



LEWIS & CLARK  
THEATRE DEPARTMENT  
2021 PRESENTS

# THE SECRETARIES

A  
FIVE  
LESBIAN  
BROTHERS  
PLAY

WRITTEN BY  
MAUREEN ANGELOS  
BABS DAVY  
DOMINIQUE DIBBELL  
PEG HEALEY  
AND LISA KRON

FIR ACRES  
THEATRE  
BLACK BOX

MARCH 12, 13  
AND 17, 18, 19  
7:30PM

MARCH 14  
MATINEE  
2:00PM

The Secretaries is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. [www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)

## **THEATRE DEPARTMENT FACULTY/STAFF**

**Jenny Ampersand**, Costume Shop Manager and Instructor

**Joyce Beeny**, Administrative Coordinator

**Susan E. Davis**, Dance Program Head and Senior Lecturer

**Rebecca Lingafelter**, Associate Professor of Theatre

**Eric Nordstrom**, Instructor of Dance

**Michael Olich**, Professor of Theatre

**Matthew Robins**, Technical Director and Instructor

**Štěpán S. Šimek**, Chair and Professor of Theatre

**Jenna Tamimi**, Postdoctoral Fellow

<http://college.lclark.edu/departments/theatre>

**CASTING STATEMENT:** The Lewis & Clark Theatre Department production program is dedicated to nurturing a dynamic and diverse artistic and scholarly community. Our productions include new works as well as contemporary, modern, pre-modern, and classical plays. The Department honors the diversity of our community, and all students can fully participate in our productions regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, nationality, socio-economic status, or disability. The Department seeks to represent a diversity of voices on our stages, to practice open, non-traditional casting, and to respect – particularly with regard to new and contemporary plays – the playwright’s vision.

***THE SECRETARIES***  
***A Five Lesbian Brothers play written by***  
***Maureen Angelos, Babs Davy, Dominique Dibbell,***  
***Peg Healey, and Lisa Kron***

**CAST**

<i>Ashley</i> .....	Wyatt Deshong
<i>Susan</i> .....	Zoe Brouwer
<i>Patty</i> .....	Anna Campbell
<i>Dawn</i> .....	Camille Hildum
<i>Peaches</i> .....	Ava Schmidt
<i>Buzz</i> .....	Mia Bell
<i>Hank/Puppeteer</i> .....	Victoria Winn
<i>Sandy/Puppeteer</i> .....	Natalie Parkhurst

**There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.**

**Special Thanks**

L&C Information Technology  
Alissa Warren and the Reed Costume Shop  
Rusty Tennant and Reed College  
L&C Gender Studies Symposium

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## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

*The Secretaries* by the Five Lesbian Brothers (Maureen Angelos, Babs Davy, Dominique Dibbell, Peg Healey, and Lisa Kron) was first produced at the feminist theatre collective, Wow Café, in New York City in 1993. Written and performed in a camp style, the play tells the story of a cult of murderous secretaries who you just can't help but love to hate! I was first introduced to *The Secretaries* as a sophomore in college, and it had me at the first click and giggle! I am thrilled to be offering this play as a part of other college students' feminist theatre awakening!

The juxtaposition between manly Lumberjacks and pretty secretaries, sawdust and cashmere, crimson painted nails and blood point to the performativity of gender and indulge in a captivating campy style. Thus, claiming camp, an aesthetic typically associated with queer men, as also belonging to and being within the artistic purview of queer women. The homosocial space of the steno pool becomes homoerotic as the five secretaries engage in a keyboard clicking rhythmic dance between hate and love, perpetrator and victim, and identification and desire. The play rejects the Freudian view of identification and desire as mutually exclusive, acknowledging more complex configurations of female desire and bringing to light that familiar lesbian conundrum, "do I want to be her or be with her?"

Though as the secretaries will warn you this story "gets a little gory", the Lesbian Brothers are adamant that this is not merely a revenge play or a simple inverse of the violence against women that the horror genre (and media generally) normalizes. No, the real violence the play exposes is not so much the hacked-up lumberjacks as it is the emotional and psychological violence the women inflict on one another in the policing of each other's bodies through food and sex. The actual horror has less to do with bloody chainsaws and more to do with internalized misogyny and homophobia. We see what happens when the patriarchy is in such tip-top shape that men don't even need to physically destroy women because women will do that job (like everything else) for them. Though written and set in the 90s world of obsessive SlimFast dieting and the "bitchification" of women in the public eye, these themes are in no way unique to that decade. From Phyllis Schlafly to Women for Trump, we see these are problems we've had and unfortunately still have today. Take caution, "remember sitting next to you might be a secretary!"

— Jenna Tamimi, Director

## GUEST ARTIST BIOS

**London Bauman** is excited to be working at Lewis & Clark for the first time. London is a musician, actor, and sound designer who has worked in some capacity with Theatre Vertigo, Enso Theatre Ensemble, Oregon Children's Theatre, Profile Theatre, Speculative Drama, and Seeing Other People Productions as part of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He studied Theatre Arts at Portland State University.

**Miranda k. Hardy** having previously lit *Antigonick*, *As You Like It*, and *Stupid F\*\*\*ing Bird*, and designed the world of Marie Antoinette, is thrilled to retrun to light *The Secretaries*! She is an associate company member with PETE (Portland Experimental Theater Ensemble) designing lights for 10 of their productions including Beckett Women and also scenery for *Song of the Dodo* and *Drowned Horse Tavern*. A transplant to Portland, she has designed for the Profile Theater, Portland Playhouse, Oregon Children's Theater, and Artists Repertory Theatre. Nationally, her work has been mostly in NYC. Internationally she has toured other shows and had the privilege to bring her own designs to the National Theater of Budapest, the Noorderzon Festival, and four seasons as festival lighting designer for the Festival Di Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy. Miranda holds an MFA from the California Institute of the Arts.

**Trevor Sargent** is overjoyed to return to Fir Acres. Since graduating from Lewis & Clark in 2016, he has enjoyed working with many local companies, including Shaking the Tree, Portland Experimental Theatre Ensemble, Theatre Vertigo, Milagro Theatre, Corrib Theatre, The Holding Project, Rutabaga Story Co., and Salt & Sage Productions as well as Lewis & Clark College. He has also had the pleasure of serving in lead technical roles for Third Rail Repertory Theatre, and for Portland Experimental Theatre Ensemble. He received his BA in Design & Technical Theatre from Lewis & Clark College in 2016.

## PRODUCTION STAFF/CREW

<i>Director</i> .....	* Jenna Tamimi
<i>Scene Designer</i> .....	* Michael Olich
<i>Costume Designer</i> .....	* Jenny Ampersand
<i>Lighting Designer</i> .....	† Miranda k. Hardy
<i>Video/Projection Designer</i> .....	† Trevor Sargent
<i>Sound Designer</i> .....	† London Bauman
<i>Wig Designer</i> .....	† Catelyn Chism
<i>Technical Director</i> .....	* Matthew Robins
<i>Costume Shop Manager</i> .....	* Jenny Ampersand
<i>Stage Manager</i> .....	Mary Alice Perkins
<i>Assistant Stage Manager</i> .....	Mia Webster
<i>Props Master</i> .....	Ryann St. Julian
<i>Video Assistant</i> .....	Abby Jacquin
<i>Master Electrician</i> .....	Cosmo Kay
<i>Assistant Director</i> .....	Niels Truman
<i>Assistant Scene Designer and Puppet Master</i> .....	Karen Wingard
<i>Assistant Costume Designer</i> .....	Amber Adamski
<i>Light Board Operator</i> .....	Jade Weihz
<i>Sound/Video Operator</i> .....	Yash Bisht
<i>Sound Engineer</i> .....	Atlaf Barehvi
<i>Wardrobe</i> .....	Torin MacLaughlin, Em Melissa, Skyler Vayda
<i>Run Crew</i> .....	Tyler Ramirez, Skye Russ
<i>Puppet Costume Crew</i> .....	Lauren Baird, Wyatt Deshong
<i>Puppet Hair Stylists</i> .....	Emma Greene, Ezri Reyes
<i>House Manager</i> .....	Dylan Blanchard
<i>Box Office Manager</i> .....	* Joyce Beeny
<i>Stage Manager Mentor</i> .....	* Linda Apperson
<i>Graphic Designer</i> .....	† Parker Wrenn
<i>Social Media Manager</i> .....	Teresa Serra
<i>Costume Stock Manager</i> .....	Haley Wildhirt
<i>Props Stock Manager</i> .....	Laine Fryer
<i>Photographer</i> .....	† Owen Carey
<i>Videographer and Archivist</i> .....	Rocco Weyer, Ernesto Monge
	<i>*L&amp;C Theatre Faculty/Staff</i>
	<i>†Guest Artist</i>

### Set Crew

Fiona Carolan, Colin Crompton, Abby Jacquin,  
Julia Litz, Ryann St. Julian, Mia Webster

### Costume Crew

Amber Adamski, Lauren Baird, Negasi Brown,  
Emmy Downing, Lizeth Gaxiola, Jens Martin

### Props Crew

Skye Dodge, Erika Gray, Cosmo Kay, Karen Wingard

# NEXT AT FIR ACRES THEATRE

## Theatre Thesis Festival

Program A: Wednesday and Friday, April 21 and 23

Program B: Thursday and Saturday, April 22 and 24

Each year, the Theatre Thesis Festival showcases the work of our senior theatre majors. They are all enrolled in Theatre 450, the Senior Seminar. The Seminar provides the academic context for a capstone experience that normally includes both a creative project and a written thesis. We have three concentrations within the major – dramatic literature/theatre history, performance, and design/technical theatre. Because we believe in a well-rounded major experience, these concentrations share a strong core of requirements; but these concentrations also allow some flexibility within the major and do encourage students to pursue their particular interests within the theatre arts.

The Theatre Thesis Festival represents a culmination and a continuation of our students' training within the department, and this year's Festival will feature original works by our graduating Seniors. The Performance-based projects will range from an original Murder Mystery Musical written, directed, and performed in collaboration between Robert Rodriguez and Arielle Scene-Shifrin, to two solo performances by Sofia Marks and Sam Gensler exploring femininity, womanhood, identity and shame, based on the mythical Aztec goddess Quetzalcoatl and the friction between the myths that shape American manhood and men's actual lived experiences in the form of a Spalding Gray-like monologue respectively, and our Design and Technical major, Mo Fries will present an immersive experience through projected visuals and music, telling the story of *Peter and the Wolf*.

The Theatre Thesis Festival will be performed live for a limited audience and streamed to the wider community on four evenings from Wednesday, April 21st through Saturday, April 24th.

More Festival details and specifics will be provided  
during the course of the Spring semester at

<https://college.lclark.edu/live/news/45009-theatre-thesis-festival-2021>

**Please also join us on our social media sites (Facebook & YouTube)  
for current news and updates on our productions!**

**Links can be found on the front page of the Department website:**

**<http://college.lclark.edu/departments/theatre>**



## THEATRE DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Generous supporters of the L&C Theatre Department program have established two scholarships that are awarded annually to continuing students.

- **Leon Pike/Edgar Reynolds Scholarship** •

**2020-21 Recipients:**

**Amber Adamski, Abigail Jacquin, Karen Wingard**

The Leon Pike/Edgar Reynolds Scholarship was established in 1987 by the Department of Theatre in honor of the dedicated service of Leon Pike, an associate professor of theatre at Lewis & Clark from 1969 until his retirement in 1987. The scholarship also recognizes the leadership and teaching of Edgar Reynolds, who retired from the College in 1995. It is awarded to students in theatre, with a preference for those pursuing Leon Pike's passions of design and technical theatre, and who demonstrate financial need.

- **Howard Ross Warren Scholarship** •

**2020-21 Recipient:**

**Haley Wildhirt**

Established in 1988, awarded to students who demonstrate academic excellence in the theatre arts or dance.

Those wishing to establish additional scholarships for Theatre students or to contribute to existing scholarships should contact Institutional Advancement at (503) 768-7900 or visit us online at [www.lclark.edu/giving/](http://www.lclark.edu/giving/)