

# BY JACKIE SIBBLIES DRURY DIRECTED BY ANDERSON

## **Ground Floor Theatre Presents**

## **Fairview**

By

## **Jackie Sibblies Drury**

## Directed by Anderson, F.

Choreographer/Fight Choreographer	JEFFERY Da'SHADE JOHNSON
Intimacy Director	
Scenic Design	GARY THORNSBERRY
Lighting Design	
Costume Design	
Sound Design	
Stage Dressing & Properties Design	
Production Stage Manager	
Stage Manager	ANALISSE QUIÑONES
Technical Director	FRED DEMPS
Carpenter	OLLIE SOFIELD
Electrician	EMILY HEATH
Scenic Artist	
Graphic Design	ERICA MORENO
Box Office Manager	DIANA RAFFERTY
PhotographerLEN	S OF ATHENA PHOTOGRAPHY
Press Representative MOTLEY	CREW MEDIA/NICOLE SHIRO
Marketing	LACEY CANNON GONZALES
EDI Consultant	NICOLE BELL

## CAST

Beverly	CHELSEA MANASSERI
Dayton	CLAUDE XAVIER
Jasmine	MARIAH EPPS
Keisha	CYNTHIA MUGENI
Keisha	SWEET VAN LOAN
Suze	SUZANNE BALLING
Mack	CHRIS SKINNER
Bets	HATLYN BARRICKLOW
Jimbo	JON EDWARD COOK

FAIRVIEW was originally commissioned and presented by Soho Rep, New York, NY (Sarah Benson, Artistic Director; Cynthia Flowers, Executive Director)

and

Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Berkeley, CA (Tony Taccone, Artistic Director; Susan Medak, Managing Director)

### **Content Advisory:**

*Fairview* deals with adult themes including racism and may be distressing to some.

This show runs 90 minutes with no intermission

**Ground Floor Theatre** fosters an environment for creative thinkers and artists to produce works focusing on underrepresented communities, lifting voices that need to be heard to people who need to hear them.

We believe in theatre for everyone!
For more information please visit groundfloortheatre.org

#### **GFT BOARD**

Jo Ivester, Chair
Nicole Shiro, Vice Chair
Duane Bush, Treasurer
Susan McLeland, Secretary
Giselle De La Rosa
Valerie Esparza
Jon Ivester
Carl Gonzales

#### **GFT STAFF**

Lisa Scheps, Executive Artistic Director
Patti Neff-Tiven, Associate Artistic Director
Simone Alexander, Development Director
Lacey Cannon Gonzales, Marketing Director
Megan Thornton, Director of New Works

## Who's Who



SUZANNE BALLING— Suze (she/her) last performed with Ground Floor Theatre in its 2017 production of *Gibberish Mostly*, written by Max Langert and directed by Lisa Scheps. She is delighted to be back! Recent credits include *POTUS* (Jarrott Productions) and *Miss Lulu Bett* (Different Stages). Some of her favorite past productions include *Nevermore: The Imaginary Life and Mysterious Death of Edgar Allan Poe* (Doctuh Mistuh), *Zeus in Therapy* (Tutto Theatre Company) and *Burn This* (7 Towers).



HATLYN BARICKLOW – Bets (she/her) is an Austin-based actor and graduate of the BFA Performance and Production program at Texas State University. She is incredibly excited and grateful to be making her debut at the Ground Floor Theatre with such a wonderful team of artists. When she is not onstage, Hatlyn can be found petting a cat or dog somewhere. She would like to thank her parents and friends for their endless love and support



JON EDWARD COOK — Jimbo (he/him) is thrilled to be making his Ground Floor Theatre debut. Local credits: *Macbeth* (Mary Moody Northen), *The Real Thing* (Billy) at Austin Shakespeare and *The Aliens* (Evan), *Tigers Be Still* (Zack), and *The Drawer Boy* (Miles) at Hyde Park Theatre; Regional: *Mad, Beat, Hip, and Gone* (Rich) at ZACH; *Cymbeline* (Cornelius), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Oatcake) and *Romeo & Juliet* (Friar Lawrence/Benvolio) with Hudson Valley Shakespeare; NYC: *The Fre* (Billy Fre) at The Flea Theater and *Richard III* (Tyrell/Gray) with Bridge Production Group.



MARIAH EPPS—Jasmine (she/her) is thrilled to make her debut at Ground Floor Theatre! A proud graduate of Texas State University with a BFA in Theatre for Acting, she is currently based in Austin. Her recent credits include *Little Shop of Horrors* (Chiffon) with San Antonio Broadway Theater, *Big Love* (Thyona) at Texas State University, and more. She extends her gratitude to her cast, friends, and family for their unwavering love and support. Insta: @eme.mariah.eme



CHELSEA MANASSERI—Beverly (she/her) is an Austin-based theatre artist and educator. Regional credits include Mama Morton in *Chicago* (Half & Half Productions,) Fay in *Jump* (Shrewd Productions), and Berenice in *The Member of the Wedding* (Different Stages; B. Iden Payne Award nomination for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama.) As a director: *Seven* (Last Act Theatre), and *The Mountaintop* (Paradox Players; B. Iden Payne Award nomination for Outstanding Direction of a Drama.) Chelsea holds a BA in Musical Theatre Performance, and is a proud company member of The

VORTEX Repertory Company, Shrewd Productions, and ZM3 Live Productions.



**CYNTHIA MUGENI**—**Keisha** (she/they) is very excited to be working with Ground Floor Theatre in their production of *Fairview*. Previously, she played Ismene in a production of *Antigone* at the University of North Texas and Nora in *A Doll's Ho*use at Stage Presence Players. As a Central Texas native, she is currently taking local classes to help complete her degree plan as she hopes to transfer and pursue a BFA in Theatre Arts. She would like to thank her sister Stella for her endless inspiration and unwavering support



CHRIS SKINNER—Mack (he/him) is a talented and versatile stage actor and singer, known for his captivating performances in various theatrical and musical productions. Chris's portrayal of Ezra in *Log Cabin* earned him widespread recognition and praise from critics and audiences alike. His unique blend of comic timing and genuine emotional depth has established him as a well-rounded and exciting young talent.

## Who's Who (Con't)



**SWEET VAN LOAN—Keisha** (she/her) is an Austin-based African American queer woman, actor, comedian, and storyteller with a passion for creative expression. A force in both the arts and tech worlds, she holds a software engineering certification and teaches arts-based social justice education. As a published author, poet, and singer, Sweet's work is fueled by the belief that

storytelling—whether on stage, on screen, or on the page—has the power to inspire and connect. When not performing, she can be found gaming on the couch with her dogs or enjoying cooking for her friends and family.



**CLAUDE XAVIER—Dayton** (he/him) was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri and resides in San Antonio. He is an actor, voice actor, cosplayer, published model, and US Army veteran. He was attracted to the stage after he performed as a Havana club dancer in the musical *Guys and Dolls*. His most recent play, *Broken Windows*, retold the true story of the murder of the playwright's son. He is a cast member in two ongoing improv shows: *Whodunnit Murder Mystery* and

*The Dinner Detective Mystery Dinner* in San Antonio and Austin. As a voice actor, he has narrated ten audiobooks and voiced characters for YouTube creators and digital comic books.

**ANDERSON, F. – Director** (they/them) Anderson, F. is an intuitive, multidisciplinary artist with a specialty in Acting. As a Director, Anderson's approach aims to embolden the actor's voice while modeling sustainability that pulls from their extensive foundation in movement and trauma informed leadership. They have been at the helm of several new works such as *BLKS* by Aziza Barnes and *Boy* by Cris Eli Blak (New Manifest Theatre). Other involvement in recent productions include *Pass Over* by Antoinette Chinonye Nwandu, *The Black Feminist Guide to the Human Body* (VORTEX Repertory Theatre) and ...but you could've held my hand (UT Dept. of Theatre Arts and Dance).

**JEFFERY Da'SHADE JOHNSON**—Choreographer/Fight Choreographer is a SAG-AFTRA actor, poet, martial artist, emcee, filmmaker, and award-winning fight choreographer. He won the 2017 B. Iden Payne Award for Outstanding Actor in a Drama for his role as Mason Dixon in *Underground*. He was also nominated for a B. Iden Payne Award for Outstanding Fight in 2007 for *Windows* and won the B. Iden Payne Award for Outstanding Fight in 2024 for *Passover*. He represents Cry Havoc Action Choreography.

ANDY GRAPKO—Intimacy Director (she/her) is a certified Intimacy Coordinator with Intimacy Directors and Coordinators. She is the Resident Intimacy Director for the Department of Theatre and Dance at UT Austin, where she teaches in the Acting program. Her work has been seen on Hulu, Netflix, and the CW; recent theatre credits include Falsettos, Jack and Aiden and Clyde's (Ground Floor), Hand to God (Southwestern University), Proof (Concordia University), Dead Man's Cellphone, (Georgetown Palace Theatre), Romeo y Juliet and Ride the Cyclone (UT, Austin), La Traviata (Butler Opera Center), Pipeline (Alchemy Theatre), and Metamorphoses (University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley) <a href="https://www.andygrapko.com">https://www.andygrapko.com</a>.

## Who's Who (Con't)

GARY THORNSBERRY—Scenic Design (they/them) is the Professor of Design Tech Management at Berea College. They have an MFA in Scenic Design from Texas State University and often work in the Austin area as a Scenic Designer. Their upcoming shows include *Ride the Cyclone* with Berea College, *Anton Chekhov is a Tasty Snack* with Penfold Theatre, *Rabbit Hole* with Deaf Austin Theatre, and *Parade* with Ground Floor Theatre. Gary hopes you give to theatres doing the work! Have a wonderful show!

J MWAKI—Lighting Design (they/them) is a lighting designer and master electrician. While taking a break from pursuing a bachelors in Computer Science, they found themselves in a part time job at a community arts center which eventually led to an apprenticeship with the head of lighting there. Since then, they've worked in 5 major cities working on exciting projects and events such as plays, conventions, concerts, festivals, and more! In the past, they have enjoyed working with lighting design students at Stanford University, Case Western University and Baldwin Wallace University. J now lives in Austin, TX with a full time job at a production company. They still find time to freelance for local theaters to satisfy their undying love for the community.

KIARA HARRIS—Costume Design (she/her) affectionately known as Ki, is a stylist, tailor and fashion designer based in Austin, Texas. Ki feels pride especially serving the queer, gender-nonconforming and LGBTQ+ communities. Her portfolio includes costume design for film, collections shown at Austin Fashion Week and The Slow Fashion Fest ATX and tailoring ready-to-wear clothing to fit the unique needs and bodies of queer folks

CRESENT HAYNES — Sound Design (she/her) received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre Arts Technology, with a focus in Sound Design from Howard University. Cresent's credits include: Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (University of Rochester), Hang (Second Thought Theatre), POTUS (Everyman Theatre), Show Way the Musical National Tour (presented by The John F. Kennedy Center), One in Two (Mosaic Theater Company), The Mortification of Fovea Munson (The John F. Kennedy Center), The School for Lies (Constellation Theatre), Mojada (1st Stage Theatre), A Strange Loop (Woolly Mammoth Theatre), Intimate Apparel (Theatre J), Fabulation (Mosaic Theater Company), The Laramie Project (Duke Ellington School of the Arts), N (Keegan Theatre), Hope in the Hood (Amazing Grace Conservatory) and many more. Cresent is also a freelance Live Audio Engineer and Visual Artist. She has aspirations to design on Broadway and continue touring with various performing artists as their Audio Engineer, all while continuing to fill spaces with her original exhibits. <a href="https://www.linktr.ee/cresentrochelle">www.linktr.ee/cresentrochelle</a>)

**LIZ TYSON**—**Prop and Set Dressing Design** (she/her) is a props and graphic designer working in theatre and film here in Austin. She cherishes every opportunity to work with GFT! In the past, she designed the props for *Falsettos*, *Clyde's*, *Pass Over*, *Jack & Aiden*, and *Always A Boy*. In addition, she works with Filigree Theatre on their past two seasons of shows.

**FREDERICK DEMPS**—Scenic Design/Technical Director (he/him) is always happy to work with Ground Floor Theatre is thrilled to bring *Fairview* to life with his expertise in technical theatre and stagecraft. Frederick extends his gratitude to the cast, crew, and creative team for their dedication and collaboration.

MIA GOMEZ-REYES—Production Stage Manager (she/her) is a Latina stage manager, playwright, and educator based in Austin, TX. Her previous credits include 26 Miles (Different Stages, 2025), Tiny Fingerprints (UTNT 2022, Stage Manager), and sad women being sad (UTNT 2021, Assistant Stage Manager), among others. Her plays have been featured in Teatro Vivo's New Play Fest, UT New Theatre, and Horizon Theatre New South Young Playwrights Festival. She is a current GFT Writes Fellow and has been a finalist for the Playwright's Center Core Apprenticeship and the Austin Emerging Arts Leaders program. When not working in theater, she is the Student Success Coordinator in the College of Fine Arts at UT Austin. B.A. Theatre & Dance, UT Austin (2022).

## Who's Who (Con't)

ANALISSE QUIÑONES—Stage Manager (she/her) is proud to make her debut as a stage manager for *Fairview* at Ground Floor Theatre! While pursuing a BBA in marketing at The University of Texas at Austin (2023), you could find Analisse in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show Shadowcast* (Magenta), directing and acting in improv-based murder mysteries, or co-writing the sci-fi, jukebox musical *Great Findings*.

NICOLE K. BELL/FULL HUMANITY CONSULTING—EDI Consultant (she/her) is an accomplished strategic planning, talent development, and human resources professional with over 20 years of experience in designing impactful training programs focused on trust, team cohesion, leadership, and equity. Nicole holds certifications as a mediator, Trust at Work practitioner, and success coach. She is also an Affiliate Practitioner of Courageous Conversations about Race. In her spare time, Nicole enjoys being a super loud and devoted volleyball mom who cherishes moments spent at comedy shows, watching movies, and eating ice cream with her daughters.

MOTLEY CREW MEDIA — Press Representative Founded in 2006 by Amy S. Layton, Motley Crew Media is a full-service boutique marketing and public relations firm with a focused expertise in arts and entertainment. Made up of senior-level experienced PR and marketing specialists, the "Crew" helps clients bring their brand to life in the field through passion and commitment, alongside a keen ability to transform concept and vision into precisely executed reality. Sampling of clients: aGLIFF, Art Spark Texas, Austin Playhouse, Austin Shakespeare, Broadway Across America, Chorus Austin, Deaf Austin Theatre, Flavor Hospitality Group, Glass Half Full Theatre, Ground Floor Theatre, Hobby Center, Holland Taylor, Impact Arts, Jaston Williams, KMFA, Regian Entertainment, Texas Performing Arts, and ZACH Theatre among many others. <a href="mailto:info@motleycrewmedia.com">info@motleycrewmedia.com</a>

#### GFT 2025 SEASON

#### February 20 - March 8, 2025 Fairview

by Jackie Sibblies Drury Directed by Anderson

#### May 8 - 24, 2025 I Wanna Be a F\*cking Princess

by Jenny Connell Davis Directed by Patti Neff-Tiven

#### August 14-30, 2025 Amy and the Orphans

by Lindsey Ferrentino Directed by Maryanna Tollemache

#### <u>December 4 –20, 2025</u> Parade

by Alfred Uhry & Jason Robert Brown Directed by Lisa Scheps Musical Director Adam Roberts

For more info groundfloortheatre.org/2025season

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the Indigenous lands of Turtle Island, the ancestral name for what now is called North America.

We would like to acknowledge the Alabama -Coushatta, Caddo, Carrizo/Comecrudo, Coahuiltecan, Comanche, Kickapoo, Lipan Apache, Tonkawa and Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo, and all the American Indian and Indigenous Peoples and communities who have been or have become a part of these lands and territories in Texas.

We would also like to acknowledge that East Austin has also been historically home to segregated and under resourced Mexican and Black communities.

As guests, we pay respect to these peoples, past, present, and future, here in their homeland.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP SUPPORT Fairview?

We need your help to fund this show. If you'd like to support this production, click the QR code or Venmo (@GroundFloor) or Pay Pal (lisa@groundfloortheatre.org). Any amount helps.











CATCH US IN THE ACT

MOTLEY CREW





