

shakespeare 70 presents
in association with kelsey theatre

The Clean House

by sarah ruhl
directed by janet quartarone

january 17 - 26, 2025





WELCOME TO THE KELSEY THEATRE

- 1. Please note the nearest EXIT in case of emergency**
- 2. NO photography or videotaping unless prior permission is obtained from theatre manager**
- 3. Please turn OFF all cell phones and electronic devices**
- 4. NO food or drinks (except water) allowed in the theatre**
- 5. NO smoking allowed on campus (except in your own vehicle)**

Director's Note

The Clean House premiered just over 20 years ago now, when playwright Sarah Ruhl was 30 years old. This play, and her ***Eurydice*** the year before, launched her into the public spotlight. Just 2 years later, she received a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. 2 of her plays, including ***The Clean House***, have been finalists for the Pulitzer prize, and casts and audiences from then until now have been entertained, moved, and sometimes puzzled, by her unique voice.

Still, this play and its playwright will be new to many that sit with us in the theater during this run, and we love that we can share it with you. It's been a gift for us -- exploring a newer play, by an unique artist, is one of the great joys in the theatre: it's exciting to develop a vision of the play in rehearsal without years and years of scholarship and expectations about the play informing the creative choices.

Beyond that, this play, with its quirky but loving outlook, is one that gets underneath your skin -- we fell in love with it, and then fell in love some more. Sarah Ruhl is a keen observer of human nature, its heroism and its failings, and she doesn't judge her characters; she simply gives them a chance to be heard.

These five individuals, like all the rest of us, are just struggling to find their place -- and *their people, their family*. Who are they "meant" to be with? They want to connect.

And, they want to make peace, to discover and follow their bliss, to live or die on their own terms. Of all the journeys we may go on in our lives, there are none more important than these.

There are many people I know, young and old, who I see have found their Soulmates; I think they know who they are, and they have my deep thanks for their inspiration.

My love and appreciation to my hard-working and funny cast, to my incredibly insightful A.D. Maggie, to my life-saving production team, headed by fabulous Fab our Stage Manager, and to our imaginative design and technical team. And to Dale Simon, as always, obrigado por cuidar de mim.

-- Janet Quartarone

Cast & Creative



Jacqueline Booth (Ana / A Woman)

Jackie is very excited to make her acting debut in the Shakespeare 70 production of *The Clean House*. A native New Yorker, she has been a long time resident of Mercer County, NJ where she has studied The Art of Comedy, Scenes and Monologues, and Scene Study in the adult program at Princeton University's McCarter Theater. She wants to thank her family and friends for supporting her passion.

Cast & Creative



Lisbeth Burgos (Matilde)

Lisbeth is so pumped to return to the Kelsey stage for this role. MCCC alum, she will be returning to Montclair State to receive her B.A. in theatre. Previous credits: Kelsey Theatre- *Rent* (Mimi Marquez); BTOP- *In The Heights* (Ensemble); MSU- *Anna In The Tropics* (Female Understudy); Original play by Tamara Torres- *Tres Hermanas* (Euphemia); NAC- *White Christmas* (Ensemble); LHS- *Leading Ladies* (Audrey). Many thanks to this production for keeping me moving as a performer during this semester off. And much love to La Familia always x.

Cast & Creative



Stan Cahill (Charles / A Man)

Stan is excited to be making his debut with Shakespeare 70! Performances include: Off Broadway: *Bombed!* (Stella Adler Theater), *As You Like It* (New York Shakespeare Festival), *Rapture Two-Step* (West Bank Theatre). Regional: *Romeo and Juliet* (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival), *A Few Good Men* (Westport Country Playhouse), *The Misanthrope* (Philadelphia Theatre Guild). Los Angeles: *92 Days*, *Locked Up Down Shorty's* (Powerhouse Theatre), *Sincerity Forever* (Hudson Theatre). Film: *Pearl Harbor*, *A Thousand Acres*. Television: *NYPD Blue*, *Judging Amy*, *Frank Leaves for the Orient*, *JFK: Reckless Youth*, *Will and Grace*, *Third Rock from the Sun* and others. Director: *No Other Gods: A Passion* (World Premiere, Concord NH); *12 Incompetent Men* (UK Premiere, Edinburgh); *Passion Fruit* (World Premiere, Edinburgh); *Markus/Passion* (World Premiere, Washington National Cathedral); *Footprints to Heaven*, *The Night Before Christmas* (BBC Radio). MFA: New York University Graduate Acting Program; BFA: University of Detroit; Certificate: Moscow Art Theatre.

Cast & Creative



Laurie Hardy (Virginia)

Laurie is excited to join Shakespeare 70 in bringing *The Clean House* to the Kelsey stage. Some past roles include Maria Callas (*Master Class*) M'Lynn (*Steel Magnolias*) Dotty Otley (*Noises Off!*) Mrs. Peachum (*Threepenny Opera*) Ethel Thayer (*On Golden Pond*) Nurse (*Romeo and Juliet*) Olive (*Olive and the Bitter Herbs*). Laurie taught and performed in children's theater for many years, and has been actively involved in area community theater for even longer. When not rehearsing, performing and/or studying lines she supports her husband's barbershop chorus habit, and sometimes pretends to be a responsible adult. Thanks to my friends and family for the support and encouragement (and not having me hauled away for talking to the voices in my head.) As always, Papa, when the dust clears, I'm still remembering you.

Cast & Creative




Laura McWater (Lane)

Laura has an MFA in acting from American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco and has been performing since childhood. She was last seen with S70 as Ms Matz in *The Minutes* and is delighted to be back! Some favorite roles include Barbara in *August Osage County*, Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth*, Hermione in *Winter's Tale*, Pamela/Anabella/Margaret in *The 39 Steps*, April in *Company*, Masha in *Three Sisters*, Clara in *Pygmalion* and Cordelia in *King Lear*. She appeared in *Empress of the Moon* at the DC Fringe Festival and Claire in the world premiere of *Making It* at South Coast Repertory. Outside of theater she helps run the family taverns and boxing management companies. She has been honored to work on this beautiful play with this extraordinary group of people. Thank you to Dave for the unwavering support.

Cast & Creative

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Janet Quartarone (Director)

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Janet is an actor, director, and producer, and a member of our Executive Committee. She directed our productions of *The Antipodes*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *The Laramie Project*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Anouilh's Antigone*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Circle Mirror Transformation*, and *The Doctor's Dilemma*, and assistant-directed over a dozen of our summer Shakespeare productions. Acting credits include *All My Sons*, *Clybourne Park*, *Hamlet*, *The Vortex*, *God of Carnage*, *Top Girls*, *A View From the Bridge*, *Candida*, *Hedda Gabler*, *A Delicate Balance*, *Private Lives*, *Macbeth*, *Heartbreak House*, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, *Much Ado About Nothing*. Janet studied at HB Studio; she is a Simulator, V.P., and Director of Marketing for SIMULATIONS, Inc., and lives in Flemington, NJ with her talented husband Dale Simon and their perpetual kittens.

Cast & Creative



Maggie Gronenthal (Assistant Director)

Previous credits with Shakespeare 70 include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Helena), *All My Sons* (Lydia), and Assistant Stage Manager on *The Minutes*. Thank you to the cast and crew for making this such an enriching experience and a very special thank you to Janet for introducing me to the world of directing!

Fabiola Bien-Aimé (Stage Manager)

Fab is absolutely delighted to be collaborating with Shakespeare 70 once again. She is thrilled to be part of such a talented and creative team in this production. She is truly grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this remarkable project. Her next project will be her company, Thank You 5 Productions' presentation of *Kinky Boots* here on the Kelsey Stage in March 2025.

Cast & Creative

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Michael Kierst-Krahel (Producer)

Michael is incredibly proud to be producing this brilliant play and its equally brilliant cast and crew. Michael is no stranger to behind-the-scenes work for S70; he has served as a stage manager (*The Skin of Our Teeth*, *A View from the Bridge*, *Clybourne Park*), a lighting designer (*Circle Mirror Transformation*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Murder Most Foul*, *Clybourne Park*), a director (*Hedda Gabler*), and a (current) member of our Executive Committee. Most often, however, he can be seen onstage. Recent S70 credits include *Richard III*, *Macb**th*, *Murder Most Foul*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Measure for Measure*, and several non-Shakespeare plays. Michael is an Administrative Analyst for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and when he's not working or play-ing, he can be found spending every single second with the wife and son who never fail to make him feel like the luckiest person in the world.

Cast & Creative




Kit Weeden (Assistant Stage Manager)

Kit is thrilled to be officially joining the Shakespeare 70 family as an assistant stage manager. She would like to thank everyone in the cast and crew for welcoming her with open arms, her parents for always supporting her through everything, and Justine, for all you do.

Justine DeNicola (Assistant Stage Manager)

Justine is so grateful to be working on this production alongside such an incredible team! After making her recent S70 stage debut in *Waiting for Lefty*, she is very excited to join a stage management team for the first time ever under the guidance of the wonderful Fab. She would like to thank the cast and crew for welcoming her with open arms, and her partner in both ASMinG and life, Kit, for everything.



Cast & Creative

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Jennifer Boutros (Costume Consultant)


In 2004, Jennifer joined Shakespeare 70 for her very first community theater production, *The Way of the World*. Nearly two decades later, she reunited with this extraordinary company for its productions of *Romeo and Juliet* (Lady Montague) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Stage Manager), and now, she is beyond thrilled to be making her debut as a costume consultant with a company that has been and remains very dear to her. After far too long of a hiatus, Jennifer returned to the theater in the winter of 2019 and performed in *Journey to Broadway* (Ensemble), *Inherit the Wind* (Mrs. Blair), and *The Sound of Music* (Nun). Recent credits include *Something Rotten* (Ensemble), *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Miss Evangeline Barley/Women #3), and *Matilda* (Ensemble). Eager to participate behind the scenes as well, Jennifer served as stage manager for *12 Angry Men*, *Scenery*, *Rent*, and *'Twas the Night before Christmas*; backstage crew for *Cabaret*; and lighting assistant for *Nick Tickle – Fairy Tale Detective*. Most recently, Jennifer made her debut as an assistant director for the Playful Theater Production of *Groundhog Day*. Jennifer would like to thank Shakespeare 70 and a truly remarkable cast and crew for creating such a rewarding experience, and she very much looks forward to joining them again—both on stage and behind the scenes.

Cast & Creative

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Dale Simon (Technical Director)

Dale is an actor, director, and designer. He is on staff at The College of New Jersey serving as the Theater Manager of TCNJ's Kendall Performing Arts Center, and as the Technical Director of college productions. Set design work included *The Minutes*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Waiting For Lefty*, *The Antipodes*, *The Laramie Project*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *La Boheme*, *Sunday in the Park*, and *The School for Scandal*. Director credits are *An Enemy of the People*, *Heartbreak House*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Into the Woods*, *City of Angels*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Uncle Vanya*. As an actor Dale was seen most recently as *Julius Caesar*; other acting credits include Sir John Falstaff, Polonius, Benedick in *Much Ado about Nothing*, Prospero, Nick Bottom, and Sir Toby Belch.

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Angelica Froio (Scenic Artist)

Angelica (she/her) is a third-year student at TCNJ. She is typically found behind the scenes as Lead Set Designer for ACTMT, the resident student-run theatre groups at TCNJ. She is so incredibly happy to have been able to help with this production. Recent credits include *Carrie*, *Macbeth*, *Something Rotten!* and *Birthday Candles*. She would like to thank those with Shakespeare 70 and the staff at Kelsey Theatre for making her feel so incredibly welcome, and wishes the cast and everyone involved to break a leg!

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Cast & Creative



Chris Loos (Sound Design)

Chris would like to thank the company for the opportunity to work on this show. Previous credits with Shakespeare 70 include *Waiting for Lefty* (October 2024), *The Minutes* (March 2024), *All My Sons* (January 2024), and *Julius Caesar* (October 2023). He is also stage managing Shakespeare 70's upcoming production of *Twelfth Night* (March 2025)-- check him out there!

Katie Sillitti (Intimacy Director)

Katie is thrilled to work her first show with Shakespeare 70! She is an actress, singer, fight director and intimacy director and is currently completing the Intimacy Accelerator Program with the IDC (the leading & largest organization training and certifying intimacy professionals worldwide). Previous ID credits include *Dark Matters*, *Streetcar Named Desire*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Bright Star*, *Wisdom of Eve*, *Oklahoma!*, *Cabaret*, *Half Moon*, and *Svetlyachki* (NY Fringe). Thanks to her family who always support her work & her dreams to be the change she wants to see in the world. Proud SAG-AFTRA & SAFD.

Special Thanks



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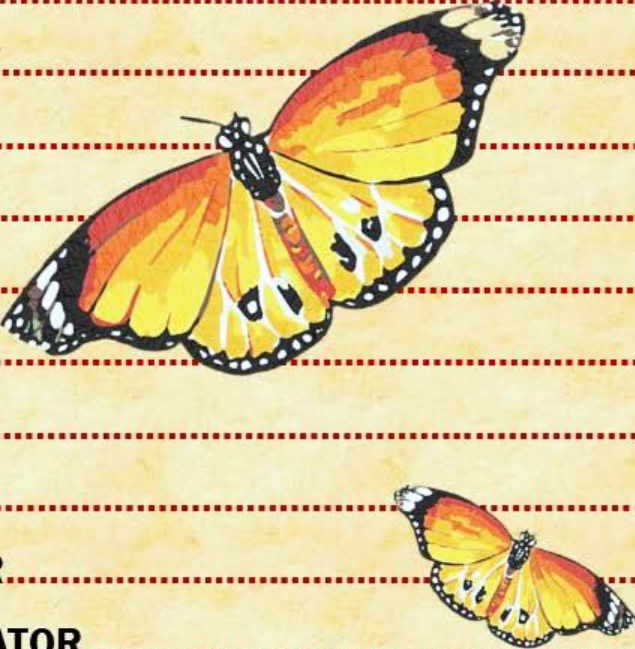
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PRODUCTION ASSSISANT.....	Shawn Simmons
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