



*Theatre*OCU

PRESENTS

The Revolutionists

BY

LAUREN GUNDERSON

DIRECTED BY

LISI LEVY

SOUND DESIGN
DES BARRETT
HARLEY HARRIS

STAGE MANAGER
KRISTINA LENKOWSKY

LIGHTING DESIGN
ETHAN DREZNER

BURG THEATRE

Friday, March 5, 2021 at 8:00PM

Saturday, March 6, 2021 at 8:00PM

The Revolutionists is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Commissioned and first produced by Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park.

CAST

OlympeGinger Harris

Marianne Tierra Matthews

Charlotte Kelsey Oden

Marie Kirby Crosbie

Olympe Cover Miranda Moore

Marianne Cover Christian Donnerson

Marie/Charlotte SwingAbigail Jolliff

DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Lisi Levy

Stage Manager..... Kristina Lenkowsky

Assistant Stage Manager Genevieve Gallant

Lighting DesignEthan Drezner

Assistant Lighting Design Preston Hunt

Sound Design..... Des Barrett

Co-Sound Design..... Harley Harris

Light Board Operator Kayleigh Adams

Sound Board OperatorLily Parker

DeckOscar Jaimez

SPECIAL THANKS

Meredith England

Lauren Smith

Mary Brozina Wierick

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When I sat down to write this, I had no idea what to say. Similar to one of our heroines in this story, I was fighting writer's block. As we come upon the anniversary of our confinement due to COVID-19, I look back to a year ago when I submitted this play for Stage II, and the ways in which I hoped it might resonate with an audience. I wrote in submission of this title that "The Revolutionists is an incredibly apropos title to include in the Stage II 2020-2021 season, as we, like the women of this play, are facing political turmoil around us constantly. This story will not only give us a laugh in that time of turmoil, but a reminder of the world we hope to create as artists."

Wow, I had no idea.

So, what are the ingredients for a good political revolution? By the French definition, it might include: a bread shortage, an indulgent queen, angry mobs, heads on pikes, guillotines, and journalists with big pens, and even bigger egos. Yet, if we look beyond the most obviously violent and garish details of the French Revolution, we start to examine the lives of real women. Women who were fighting for what they thought was right in spite of the terror taking place around them. We see a society filled with people whose needs are not being met by those in power, imploring them for change. We see voices without platforms, stories of injustice going untold, and a lack of transparency and truth everywhere.

And in a time of revolution, who can we rely on to tell the truth? To find the common thread that keeps us connected as a society and prevents us from drawing lines so deep in the sand that they create a chasm too wide to be bridged? The artists. Playwrights, poets, musicians, actors, painters, and storytellers alike hold the weight of truth in the hour of change. They help us realize in our darkest moments that we are not alone, and that the truth will out itself someday.

I'd argue we have a bit in common with these women. Yes, we are stuck in our homes, on couches and in front of screens, instead of on red velvet chairs in front of curtains, but change still yearns to be unleashed, stories still go untold, political revolutions are still fought, and truth still finds its way to us. We still show up to the theatre to see our lives reflected back to us and remind us what we're fighting for.

As Gunderson shows us:

"It might be fiction, but it's not fake. The beating hearts in front of you are real. The gathering of people is real. The time we spend together, this time, is real. The story is real when it starts."

Thanks for tuning in. May we gather together for a good story (and a good laugh) again soon.

And so, a story begins...

BIOS

GINGER HARRIS (*Olympe*) She/her. Ginger is a senior BFA Acting major with a minor in Directing from Plano, TX. Recent OCU credits include *The Acid Test*, *Keep Me In Mind*, and *Woe is Me*. She would like to thank her teachers for their guidance, her family and friends for their loving support, and her fellow cast mates and creative team for their passionate collaboration throughout this process.

TIERRA MATTHEWS (*Marianne*) She/her. Tierra is a junior BFA Acting major from Oklahoma City, OK, excited to be debuting in her first Stage II performance. Recent OCU credits include *Woe is Me* (Antigone), *The Trojan Women* (Ensemble), and *The Wolves* (#11). She is grateful to experience the abundant passion from the talented cast, director, and crew for *The Revolutionists*. Tierra would like to thank her family and her friends for their unconditional love and support.

KELSEY ODEN (*Charlotte*) She/her. Kelsey is a sophomore BFA Acting major from Haslet, TX. This is the second Stage II production she has been a part of, the first being *On to Victory!* (Ensemble Member). She is so excited to share this story and would like to thank everyone involved in this show for all of their hard work and dedication with such little time to prepare. She would also like to thank her friends and family for their endless love and support.

KIRBY CROSBIE (*Marie*) She/her. Kirby is a senior BFA Acting major with minors in Directing and Theatre For Young Audiences from Lexington, KY. Recent OCU credits include *Woe Is Me*, *Poor Murderer*, and *Is He Dead?*. She is also a co-founder of the student movement troupe, Pyre. She cannot believe this is her final show at OCU and is so grateful for the opportunity to perform under the circumstances of the pandemic. She would like to thank Lisi and the rest of team for bringing joy back into her life during this dark time. She would like to thank her professors, family, friends, roommates, and Ben for their continued support.

MIRANDA MOORE (*Olympe Cover*) They/them. Miranda is a first year BFA Acting major from Oregon, Wisconsin. They are very excited to be making their OCU theatre debut in *The Revolutionists*. Miranda would like to thank the cast, Jennifer Yancey, and Michael Ducett for their unconditional support and education. Special thanks go out to Miranda's Mom, Dad, brother and best friend, Brendan for always believing in Miranda and pushing them to achieve their dreams.

ABIGAIL JOLLIFF (*Marie/Charlotte Swing*) She/her. Abigail is a first year BFA Acting major from Little Rock, AR. She is thrilled to be making her OCU theatre debut in *The Revolutionists*. Abigail would like to thank the incredible cast and crew for helping her grow as a performer and encouraging her creative voice. In addition, she would like to acknowledge her amazing friends and boyfriend who encouraged and pushed her through the audition process. Finally, Abigail would like to thank her Mom, Dad, Sister, and Grandmother for providing the constant encouragement, support, inspiration, motivation, and love that pushed her to follow her dreams.

PRODUCTION BIOS

LISI LEVY (*Director*) She/her. Lisi is a senior BFA Acting major and Directing minor from Saint Louis, MO. Recent credits include *John Proctor is the Villain* (Director), *Next Fall* (Assistant Director), *Picnic* (Assistant Director), *Woe Is Me* (First Player), and *Mother Courage and Her Children* (Ensemble). Lisi would like to thank her cast for their commitment to this story, Hal & Courtney for supporting her journey, and her friends & family for their constant love.

DES BARRETT (*Sound Design*) They/them. Des is a senior BFA Acting major from Houston, TX, making their sound design debut. This is their first time behind the table, and they would like to thank the folks at Stage II and *The Revolutionists'* creative team for this opportunity. Many thanks to their co-designer for all the work they've done for this piece. Special thanks also to their roommates, their family, and Harley Harris for all of their support. They hope you enjoy the show.

HARLEY HARRIS (*Sound Design*) They/them. Harley is a junior BA Theatre and Performance major from Amarillo, TX, making their OCU sound design debut with Des Barrett. Recent credits include *Ophelia Underwater* (Director) for Out Of The Box and *Woe is Me* (Assistant Sound Design), *Trojan Women* (Assistant Sound Design), and *Spring Awakening* (Assistant Sound Design) for OCU Mainstage. Harley would like to thank their friends, family, mentor, and co-designer for all of their love and support.