “Home of the Brave” with Samuel Jackson, “Mozart and the Whale” with Josh Hartnett, “The Basket” with Peter Coyote, “Mr. Write” with Paul Reiser and Martin Mull, “Brothers and Sisters” with Franco Nero and Stefano Accorsi. Plays include: “ReEntry,” “GO.PLEASE.GO.” by Emily Feldman at Montana Repertory Theatre, National New Play Network’s rolling premiere of “Lucky Me” by Robert Caisley, “Bus Stop” with Ellen Travolta, “Circle Miror Transformation,” “Noises Off,” “Grace and Glory” and more. Kelly has had the good fortune of being a guest artist for the MFA Playwriting Workshop at the Kennedy Center with the National New Play Network and worked on plays with and by Steve Yockey, Martyna Majok, Meg Miroshnik, Michael Mitnick, Dan Le Franc, Aurin Squire and Lindsey Ferrentino. Recently, she was in the workshop performance of Randy Reinholz’ “Under a Big Sky” with Sheila Tousey. In 2016, Kelly was honored with the National KCACTF, Special Achievement in Performance as Medea in “Medea: Her Story.” She is the first ever Uta Hagen Teaching Award recipient and the Mayor’s Arts Award recipient for Outstanding Achievement in Arts Education. Kelly is proud grandma Kel Kel, mom of four and wife of SUSHI-MAN.
**BIOS** (IN ALPHA ORDER)

**KEVIN BAKER** (Assistant Scenic Designer) is a third-year theatre design, technology, management student focused on technical direction. He is from Boise and has loved working with a plethora of theatre companies before finding his new educational home at the University of Idaho. Kevin is excited to be the assistant scenic painter for “Constellations.”

**BRINDLE BRUNDAGE** (she/her/hers) (Scenic Designer) holds an MFA in scenic design from U of I, graduating in 2022. Her portfolio features designs for productions such as “A Christmas Carol,” “Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play,” “The Hound of the Baskervilles” and “My 80-Year-Old Boyfriend.” Brindle’s work has earned multiple awards, including first place for Excellence in Scenic Design from the Kennedy Center Post-Electric Play,” “The Hound of the Baskervilles” and “My 80-Year-Old Boyfriend.” Brindle’s work has earned multiple awards, including first place for Excellence in Scenic Design from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. Excited to collaborate with the Idaho Repertory Theatre, she eagerly anticipates showcasing her own work and the creative team’s talent throughout the upcoming season.

**DAVID HARLAN** (Lighting/Sound Designer/Stage Manager) is an instructor in theater and English at U of I and the founding artistic director of Moscow Art Theatre (Too). He received his MFA in playwriting and directing from U of I in 2010 and has worked with U of I theater and Idaho Repertory Theater as an actor, director, and technician for the past 15 years.

**JERE LEE HODGIN** (Director) has produced over 200 productions, many of which were new and premiere works, and his directing career includes more than 250 plays, operas, and musicals. For 20 years, Jere was the Producing Artistic Director of Mill Mountain Theatre in Virginia, where he founded the nationally recognized Norfolk Southern New Play Festival. Jere also served as Artistic Director for Idaho Repertory Theatre and Co-Producer/Artistic Director of Highlands Playhouse in North Carolina and has directed internationally and at numerous theatres across the country including The Fulton Opera, Walnut Street Theatre, The Barter Theatre, Salt Lake Acting Company, Theatre Artists Studio, Phoenix Theatre, and Montana Repertory Theatre. He has directed at Shenandoah Playwright’s Retreat, Montana Rep’s Missoula Colony, NW Playwright’s Alliance/Seattle Repertory Theatre, Native Voices, 7 Devils New Play Foundry Conference, Westival Playwrights Festival, and The Phoenix Theatre New Play Festival. Jere is a past president of the Southeastern Theatre Conference. He served as Vice President of the board of The National Alliance for Musical Theatre. He is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC), Actor’s Equity Association, and the National Theatre Conference. He is the recipient of the Perry F. Kendig Arts and Culture Award for outstanding support of arts in SW Virginia and Citizen of the Year Award for Roanoke, VA.

**CRAIG A. MILLER** (Roland) joined the University of Idaho, Department of Theatre Arts in 2018, where he is currently head of directing and an assistant professor of acting and directing. He has a Bachelor of Science in acting & performance from the Illinois State University School of Theatre (1997), and a Master of Fine Arts in directing from the University of South Carolina (2004). For the U of I, Miller has acted in “The Open Hand” (2018) written and directed by department Chair, Robert Caisley; has directed U of I productions of Noël Coward’s “Present Laughter” (2019), “A Christmas Carol” (2020 & 2021), and most recently, the musical “Cabaret” (2022). In 2022, Miller starred in the one-person production of “Every Brilliant Thing” for IRT, for which he was also an Elaine Ambrose Storytelling Fellowship recipient and the keynote presenter for U of I’s National Suicide Prevention Day. Most recently, Craig played Argan, the hypochondriac, in the U of I production of “The Imaginary Invalid”. Craig is the former Artistic Director of 6th Street Playhouse in Santa Rose, CA, and a proud member of the Society of Directors and Choreographers, the national labor union representing professional directors in the United States. Craig is excited to finally share the stage with cherished friend and colleague, Kelly Quinnett! He sends eternal gratitude and love to Meghan, Eliza, and Clayton for their patience, support, and inspiration.

**KATE PEMBERTON** (Assistant Stage Manager) has been involved in several productions at U of I including performing in “A Christmas Carol” and “Thanatos Unmasqued.” Previously, she worked as Arts Director for the city of Sioux Center, Iowa, producing local theater. Her favorite acting roles include Belle in “Beauty & the Beast” (Orange City Tulip Festival) and Pamela in “The 39 Steps” (Sioux Center Summer Celebration), and her favorite directing experience was “Into the Woods” (SC Summer Celebration). She is currently choreographing a high school production of “Beauty & the Beast.” Kate loves all things dance, music, and theater, and especially her wonderful husband and four children.

**ORIGINAL MUSIC BY DAVID HARLAN**

BIOS continued

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