

Upcoming Productions

Fall 2023

Forever and Sometimes

By Joe Baldwin '24*

Directed by Claire McHarg*

November 2 & 3, 2023

Seven Minutes

By Jean Fassler '24*

Directed by Abby Bettencourt '25

November 1 & 4, 2023

Bacchanal

By Stefen Dodson '24*

Directed by Christopher Grabowski

November 29 & December 2, 2023

Fury

By Sydney Duncan '24*

Directed by Ella Talerico '25

November 30 & December 1, 2023

Spring 2024

The Game

by Solomon Hess '24

Modfest reading

Powerhouse Theater

January 26 8:00pm

The Game

By Solomon Hess '24

Private Reading & Reception

January 27 2:00pm

Skin

By Naomi Iizuka

February 22, 23, 24 8:00pm

SKIN is produced by special arrangement with THE GERSH AGENCY, 41 Madison Avenue, 29th Floor, New York, NY 10010

Hurricane Diane

By Madeleine George

Directed by Kendall Wienecke* '24

March 28, 29, 30 8:00pm

Special arrangement made through Concord Theatricals. Sponsored in part by the E. J. Safirstein '83 Memorial Fund

Or

By Liz Duffy Adams

April 18, 19, 20 8:00pm

OR, is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service

*Denotes senior project member

Email: boxoffice@vassar.edu

Call: (845) 437-5599

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

Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations or information on accessibility should contact the box office in advance.



When I Grow Up

Written by Solomon Hess '24*

Directed by Grace Cazzaniga '24

Steerman New Play Series

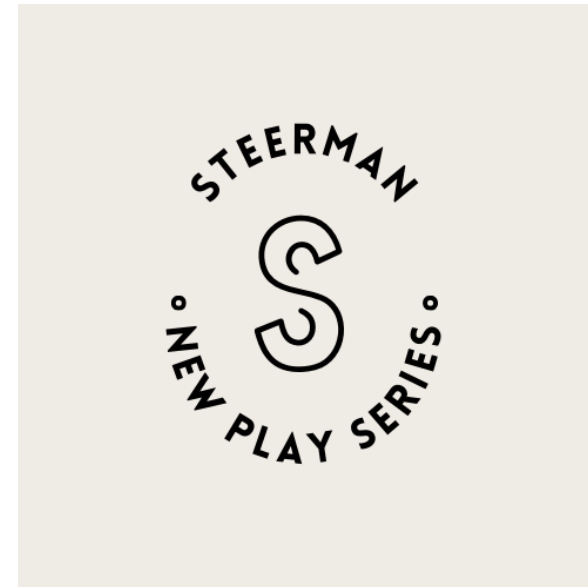
October 5 & 6, 2023

8:00pm

Martel Theater

Vogelstein Center for Drama and Film

*Denotes senior project member



DRAMA DEPARTMENT FACULTY AND STAFF

Director of Theater	Peter Gil-Sheridan
Costume Design	Kenisha Kelly
Production Manager	Patience Haskell
Technical Director	James Hunting
Scenic Design Faculty	Dan Daly
Costume Shop Manager	Leigh Davis
Acting/Movement Coach	Hannah Gaff
Dialect Coach	Conrad Schott
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:

Cassandra Brook '27, Delaney Eiland '26, Miranda Fishkin '27, Celeste Hall '27, Noa Gafni '27, Mary Lemza '27, Lily Recht '27, Anisá Schmeil '27, Kaleb Wong '27, Jason Wong '27

A MESSAGE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT, SOLOMON HESS '24*

What to say, what to say; how do you decide what to say when this whole stupid show is about you? Or the “heightened character.” What to say without giving too much away? I have been thinking about what this would look like for almost three years now. I sought to blur the lines of stand-up and theatre and to make it introspective and deep and blahblahblah nothing revolutionary, but it felt like the best way to summarize my college education: doing too much too fast. Even that isn’t entirely unique. At the very least, I wanted to entertain; because to me, that is the purpose of the stage, a place for escape through entertainment. The first stage I really remember being on was the field. I loved organized sports since rec soccer and little league baseball, even if I was doing more wrestling or nose picking than actual playing. But that was my stage, that’s where I loved to perform first and where I felt the most at home for a long time. As I got more serious about sports though, in late middle school/early high school, it became less of a stage, less fun.

The pressure put on me by others, as well as myself, made me hate playing games designed to be a fun escape from reality. Unfortunately, I didn’t feel I had a place to talk about these changes and the toll they were taking on me, certainly not within any of my athletic communities. That’s why I’ve partnered with Morgan’s Message, a non-profit organization focused on de-stigmatizing the conversations surrounding mental health in the student athlete community and equalizing the treatment of physical and mental health in athletics. You can learn more about them at MorgansMessage.org and in the lobby after the show. Right now, get comfy, cozy, and ready for a show critics have called “a real hoot!”

**A MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF THEATRE
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 is 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.

SPECIAL THANKS

John McCreery

Ivy McWilliams

Maria Idoni

The Womp Haus

The Bocklet Family

Marc, Jennifer, and Selah Hess