



elemeno pea

By Molly Smith Metzler

Directed by Shana Gozansky

Nov. 2 - 19

Elemeno Pea is presented
by special arrangement with
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Boston University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences
Playwriting



A WELCOME FROM OUR ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Dear Friends:

It is my very great pleasure to RE-introduce you to Molly Smith Metzler and her play *Elemeno Pea*. Molly was with us at the turn of the century (2002) when she earned her MA in Playwriting. We produced her award-winning play *Training Wisteria* for our entry into the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival that year, and it won three (unprecedented!) awards there, including the National Student Playwriting Award, the David Mark Cohen Award, and the Mark Twain Comedy Award. This was an auspicious beginning to her future as a dramatist, and our expectations have been rewarded and exceeded. To support her playwriting habit, Molly has written teleplays for *Orange is the New Black*, *Shameless*, and *Casual*, and her screenplay adaptation of Ali Benjamin's *The Thing About Jellyfish* is in the works. *Elemeno Pea* first appeared at the Humana Festival at the Actors Theatre of Louisville in 2011 (and featured one of our BU alumni, Kimberly Parker Green, as Simone). The play went on to entertain audiences at South Coast Rep., Mixed Blood Theatre Company, and more. Molly has re-thought the play for this Boston premiere, and I think you'll find it even funnier and more moving than her original draft. Molly returned to the Actors Theatre of Louisville this year with her new play *Cry It Out*, another hit at the Humana Festival. We're more than proud of her accomplishments. Congratulations, Molly!

Next on our schedule is Walt McGough's *Brawler*, a look at the world of hockey and the challenges that come with the physical and mental demands of the sport. Directed by Kitchen Theatre's new Artistic Director M. Bevin O'Gara, the play will open March 1 and run for three weekends, then move to Ithaca, NY, for a second premiere there. This is how we love to work—bringing the plays to you, then re-shaping and re-envisioning to make them even more potent for newer audiences. This is why this work is so demanding and so exciting all at once, so thank you for being a part of our journey.

Last on the docket in April is the award-winning opera *The Rosenbergs*, supported in large part by the Elie Wiesel Center for Judaic Studies, the Jewish Cultural Endowment, and the Center for the Humanities at Boston University. Free to all BU staff, faculty, and students, this opera explores the tragic love

affair between Ethel and Julius Rosenberg during the heart of the Cold War in the 1950s.

So you see, it is our ambition to bring you the best new works for the stage. You're the reason we exist, and you're the reason we succeed. Thank you! See you at the Theatre.

Sincerely,

Kate Snodgrass

Boston Playwrights' Theatre
presents

elemeno pea

by Molly Smith Metzler
directed by Shana Gozansky

Scenic Design	Jeffrey Petersen
Lighting and Sound Design	David Wilson**
Costume Design	Rachel Padula-Shufelt
Stage Manager	Katherine Humbert*
Production Assistant	Laura Neill
Master Carpenter	Jacob Desousa
Carpentry Assistants	Steven Doucette, Danny Hochster, Logan Lower, Lida Rubenava
Light and Sound Board Operator	Katherine Humbert*
Master Electrician	Matthew Breton
Electricians	Emily Bearce, Johny Lewis, Matthew Robson, David Silber, LeeAnna Studt
Costume Master	Marzie Ghasempour
Properties Artisan	Kira Rockwell
Paint Charge	Courtney Licata
House Managers	Anna Oehlberg, Linda Seminario
Front of House Staff	Beirut Balutis, Sam Dooley, Marzie Ghasempour, Matt Manarchy, Kira Rockwell, Sarah Shin

CAST

Simone	Lydia Barnett-Mulligan*
Michaela	Samantha Richert*
Devon	Amanda Collins*
Jos-B	Jaime Carrillo*
Ethan	Barlow Adamson*

Elemeno Pea is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

*Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.

**Member, United Scenic Artists Local USA 829

Elemeno Pea runs 95 minutes with no intermission.

***The video and/or audio recording of this performance
by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.***

CAST & CREW

BARLOW ADAMSON* (Ethan) is always happy to return to Boston Playwrights' Theatre where he was last seen in *The Honey Trap*. He has performed on many other local stages including SpeakEasy Stage Company (*Kurt Vonnegut's Make Up Your Mind, Reckless, Almost Maine, Fuddy Meers*); Huntington Theatre Company (*The Maiden's Prayer, A Month In The Country*); Lyric Stage Company (*Chinglish, Time Stands Still, The Scene, Private Lives, Noises Off, Red Herring*); Bridge Repertory Theater (*Sixty Miles To Silver Lake*); Underground Railway (*Paradise, Yesterday Happened: Remembering H.M.*); Nora Theatre Company (*Marjorie Prime, Operation Epsilon, On The Verge, The Swan, Stop Kiss*); Gloucester Stage Company (*The Norman Conquests, Dinner With Friends*); New Repertory Theatre (*A Christmas Story*). Barlow directed the Mill 6 Collaborative's productions of *Shakespeare's R+J, Bunbury: A Serious Play For Trivial People*, and *The Monster Tales*, as well as the world premieres of John J King's *From Denmark With Love* and *Bear Patrol* for Vaquero Playground.

LYDIA BARNETT-MULLIGAN* (Simone) is a Resident Acting Company member of Actors' Shakespeare Project and has performed and trained at Shakespeare & Company in Lenox since the age of 15. She has worked across the country on new and classical works at Williamstown Theatre Festival, Tennessee Shakespeare Company, Elm Shakespeare Company, Gloucester Stage, Central Square Theater, Stoneham Theatre, Fresh Ink Theatre, Commonwealth Shakespeare, Bay Colony Shakespeare, Holland Productions, and the Salon at the Mount. Lydia is a graduate of Williams College and a proud member of Actors' Equity. She can be seen next onstage at Shakespeare & Company in *Miss Bennet, Christmas at Pemberly* and at Actors' Shakespeare Project in *Much Ado About Nothing*. www.lydiabarnettmulligan.com

JAIME CARRILLO* (Jos-B) performed in *King Lear, MARAT/SADE, Macbeth, Mother Courage and Her Children*, and *Dream on Monkey Mountain* during his six years as a company member of the Classical Theatre of Harlem. Regional credits include Woolly Mammoth Theatre (Helen Hayes Nomination), GALA Hispanic Theatre, and Studio Theatre. In Boston, Jaime has performed with Actors' Shakespeare Project, Central Square Theater, Lyric Stage, and SpeakEasy Stage (Winner, Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Production). TV credits: *Saturday Night Live!* Training: The William Esper Studio; BA with honors in Theater Arts, Brandeis University. Jaime is a Lucille Lortel Award-winning producer and was assistant producer on *Waiting for Godot In New Orleans*.

AMANDA COLLINS* (Devon) previously appeared at Boston Playwrights' in Melinda Lopez's *Back The Night*. Regional theatre: *To Kill A Mockingbird, The Totalitarians, Out of Sterno* (IRNE Nomination, Best Actress), *This Is Our Youth, 9 Circles* (Gloucester Stage Company); *The Seagull* (Harbor Stage/Modern Theatre); *A Behanding in Spokane, The Bald Soprano, Speech and Debate, Shortstack, Colorado, What Then* (Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater); *When The World Was Green, An Ideal Husband* (American Stage in Florida); *Taste of*

Sunrise (Wheelock Family Theater); *9 Circles* (Publick Theatre Boston); *Men on Boats*, *My Name is Asher Lev* (Cape Rep); *The Weird* (Off The Grid); *The Island of Slaves* (Orfeo Group); Brecht's *The Life of Galileo* (Underground Railway); and *Jester's Dead* (The Outfit in NYC). Amanda is a graduate of Regis College where she earned a BA in History and Theatre. She is also a company member of Theatre Espresso, performing interactive dramas exploring issues of social justice in American history. Television: *Olive Kitteridge* (HBO), *Castle Rock* (Hulu) and *Boston's Finest* (ABC Pilot). Film: *Sea of Trees*.

SHANA GOZANSKY (Director) is a freelance director and teaching artist. She recently directed *Paradise* at Central Square Theater. Her work has been produced at Trinity Repertory Company, The Hangar Theatre, The Calderwood Arts Pavilion, Clark University, College of the Holy Cross, The Bowery Poetry Club, Dickinson College, Manhattan Theatre Source, and The Red Room. She has assisted on productions at Berkeley Rep, The Geffen, Manhattan Ensemble Theatre, Henry Miller's Theater, and Trinity Repertory Company and has taught acting and directing at Brown University, College of the Holy Cross, the Hangar Theatre, and Trinity Repertory Company. Shana holds a MFA in Directing from the Brown University/Trinity Repertory Company MFA Programs and a BA in Theater from Bard College, was an Artistic Associate at The Hangar Theatre, an Artist-in-Residence at Chashama and The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. She is a member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab and is a Drama League Directing Fellow.

MARZIE GHASEMPOUR (Costume Master) was born in Tehran, Iran. She studied English in college, and received her MFA in fiction writing from New Mexico State University. Currently, she is a member of the 2019 cohort of Boston University MFA Playwrights. Marzie's plays have been on stage in Boston, Chicago, and Las Cruces. Marzie loves autumn in Boston; it's the most beautiful time of the year.

KATHERINE HUMBERT* (Stage Manager) is delighted to be working on another production with Boston Playwrights' Theatre where she stage managed *Every Piece of Me*, *The Atheist*, and *Memorial* last season. She has spent several years with Central Square Theater where she has assistant stage managed The Nora Theatre Company's *Operation Epsilon* and *Arcadia*, and the Underground Railway Theater's productions of *SILA*, *A Disappearing Number*, and *Mr. g*. She has also had the pleasure of working on The Nora/URT's *The Other Place* and *Arabian Nights*. A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, she returned to the Boston area several years ago to explore the theatre scene and has been enjoying every moment. Most recently, Katherine assistant stage managed Speak-Easy's production of *Men on Boats*. Other recent stage management credits include: *Into the Woods* (Weston Drama Workshop), *Translations* (Bad Habit Productions), and *Company* (Moonbox Productions).

MOLLY SMITH METZLER (Playwright) is a proud alumna of Boston University's graduate playwriting program, where she studied under Derek Walcott and Kate Snodgrass. Her plays include *Cry it Out*, *Elemeno Pea*, *The May Queen*, *Carve*,

Close Up Space, and *Training Wisteria*, which was first produced at Boston Playwrights' Theatre and then transferred to The Kennedy Center's American College Theater Festival. Regional: Northlight (upcoming), Actors Theatre of Louisville/Humana Festival, South Coast Rep, The O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, Chautauqua Theater Company, City Theatre, Play Makers Rep, Geva Theatre Center, Cape Cod Playhouse, and more. Off-Broadway: Manhattan Theatre Club, Ars Nova, Cherry Lane, SPF (Summer Play Festival). Metzler's awards include the Lecomte du Nouy Prize from Lincoln Center, the National Student Playwriting Award from The Kennedy Center, the Association for Theatre in Higher Education's David Mark Cohen Award, the Mark Twain Comedy Prize, and a finalist nod for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize. She is currently under commission at Manhattan Theatre Club and South Coast Repertory. In television, Metzler has written for *Orange Is the New Black* (Netflix), *Casual* (Hulu), *Codes of Conduct* (HBO), and is currently a writer/co-producer on *Shameless* (Showtime). She is also a screenwriter, currently adapting Ali Benjamin's novel *The Thing About Jellyfish* into a film for OddLot and Pacific Standard (Reese Witherspoon's company). Metzler was educated at SUNY Geneseo, Boston University, New York University's Tisch School for the Arts, and The Juilliard School.

LAURA NEILL (Production Assistant) is a Boston playwright whose work centers on strong women. Her play *Don't Give Up the Ship* premiered with Fresh Ink Theatre this February, and her play *Cap, or, El Límite* was a semi-finalist for the 2016 O'Neill National Playwrights Conference. Laura was an affiliate of the 2016 Company One PlayLab. She is the winner of University of Tulsa's Women-Works 2017. Laura is earning her MFA in Playwriting at Boston University. She has been commissioned by OperaHub to write *Trunk Show*, which will premiere in June 2018. She is a member of the Dramatists Guild, StageSource, and the New England New Play Alliance, for whom she co-edited the New England New Play Anthology. Learn more at <http://laurajneill.wixsite.com/home> or read her work at <https://newplayexchange.org/users/1933/laura-neill>.

RACHEL PADULA-SHUFELT (Costume Design) is a graduate of Emerson College. Recent costume design credits include *The Owl Answers* (Harvard TDM); *Men on Boats* (SpeakEasy Stage); *Alice in War*, *Little Murders* (The Boston Conservatory); *The River Was Whiskey*, *Mortal Terror*, *A Child's Christmas in Whales*, *Legally Dead*, *Absence*, *Windowmen* (nominated Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Design), *Chosen Child*, and *Reconsidering Hanna(h)* (Boston Playwrights' Theatre); *Ezio* (Odyssey Opera); *Dr. Jeckyll and Mr. Hyde*, *Doubt*, *Uncanny Valley* (Stoneham Theatre); *Trad*, *Crimes of the Heart* (Gloucester Stage Company); and *Edward II* (winner of Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Design, Actors' Shakespeare Project).

JEFFREY PETERSEN'S (Scenic Design) previous Boston Playwrights' Theatre credits include *Lost Tempo*, *Equal Writes*, *Restricted*, *The Honey Trap*. Other design credits include *The Werther Project*, *Uncommon Women and Others*, *Così fan tutte*, *Rosmersholm*, and *The Whitmores* for Boston University. Select regional design credits include *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *Pavilion*, *Sylvia*, *The Last Five*

Years, *The Glass Menagerie*, and *String* (for Minneapolis' Yellow Tree Theatre); and *Rocky Horror Live* for Cardinal Theatricals. www.jeffreypetersendesign.com

SAMANTHA RICHERT* (Michaela) is beyond thrilled to be making her Boston Playwrights' Theatre debut. She currently teaches for the Theatre Department at Northeastern University and is a Boston-based director, movement/fight choreographer and educator for various schools and youth programs in and around the area. She was recently seen as Ariel in *The Tempest* with Actor's Shakespeare Project, in *Lucky Stiff* at Greater Boston Stage Company, and has also acted with The Gold Dust Orphans, Huntington Theatre Company, Lyric Stage Company, Nora Theatre Company, and Berkshire Theatre Group among various new play workshops and festivals. She recently directed *Peter and the Starcatcher* with Stoneham's young company this past summer and will be appearing in *Hold These Truths* with Lyric Stage Company this winter. She holds an MFA from Brandeis University and is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association. www.samantharichert.com

KIRA ROCKWELL (Properties Artisan) is a playwright and teaching artist from Texas. She is currently an MFA Playwriting candidate at Boston University. This is her second time to pop up a production with the Boston Playwrights' Theatre.

DAVID WILSON (Lighting and Sound Design)** returns to Boston Playwrights' having most recently designed *Back the Night* and *Chosen Child*. He has designed lighting or sound for over 350 productions of opera, theater, concert and dance. He has served on the faculty of Brandeis University, heading the graduate program in sound design, and has designed and taught at Boston College, Boston Conservatory of Music, Bowdoin, Emerson, Harvard, New England Conservatory, Tufts, Suffolk and UMASS-Lowell. His designs for theater at other companies include Actors' Shakespeare Project, Central City Opera, Commonwealth Shakespeare, Company One, Dibble Dance, Gloucester Stage, Lyric Stage, Merrimack Rep, Moonbox, New Rep, Nora, North Shore Music Theater, Reagle Music Theater, SpeakEasy, Stoneham, Shakespeare & Company, WHAT, and Wheelock Family Theater. Recent designs include sound and music for *The Comedy of Errors* at Commonwealth Shakespeare Company (Elliot Norton Award) and *Edward II* at Actors' Shakespeare Project (Elliot Norton Award). dw-design.com

SPECIAL THANKS

Nat and Libby Gozansky, Robert Grace, Blair Hamaty and [Setting the Space](#)

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 **Boston PLAYWRIGHTS' Theatre**

Founded in 1981 at Boston University by Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott, Boston Playwrights' Theatre is an award-winning professional theatre dedicated to new works. At the core of our programs is the Playwriting MFA offered in the celebrated English Department in the College of Arts & Sciences and in collaboration with the award-winning School of Theatre in the College of Fine Arts. Alumni of our program have been produced in regional and New York houses as well as in London's West End; our own productions of alumni work have garnered regional and Boston awards, including numerous Best New Script Awards from the Elliot Norton committee and the Independent Reviewers of New England.

From class workshops to our Season of New Plays, BPT employs the best of New England's professional actors, directors, and designers to bring each playwright's vision to its first audiences.

Each spring, in collaboration with Boston Children's Theatre, we produce New Noises: Massachusetts Young Playwrights' Project. Area high schools work with professional playwrights, directors, and actors to see student works on stage for the first time.

Fifty local theatre companies join us annually for the Boston Theater Marathon, a showcase of new ten-minute plays by New England playwrights chosen each year from hundreds of entrants. Each play is produced by a different New England theatre company in a single ten-hour event with all proceeds going to charity.

When we are not producing plays, we continue our mission to support new works by renting theatre space to other New England theatre companies at below-market rates. Our Black Box Fellowships provide support for the development and production of new plays.

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Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.



BRAWLER

By Walt McGough

Directed by M. Bevin O'Gara

March 1 - 18

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