

Wesleyan Theater Department Presents

MNEMONIC

by Complicite



Mnemonic by Complicite,
originally conceived
and directed by
Simon McBurney
and devised
by the company

Performances made
possible by kind
permission of
Complicite,
London
www.complicite.org

WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY

Directed by Ali Jamali '17

Presented in partial fulfillment for Honors in Theater
Tuesday-Thursday, March 7-9, 2017

Director's Note

I first encountered Mnemonic in the lobby of a small hotel on 42nd Street in Manhattan while searching the internet for the list of productions nominated for the Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatrical Experience. As I was reading the list on Wikipedia and googling each title in a new tab, I was presented with the following definition:

mne·mon·ic
nə'mänik/

noun

1. a device such as a pattern of letters, ideas, or associations that assists in remembering something.

adjective

1. aiding or designed to aid the memory.

My convoluted relationship with memory, the eternal cycle of remembering and the yearning to forget, was not a reason enough for me to direct this play. But, when I first read Mnemonic, something strange happened: I couldn't visualize the world of the play. As a person who has a strong tendency to imagine while reading a play, my mind was filled with a void that left me irritated, defeated, and furious. Upon deeper investigation, I discovered when these two elements, memory and imagination, joined forces in guiding me, I could come to view them as complements rather than substitutes in the act of creation on stage. Once this recognition occurred, my mind was flooded with visuals and concepts persuading me to embark on a three-semester journey of directing and scenic designing this play.

Mnemonic offers you fragments of its story in an effort to shine a light on your own path towards finding meaning within the world you perceive of being created in the present moment before you and then how you remember it. It is a play that consciously asks questions about the nature of memory, yet it does not presume to provide complete answers. Instead, it requires us to actively engage in the act of remembering, thus creating memory and simultaneously forcing us to use our imaginations.

- Ali Jamali

CAST

Ray Achan '19
Ella Larsen '20
Noah Seltzer '20
Jordan Tragash '18
Sophie Dora Tulchin '20
Unique Wenxuan Xue '19

Thesis Advisor: Kim Weild

Design Advisors:

Marcela Oteíza & Calvin Anderson

Production Manager: Rebecca Foster

Technical Director: Nola Werlinch

Composers:

Gymnopedie

No. 1

Erik Satie

Searching for You I & II

Unique Wenxuan Xue

Clair de Lune

Claude Debussy

CREW

Director.....Ali Jamali
 Assistant Director.....Yichen Eva Lou
 Costume Designer.....Emily Rose Don
 Lighting Designer.....Kai Magee
 Projection Designer.....Kai Magee
 Scenic Designer.....Ali Jamali
 Sound Designer.....Gabriel Drozdov
 Assistant Sound Designer.....Gabriel Smith
 Stage Manager.....Teresa Naval
 Assistant Stage Managers.....Elizabeth Phan, Marcos Plaud Rivera
 Props Master.....Ali Jamali
 Master Carpenters.....Tom Fischer, Max Weiner
 Carpenters.....Levi Ask, Daniel Gordon, Danielle Lobo
 Master Electrician.....Jamie Shi
 Electricians.....Justin Kim, Olivia Riddick, Maia Nelles-Sager
 Sound Engineer.....Gabriel Smith
 Light Board Operator.....Marcos Plaud Rivera
 Sound Board Operator.....Gabriel Smith
 Video Operators.....Jennifer Gagné, Rebecca Hsieh, Elizabeth Phan
 Poster Design.....Jonah Toussaint
 Program Editor.....Rachel Sobelsohn
 Run Crew.....Kailee Chimento, Yuan Wang, Jejomar Erln Ysit

THEATER DEPARTMENT

Dawn Alger.....Administrative Assistant
 Calvin Anderson.....Visiting Assistant Professor of Theater
 Katherine Brewer Ball.....Visiting Assistant Professor of Theater
 Rebecca Foster.....Visiting Assistant Professor of Theater
 Quiara Alegría Hudes.....Shapiro Distinguished Professor of Writing
 Ronald S. Jenkins.....Professor of Theater
 Christian L. Milik.....Visiting Instructor in Theater
 Cybele Moon.....Visiting Assistant Professor of Theater
 Cláudia Tatinge Nascimento.....Professor of Theater
 Edward Torres.....Visiting Assistant Professor of Theater
 Kim Weild.....Visiting Associate Professor of Theater
 John F. Carr.....Professor of Theater, Emeritus
 William H. Francisco.....Professor of Theater, Emeritus
 Gay Smith.....Professor of Theater, Emerita
 Leslie A. Weinberg.....Retired Artist-in-Residence, Theater

Office Staff

Jessica Cummings, Cheyanne Williams, Ryan Dobrin

Costume Shop Staff

Celina Bernstein, Connie Des Marais, Hope Fourie, Susana Hair,
 Erin Hussey, Dominoc Jones, Regina Melady, Sofia Navarrete Zur,
 Sofie Somoroff

Technical Staff

Chloe Briskin, Devon Cooper, Jessica Cummings, Anthony Dean,
 Thomas Fischer, Anna Fox, Daniel Gordon, Claire Graham, Sofia Kinney,
 Amanda Larsen, Maia Nelles-Sager, Laura Pérez Maquedano,
 Destiny Polk, Blake Pritchard, Amanda Rose, Olivia Riddick, Jamie Shi, Rose
 Shuker-Haines, Avi Stein, Sydney Taylor-Klaus, Jordan Tragash,
 Max Weiner, Andrea Weires, Nola Werlinich, Cheyanne Williams,
 Jejomar Erln Ysit

Production Lab

Ray Achan, Shiri Benmoshe, Gabe Brosius, Ramsay Burgess, Jacob Casel, Zurich
 Deleon, Griffin Godsick, Isaac Gotterer, Maxwell Halperin,
 Vienna Kaylan, Pryor Krugman, Ella Larsen, Madison McClain-Frederick,
 Nathan Mullen, Teresa Naval, Naomi Okada, Alex O'Shea, Elizabeth Phan,
 Katherine Puntiel, Maggie Rothberg, Gabriel Smith,
 Unique Wenxuan Xue

CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Director.....	Sarah Curran
Interim Associate Director for Programs.....	Michelle Grove
Associate Director for Facilities & Technical Operations.....	Mark Gawlak
Art Director.....	John Elmore
Press and Marketing Director.....	Andrew R. Chatfield
Interim Box Office Manager.....	Christina Leone
Assistant Director for Programs.....	Hanna Oravec
Technical Director/CFA Theater Manager.....	Suzanne M. Sadler
Assistant Technical Director/Sound & Video Specialist.....	Robert Russo
Assistant Technical Director/Scenery Specialist.....	Charles Carroll
Business Manager.....	Alecia Goldfarb
Program Manager, Center for the Arts Initiatives.....	Rosemary Lennox
Program Coordinator.....	Ariana Molokwu
Gallery Supervisor.....	Aidan Earle
Assistant Technical Director.....	Cazimir Bzdyra
Technical Associate.....	Anthony Hernandez
Art Studio Technician, Assistant Professor of Art.....	Kate TenEyck
Campus and Community Engagement Manager.....	Rani Arbo

Upcoming Events

Theater Capstone Production

up your aesthetic.

Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8, 2017 – times to be announced

Theater Studio

“Women are defective by nature.” – Aristotle

A disruptive, devised, women-only performance piece juxtaposing the rage and grief felt by modern women with the Ancient Greek myths of the Amazons.

This senior capstone project in theater was conceived and created by Jessica Cummings '17, Constance Des Marais '17, Nola Werlinich '17 and Cheyanne Williams '17

Thesis Theater Production

Through Everchanging Tracks of Neverchanging Space

Thursday, April 13 through Saturday, April 15, 2017 – times to be announced

Olin Library

Text adaptation and direction by May Treuhaft-Ali '17

“Plenty to see and hear and feel yet. Feel live warm beings near you. Warm beds: warm fullblooded life.”

Ulysses is a love story. It is a story about the love between a husband and wife, and the love between a parent and child. It is a story about three individuals searching for a sense of belonging in a community that marginalizes them. It is a story about flowers, hot chocolate, farts, flirtations, shooting stars, and the myriad moments that can transform an ordinary day into an epic journey. Because Ulysses is the epic of everyday life, this piece will be site-specific and take place in the Olin Library, as a theatrical intervention in the public sphere.

This thesis production is directed by May Treuhaft-Ali '17, in partial fulfillment for Honors in Theater

Faculty Theater Production

Islands

Friday, April 21, 8pm, Saturday, April 22, 2pm & 8pm

CFA Theater

Directed by Ronald Jenkins, Professor of Theater “Islands” is a play celebrating the arts as a means of resistance to colonialism, slavery and injustice. The story begins with two seventeenth century European superpowers trading Manhattan for an East Indies spice island, without the consent of their inhabitants, and moves through the history of other islands of oppression from Malcolm X in solitary confinement to Nelson Mandela’s Robben Island to Aung San Suu Kyi in Myanmar to contemporary Puerto Rico to African Immigrants in refugee camps on Lampedusa.

**THE CAST AND CREW OF MNEMONIC WOULD LIKE TO
EXTEND THEIR GRATITUDE TO**

Dawn Alger
Calvin Anderson
Jess Cummings
Anthony Dean
John Elmore
Rebecca Foster
Joomy Korkut
Pat Ludwig
Petra Magee
Simon McBurney
Ellen Nerenberg
Marcela Oteiza
Emmanuel Paris-Bouvret
Shelley Rothman
Robert Russo
Kim Weild
Nola Werlinich
Cheyanne Williams