

# Upcoming Productions

## Fury

By Sydney Duncan '24\*  
Directed by Ella Talerico '25  
November 30 & December 1, 2023

## The Game

by Solomon Hess '24  
*Recipient of the Marilyn Swartz Seven '69 Annual Playwriting Award*  
Directed by Mauricio Miranda  
A reading part of MODFEST Festival  
January 26 8:00pm and January 27 2:00pm Powerhouse Theater

## Skin

By Naomi Iizuka  
Directed by Liz Dahmen  
Senior Project Members Erin Mee, Matthew Fisher, Vi To  
February 22, 23, 24 8:00pm Powerhouse Theater  
SKIN is produced by special arrangement with THE GERSH AGENCY, 41 Madison Avenue, 29th Floor, NYC 10010

## Hurricane Diane

By Madeleine George  
Directed by Kendall Wienecke '24\*  
Senior Project Members: Kendall Wienecke, Anica Acuna-Gallardo, Riley Bates  
March 28, 29, 30 8:00pm The Martel Theater  
Special arrangement made through Concord Theatricals. Sponsored in part by the E.J. Safirstein '83 Memorial Fund

## Or

By Liz Duffy Adams  
Directed by Conrad Schott  
Senior Project Members: Faith Hernandez, Maddie Brigman, Sam Geesing  
April 18, 19, 20 8:00pm Powerhouse Theater  
OR, is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service

\*Denotes senior project member

Email: [boxoffice@vassar.edu](mailto:boxoffice@vassar.edu)

Call: (845) 437-5599

Website: <http://drama.vassar.edu>

Individuals requiring accommodations should contact the box office in advance.



# Bacchanal

Written by Stefen Dodson '24\*

Directed by Christopher Grabowski

Steerman New Play Series

November 29 & December 2, 2023

8:00pm

Powerhouse Theater

\*Denotes senior project member



## CAST

Georgia	Alissa Seedansingh '26
Kingston	Damon Dennis
Kimona	Eden Radifera '26
Pam	Elena Henderson-Downey '24
Ciriana	Zerah Ruiz '25
Lauren	Katie Brady-Gold '26
Dexter	Andres Almonte '24

## PRODUCTION

Playwright	Stefen Dodson '24*
Director	Christopher Grabowski
Assistant Director	Tess Foley-Cox '26
Stage Manager	Yining Shang '25
Choreographer	Grace Fure '27
Movement Advisor	Hannah Gaff
Sound Designer	Stefen Dodson '24*
Lighting Designer	Faith Hernandez '24
Scenic/Props Designer	Aidan Skelly '26
Costume Designer	Kenisha Kelly
Casting Consultant	Heidi Eklund/hudsonvalleycasting.com
Light & Sound Board Operator	Jamie Walsh '25
Run Crew	Joe Lippman '26
Run Crew	Mia LaBianca '26
Costume Run Crew	Molly Stern '25

\* Denotes senior project member

## DRAMA DEPARTMENT WORK STUDY STUDENTS

### Costume Shop

Interns:	Celeste Brinkhuis '24, Madison Powell '24, Jazmine Williams '26
Costume History & Design Research:	W. Ashton Scott '26
Costume Collection Research Assistant:	August Pointer Mace '26
Costume Shop Technicians:	Grace Fure '27, Eli Hinerfeld '24, Majka Kiely-Miller '27, Georgia Macy '24, Elsie McKendry '26, Noe Perry-Greene '26, Eden Radifera '26, Emma Raff '26, Anisa Schmeil '27, Ava Sclafani '25, Abigail Straus '25, Jazmine Williams '26

### Electrics Shop

Lighting Intern:	Xander Setchko '24
Electrics Crew:	Willow Eaton '27, Devin Gearty '25, Harry Malins '26, Erin Mee '24, Eliana Mor '27, Avery Nahf '26, Ella Talerico '25, Ki'tsai Zangpo '25

### Scenic Shop

Scenic Intern:	Riley Bates '24
Scenic Crew:	Becca Bogstad '26, Zach Cohen '24, Eli Levitt '24, Alex Roth '24, Maria Shansongga '27, Aiden Skelly '26, Jasper Smith '25, Avery Turnbull '26, Jamie Walsh '25, Kendall Wienecke '24, Yuchen Zhou '24

## **DRAMA DEPARTMENT FACULTY AND STAFF**

Director of Theater	Peter Gil Sheridan
Costume Design	Kenisha Kelly
Production Manager	Patience Haskell
Technical Director	James Hunting
Costume Shop Manager	Leigh Davis
Scenic Design	Dan Daly
Publicity/Box Office/Front of House	Joan Gerardi

### **Drama Department Interns**

Production Management	Maggie Young '25
Stage Management	Anica Acuña '24

### **Drama Box Office Staff**

Assistants:	Miriam Barker '27
	Sophia Fredericks '26
	Alejandra Robins '24
Drama Department Photographer:	Quin Taylor '27

### **Ushers**

Kate Powell '27, Justine Rabley '27, Keilee Takata '27,  
Fig Whitehead '26, Javier Wilson '27

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

God (Big Homie G)

My parents

My grandparents

My family

LP

My friends

The Caribbean

The Drama Department & Vassar College

Kimberly Williams Brown

Dean Wendy Maragh Taylor

Tyrone Simpson

Talent Davis & JahDey Wright

All who auditioned and patiently waited for results!

&

Last but certainly not least: my cast and crew, who realized my written work with high fidelity and helped me improve my play!

**Alla wanna di best!**

**A MESSAGE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT,  
STEFEN DODSON '24\***

Welcome to the world premiere of my play, *Bacchanal*, happening nowhere else in the world but Vassar College! :D

I'm excited for this opportunity to share my art with you tonight, to both enjoy it with you and hear your thoughts afterwards. *Bacchanal* is one of my experiments in broaching complex topics (e.g., racism, infidelity, religion, etc.) in a jovial and thoughtful manner, and in a way that reflects real life and not some form of polished idealism.

Furthermore, *Bacchanal* has been a project aimed at increasing racioethnic representation on the stage. My lovely cast is composed of a majority of students of color (6/7), with ethnic ties to several Caribbean countries, including, *inter alia*, Trinidad, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica. Given that my own family hails from Barbados, Trinidad, and Colombia, it was important for me to provide stage presence to a diverse group of students.

In many ways, *Bacchanal* is a piece of opposition to hegemonic whiteness. In its subject matter, musical composition, and efforts in representation, *Bacchanal* reminds us of the beauty of communities of color and what we have to express. Writing, casting, and producing this piece was no easy feat at a primarily white institution, yet still the story commanded to be told. I'm grateful to all who helped make this happen.

So tonight, I hope you sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

**A MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF THEATER  
PETER GIL-SHERIDAN**

The Steerman Festival has changed this year. For our 4th iteration of brand new work written by our Seniors, the Steerman Festival has become The Steerman Series. The series is named for James Steerman to honor his work as the longtime chair of the Drama and Film Department. The Drama Department hoped to support the 5 writers who wished to see their plays produced. But we also recognized what a major undertaking that has been to do all of them in one or two back to back weekends.

When I came to Vassar three years ago, I'd hoped to build a robust festival of new work that showcased our student's ingenuity and vision for the future of American Theatre. Through the hard work of our students, faculty, and staff, Vassar has become a place where new work by living writers is at the heart of our curriculum and season.

Solomon Hess was up first with his solo performance piece, *When I Grow Up*, a comic rendering of his journey from childhood to adulthood. In early November, Jean Fassler will premiere their play *Seven Minutes* and Joe Baldwin will premiere his play *Forever and Sometimes*, two plays that wrestle with mortality and the meaning of why we live. And in December we'll enter Stefen Dodson's world through his play *Bacchanal*, the story of young Caribbean-Americans navigating life and love in New York. We'll also be introduced to Sydney Duncan's, *Fury*, a modern re-telling of the *Oresteia*.

I continue to be filled with pride that I work at a college that puts so many resources and so much care into the realization of new work. Alongside the writers, our designers and technicians are building new worlds, our actors are originating roles that have never been filled, and our directors are interpreting ever-shifting texts to bring the writer's best vision to life. It's an enormous undertaking and I am grateful to you, our community, for giving audience to these original dramas.