# Pirandello Project

Devised by the Ensemble Directed by Alice Reagan



Thursday, October 20, 2022, 8pm Friday, October 21, 2022, 8pm Saturday, October 22, 2022, 3pm & 8pm

# **Minor Latham Playhouse**

Barnard College Department of Theatre Columbia University Major in Drama & Theatre Arts The Theatre Department of Barnard College cultivates an independent artistic vision pursued by professional and emerging theatre artists. We also recognize that, in the educational environment of the college and the university, artistic work both participates in the curriculum and is part of a wider community conversation as well. Some productions included in our seasons may contain scenes staging verbal, physical, or sexual violence. If a specific content warning is warranted, it will be posted on the ticketing website, posted outside the performance space, and/or printed in the program. If you are concerned about whether or how any action or content might be depicted in any of our shows, please contact theatre@barnard.edu.

Barnard College and Columbia University are located in Lenapehoking, the territory of the Lenape people. In the public acknowledgment of this fact, we enact one small step towards recognizing the traditional and enduring stewards of this land and disrupt the invisibility and ongoing erasure of Indigenous Peoples. Furthermore, the practices central to much of the art we make contribute to climate change in disproportionately affect Indigenous and marginalized people globally. The faculty and staff of the Department of Theatre invite you to join us in acknowledging all of this as well as our shared responsibility--by learning more about the Native American Council of Columbia University and Barnard College's local work towards Indigenous sovereignty and Black liberation, as well as the Department's continued efforts towards developing sustainable design and production practices.

## **CAST**

**Eleanor Babwin** Amalia & Others

Pimprenelle Behaeghel Lamberto Laudisi & Others

Mikayla Gold Benson Mrs. Frola & Others

**Sophie Craig** Mrs. Ponza & Others

**Sydney Gerlach** Cini-Nenni & Others

**Shayan Hooshmand** Ponza & Others

**John Howley** Agazzi & Others

Ava Markhovsky Sirelli & Others

Amelia Mason Dina & Others

## **PRODUCTION**

Directed by Alice Reagan

Choreography Sunny Min-Sook Hitt

Scenic Design Anna Driftmier

Costume Design Karen Boyer

Lighting Design Burke Brown

Sound Design Margaret Montagna

Stage Manager Khayali Dhanji

Assistant Stage Manager Amelia Lang

Props Supervisor Rhys Roffey

Props Assistants Natsumi Sasabe, Erin Stoeckig

Assistant Director Amina Khaitova

Assistant Choreographer Pimprenelle Behaeghel

Assistant Costume Design Sophia Fanelle, Noelle Nafus

Assistant Lighting Design Sophie Simons

Scenic Painters Amelia Mason, Alex Smith

Lighting Technician Mina Bourquin

Light Board Operator Melanie Brigham

Sound Board Operator Surya Buddharaju

Run Crew **Epiphany Larmey** 

Wardrobe Crew Allison Letterman,

Daniela Mays-Sanchez

Work-study Crew Lily Bunger, Maya Campbell,

Connor Carp, Laurel Carpenter, Jalen Ford, Sydney Gerlach, John Howley, Tess Inderbitzin, Amelia Lang, Noelle Nafus, Trang Phan, Hannah Saltz, Alex Sessions, Olivia Toevs

**Production Office Assistants** 

Ella Chang, Mia Moreno

## **CAST & CREW**

**Eleanor Babwin (BC '24, Amalia & Others)** is a junior at Barnard majoring in Theatre. This is her second time performing with the department. She has also performed on campus with KCST, CUP, and CMTS. She is very grateful for all the wonderful people who worked on this show. She would like to thank her dear friends and family.

Michael Banta (Director of Production) joined the Theatre Department in 2008. Previous credits include Hudson Scenic Studio, New York City Opera, Bard SummerScape Festival, Utah Shakespearean Festival, and various regional theatres, theme parks, and cruise ships. He was also an Adjunct Professor at NYC College of Technology (CUNY) from 2005 to 2010. Mike holds an MFA in Technical Design and Production from Yale School of Drama and a BA in Drama from the University of Virginia.

**Pimprenelle Behaeghel (BC '24, Lamberto Laudisi & Others, Assistant Choreographer)** is a junior studying Theatre and Italian at Barnard College. She is so grateful and excited to perform in her third show with the department. They'd like to thank Sunny for the opportunity to generate some funky futurist moves, Alice, and the rest of the cast and crew!

**Mikayla Gold Benson (BC '25, Mrs. Frola & Others)** is a second year at Barnard College. *Pirandello Projec*t is her first department credit and she couldn't be more thrilled to be a part of this fantastic ensemble. Mikayla thanks Alice Reagan and the entire cast and crew for shaping this vibrant piece into existence!

Karen Boyer (Costume Design) designs and builds costumes in NYC. Past and recent collaborators include choreographers Catherine Galasso, nicHi douglas, Sarah Dahnke, and Sunny Hitt; theater makers harunalee, the New Wild, Object Collection, MetaPhysEd, Target Margin Theater, Little Lord, Built for Collapse; and filmmakers Imelda O'Reilly, Ben Finer and Aaron Schimberg. BFA: Maryland Institute College of Art; MFA: NYU Tisch. karenrachelboyer.com.

Burke Brown (Lighting Design) work in theater and opera includes projects with Metropolitan Museum of Art, Mabou Mines, Ars Nova, NYSF-Public Theater, Baltimore Center Stage, Cleveland Playhouse, Magic Theatre, Two River Theater Company, and Playmakers Repertory Company. Outside of the US, his work includes productions at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, the Golden Mask Festival in Moscow, the Seoul Performing Arts Festival in South Korea, and Erratica in London. Mr. Brown has a Bachelor's of Arts in International Studies and Theater Studies from Guilford College in Greensboro, NC. He received his Masters of Fine Arts from the Yale School of Drama

**Surya Buddharaju (Sound Board Operator)** The Guy was in *On Loop* (Spring '21) and *Orlando* (Fall '21).. Shoutout to the entire cast and crew, the city of Omaha, and Oxford Commas.

**Sophie Craig (CC '23, Mrs. Ponza & Others)** is a senior Anthropology major at Columbia College. She spent the summer in Paris through Barnard's Translating Theatre Workshop and in Edinburgh, where she performed in a production of Jean Giraudoux's *Ondine*. This is her first show with the Barnard Theatre Department.

Khayali Dhanji (BC '25, Stage Manager) is a sophomore at Barnard studying Economics and Human Rights. She is thrilled to be able to explore her passion for Theatre through Barnard. Her most recent credits include stage managing for *Macbeth* (KCST) and *Hamlet* (KCST). She is so grateful to have been able to work with such a lovely team for this production.

Anna Driftmier (Scenic Design) is a scenographer and production designer whose work extends across the US and Europe. Anna is currently a Creative Director for Fever heading the creation of new immersive experiences. Anna is also the scenography mentor for the Juilliard School's Center for Innovation in the Arts. Stage design includes: *The Threepenny Opera* (City Lyric Opera); *Beyond the Machine* (Juilliard); *Love, Medea* (split/decision); *Dead Equal* (British Army); *The Actor's Nightmare* (Park Theatre); *La Tragedie de Carmen* (City Lyric Opera); *Dido and Aeneas* (Queille Festival); *Wickedest Woman* (Strange Sun Theatre); *Cabaret, Machinal* (Columbia

University); A Midsummer Night's Dream (Rooke Theatre); Dolphins and Sharks (Finborough); Radioman (Old Red Lion Theatre); SCRAWW (Trebah Garden); A Village Romeo and Juliet (New Sussex Opera); Dust Child (English Touring Opera). Production design includes: Leylak, Mahler's Titan, Return to Me, The Nude Model, November, Nation Down. Anna holds an MA from Central Saint Martins and a Technical Theatre Diploma from the Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

**Sophia Fanelle (BC '23, Assistant Costume Designer)** is a senior at Barnard College, studying Math and English. She fell in love with costume design after taking a course in it last spring. She had a wonderful time working on this production, and would like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work.

**Kara Feely (Costume Shop Manager)** is a director/designer for Theatre and interdisciplinary performance, and co-founder of the performance group Object Collection (objectcollection.us). She has managed the Costume Shop for the Barnard Theatre Department since 2005.

Sydney Gerlach (BC '24, Cini-Nenni & Others) is a junior at Barnard studying Theatre and Education and is thrilled to be doing her third show with the Theatre Department! Her previous departmental credits include Sonic Life of a Giant Tortoise and The Penelopiad. She has also performed in and worked on productions for Columbia University Players and NOMADS as well as performed in You Can't Touch My Sister... at Columbia University School of the Arts. She'd like to dedicate this performance to her former dance teacher and director Donna Cory who passed away earlier this month.

**Daniela Mays-Sanchez (BC '24, Wardrobe Crew)** Her past departmental credits include *Electra* and *On Loop*. She is very excited and honored to be a part of this amazing show and would like to thank the cast and crew for this incredible experience! Also, a special shoutout to family and friends for all your love and support!

Sunny Min-Sook Hitt (Choreography) is a NYC-based choreographer, movement director, performer, and educator. Choreography/Movement Direction: SNOW IN MIDSUMMER (Classic Stage Company), THE GREAT LEAP (Portland Center Stage), IN THE GREEN (The New School), THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME (Florida Studio Theatre), REAL AD SHOW (NYU Abu Dhabi). Associate: UNTITLED DANCESHOWPARTYTHING (Virgin Voyages), SOFT POWER by David Henry Hwang and Jeanine Tesori (The Public Theater, Center Theater Group). As a performer she has been seen in THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME (Actors Theatre of Louisville), THE TEMPEST (The Public Theater), and most recently *JUNE RITES!!* by Lee Sunday Evans. Sunny's durational work *ON VIEW: WFH* was presented in 2020 with support from Exponential Festival and The Foundation for Contemporary Arts emergency grants. In 2021 she co-created BODY OF WORK with longtime collaborator Ani Taj as an exploration of dance + economics, including the release of three dance NFTs. Sunny is currently adjunct faculty at Mannes School of Music (The New School). sunnyhitt.com // @sunnyhitt

Shayan Hooshmand (CC '24, Ponza & Others) is a junior in CC studying Linguistics. Previous credits include Polonius in Columbia Circus Collective's Hamlet; Lear in King Lear; Joseph from Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; and Mason in the pre-Broadway workshop of School of Rock. In December, he'll be co-directing Waiting for Godot and playing Estragon with Pale Fire Theater. He would like to remind you of the brutal beating and killing of women in Iran simply for demanding autonomy over their bodies. We can be their voice. #MahsaAmini #WomenLifeFreedom

John Howley (CC '25, Agazzi & Others) is a sophomore at Columbia College studying Drama & Theatre Arts. John's previous campus credits include By the Way, Meet Vera Stark (Barnard Theatre Department), Macbeth (KCST), and Hamlet (KCST, CCC). This summer, John performed in a devised play at the Williamstown Theatre Festival titled The Edge of the World. He currently serves as the co-Artistic Director of SoundStage at WKCR 89.9 FM, and was formerly a member of the Looking In

Theatre Troupe. John is grateful for the opportunity to work with this terrific cast and crew, and he thanks everyone for their patience while teaching him how to line dance.

Amina Khaitova (BC '24, Assistant Director) is a Barnard junior double majoring in Theatre and Psychology. As a part of the IB Diploma Theatre course, she participated in two theatre training programs with International School Theatre Association (ISTA) in London. Her previous work at Barnard includes serving as an assistant stage manager for *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (Barnard Theatre Department). Amina would like to thank Alice, cast and crew of *Pirandello Project* for this explorative and collaborative experience.

Amelia Lang (BC '25, Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore at Barnard studying Theatre and Biology. Her most recent work includes being a production assistant for *Look Out Shithead* at La Mama (Object Collection), performing in *Sonic Life of A Giant Tortoise* (Barnard Theatre), and stage managing for *When I Consider Everything That Grew* (NOMADS). She also enjoys working in the Theatre department's scenic shop for her work-study. Many thanks to Alice, Amina, Khayali, Mike, Greg, and the rest of this wonderful team.

**Epiphany Larmey (BC '23, Jackie 4, Run Crew)** Epiphany is a senior at Barnard College with an interest in theater. *Pirandello* is the second play she has been a part of in college. She is just happy to be here!

Allison Letterman (GS '24, Wardrobe Crew) is a junior Theatre major at School of General Studies. She has credits ranging from performing in the New Mexico Shakespeare Festival to assistant directing & tour coordinating with the Silver Kite Intergenerational Theatre Company. Allison is thrilled to be working in the wardrobe department on this incredible show!

**Ava Markhovsky (BC '25, Sirelli & Others)** This is Ava's first show at Columbia University. She is a sophomore transfer to Barnard College who will eventually pick a major, but has so far dabbled in Philosophy and Theatre. Past roles have included

Emma in *Fefu and her Friends*, Alison in *Cry-Baby*, Trix the Aviatrix in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, The Nurse in Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Kate Understudy in *The Wild Party*. She would like to thank Alice, our incredible stage manager and assistant stage manager, and this amazing cast for making this show such a supportive and inspiring environment. Ciao Bellas!

Amelia Mason (BC '24, Dina & Others, Scenic Painter) is a Barnard junior majoring in Theatre and minoring in Sociology, and is delighted to work on a devised piece for the first time! Previously at Barnard/Columbia, she performed in the thesis festival in *The Sonic Life of a Giant Tortoise* and CMTS's *Rocky Horror* (Janet). Thank you to the whole *Pirandello* team for an inspiring and hugely educational process.

Margaret Montagna (Sound Design) is a New York City based sound designer, originally from Brooklyn. Select design credits include: The Panic of '29 (59E59 Studio B), Alison Leiby: Oh God, A Show About Abortion (Cherry Lane Theatre), The Collision/The Martyrdom (59E59 Studio C), Decomposed Theatre (The New School), Family of Lear (Stella Adler Studios), Unstuck (The Tank), The Last Days of Judas Iscariot (The New School), A Woman of the World (59E59 Studio C), Queen (Astoria Boys and Girls Club), Williston (IATI), Holy ghosts (Urban Stages). margaretmontagnasd.com

**Noelle Nafus (BC '24, Assistant Costume Designer)** is a junior at Barnard majoring in Film. Her past credits include costume designing *The Appeal* (Barnard Theatre Department) and *The Knight of the Burning Pestle* (KCST). She is grateful to work with such a wonderful cast and crew, and would like to thank Karen for being a great mentor.

Luigi Pirandello (Playwright, 1867-1936) was an Italian dramatist, novelist, poet, and short-story writer whose greatest achievement was his plays. Pirandello wrote over 40 plays in which he restlessly explored the subjectivity of identity and the mutability of truth. Born in Agrigento (then called Girgenti), Sicily, Pirandello grew up in a wealthy family who owned and operated sulphur mines. Pirandello moved to Rome and then Bonn to study philology. After his marriage to his father's

business partner's daughter, Antonietta Portulano, the sulphur business collapsed, bringing financial ruin onto both families. Antonietta suffered a mental collapse, and Pirandello eventually removed his wife to an asylum where she spent her last four decades. Pirandello was an Italian nationalist and supporter of fascism; with financial support from Benito Mussolini, Pirandello became Artistic Director of Teatro D'arte di Roma and toured around the world with lead actress Marta Abba, with whom he was infatuated. In 1934 Pirandello won the Nobel Prize in Literature.

**Alice Reagan (Director)** Recent directing projects: *The Cherry* Orchard with Portland Experimental Theatre Ensemble and *Measure for Measure* at Shakespeare & Company. Pre-pandemic credits include No Good Things Dwell in the Flesh by Christina Masciotti at Yocum Institute in Reading, PA; *Hir* by Taylor Mac at Shakespeare & Co (two Berkshire Theatre Award nominations); *Grounded* by George Brant at Dobama Theatre (Cleveland Critics Circle Superior Production, Superior Direction, and Best Actress); Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue by Quiara Alegría Hudes at Profile Theatre in Portland, Oregon; *Jackie* by Elfriede Jelinek at Boom Arts; Or, by Liz Duffy Adams at Shakespeare & Co (seven Berkshire Theatre Award nominations including Best Director); *Phaeton (a diggle of a fragment)* by Mac Wellman at Classic Stage Company; Enter THE NIGHT by Maria Irene Fornés with PETE. Alice is Associate Professor of Professional Practice at Barnard, where she founded a commissioning program that brings women-identified playwrights and their work to the College. Upcoming: Evelyn Brown (A Diary) at La MaMa, spring 2023. MA, Performance Studies: NYU/Tisch. MFA, Directing: Columbia.

**Rhys Roffey (Props Supervisor)** is a trans-masculine prop master and designer based in NYC. Previous properties credits include *The Vicksburg Project* (Mabou Mines), *Weightless* (The Women's Project), and upcoming work in *A Delicate Balance* (Connelly Theater) and *Events* (The Brick).

**Natsumi Sasabe (GS '24, Props Assistant)** is a senior Theatre major at the School of General Studies. This is her second time joining departmental productions as a crew member and she enjoyed the process of creating this show so much! She is a former performer at Walt Disney World in Florida; her past credits include puppeteering in the seasonal offering, *Merry Menagerie*.

**Sophie Simons (BC '25, Assistant Lighting Designer)** is a sophomore English/Theatre major at Barnard College. This is her first department credit. Favorite credits include: Sound/Projection Designer (KCSTxCCC Hamlet), Sound/Projection Designer (128th Annual Varsity Show). She is currently producing Antigone for KCST (Oct 28-29) in the GMT, where she is employed as a production assistant.

Greg Winkler (Technical Director) joined the Barnard College Theatre Department in 2007. He also works as an overhire carpenter, welder, and electrician at Hudson Scenic Studios and more recently started work as an automation operator and assistant carpenter on *The Book of Mormon* on Broadway. Greg is a member of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and is certified as an Entertainment Electrician and Theatre Rigger. He holds an MFA in Technical Design and Production from the Yale School of Drama and a BS in Biology with a minor in Theatre Arts from Fairfield University.

## CIRCULAR DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

Since 2012, Theatre faculty, staff, and students have been investigating and developing practices to foster circular design and production methods through reuse and careful material choices. Our goal is to create a systemic, trackable, institutional approach to reducing the emissions created in the production of sets, props, and costumes. We aim to transition from a linear model of "take, make, waste" to a circular approach where our physical resources are locally sourced from reclaimed materials wherever possible and are re-purposed at the end of the show. The many constraints we are all accustomed to in Theatre time, money, architectural realities - can fuel the artistic process and shape the work we produce. We believe that environmental impact should be a critical and necessary constraint of the artistic process, one that will make our work stronger and bring it more in tune with the world in which we live.

For this production of *Pirandello Project*, costume materials purchased were 62% reused materials, 38% new; props for the production were 60% from stock, 30% purchased used, 10% purchased new; scenic materials were 67% from stock and/or reused, 33% purchased new.

Backdrop provided by Gateway Set Rentals Setrentals.com

#### Faculty, Department of Theatre, Barnard College

W. B. Worthen, Alice Brady Pels Professor in the Arts, Chair

Professor, Theatre Division, School of the Arts, Columbia

Professor, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia

Co-Director, Ph.D. in Theatre and Performance, Columbia

Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies, Drama and Theatre Arts, Columbia

Gisela Cardenas, Lecturer

Sandra Goldmark, Associate Professor of Professional Practice

Paige Johnson, Assistant Professor

Shayoni Mitra, Senior Lecturer

Alice Reagan, Associate Professor of Professional Practice

Hana Worthen, Associate Professor

Associate Director of The Center for Translation Studies

Steven Chaikelson, Professor of Professional Practice, Theatre Division, School of the Arts, Columbia

#### Affiliated Faculty

Pam Cobrin, Senior Lecturer, Department of English

Patricia Denison, Senior Lecturer, Department of English

Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies, Drama and Theatre Arts, Columbia

Maja Horn, Associate Professor, Department of Spanish and Latin American Cultures

#### Adjunct Faculty

Mana Allen, Adjunct Lecturer (Acting)

Daniel Baker, Adjunct Lecturer (Sound Design)

Andy Bragen, Adjunct Lecturer (Playwriting)

Autum Casey, Adjunct Lecturer (Lighting Design)

Tatyana-Marie Carlo, Adjunct Lecturer (Directing)

Kyle deCamp, Adjunct Lecturer (Acting and Solo Performance)

Crystal Finn, Adjunct Lecturer (Acting)

Sharon Fogarty, Adjunct Lecturer (Acting and Directing)

Tina Mitchell, Adjunct Lecturer (Acting)

Erica Rotstein, Adjunct Lecturer (History)

Shannon Sindelar, Adjunct Lecturer (Dramaturgy)

#### Staff

Michael Banta, Director of Production Valerie Coates, Faculty Department Assistant Kara Feely, Costume Shop Manager Coretta Grant, Theatre Administrator Greg Winkler, Technical Director

#### Columbia College Interdepartmental Committee on Drama and Theatre Arts

Austin E. Quigley, Brander Matthews Professor of English and Comparative Literature, and Emeritus Dean of the College, Chair Steven Chaikelson, Professor of Professional Practice, Theatre Division, School of the Arts, Columbia

Helene P. Foley, Professor of Classics, Barnard College

W. B. Worthen, Alice Brady Pels Professor in the Arts, Barnard College