



# *Alligator-a-Phobia* *in 3D!*

a play with music by Jay Eddy  
directed by Shamus

April 6-16 | Tickets: [BostonPlaywrights.org](http://BostonPlaywrights.org)

Boston University College of Fine Arts  
School of Theatre and  
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences



BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY

---

# A WELCOME FROM OUR ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to Boston Playwrights' Theatre and to *Alligator-a-Phobia in 3-D!* by Jay Eddy, directed by Shamus.

I am so thrilled and honored to be here in my first season as BPT's Artistic Director, carrying forward a slate of brand-new plays by MFA playwrights that was put in motion by the legendary Kate Snodgrass (who retired this year after an extraordinary 35 years at the helm...!) This group of writers—whose entire graduate education has taken place during a global pandemic—offer us critical reflections on the big questions of this moment: “How do we live when we feel like the world is ending?” and “If our very survival depends on resisting old ideas and seeding new ones, what stories must we tell—and how?”

I can't think of a better way to end this season than with Jay's chaotic, original, and totally engaging work. Jay marries the exaggerated strokes of B-movie horror and Saturday morning cartoon with poetry, psychological nuance, and Big Questions. For me, the question that persists, night after night: how do we live with—and in—a terrifying world?

And of course...the music is awesome.

If you follow BPT on social media (and if you don't...what are you waiting for?) you know that our 2023-24 season will also end with a Jay Eddy opus—their gorgeous, badass, heart-rending semi-solo musical about the winding road of recovery from trauma, *Driving in Circles*. Equal parts confessional monologue, stand-up comedy, and rock concert, the show will reunite many cast and creatives from *Alligator*, and will be directed by Sam Plattus, who plays Teeny in this production.

I am so inspired by Jay, and by the rest of the graduating cohort of MFA students – Fatima A. Maan, J.C. Pankratz, David L. Caruso, and Elise Wien. Thank you, class of 2023, for giving us a hilarious, scary, deeply moving, extremely queer season of theater! I can't wait to see what you do next.

Best,



Megan Sandberg-Zakian  
Artistic Director, Boston Playwrights' Theatre

---

# ***Alligator-a-Phobia in 3D!***

a play with music by Jay Eddy

directed by Shamus

*A BU New Play Initiative production, produced by Boston Playwrights' Theatre  
and the Boston University College of Fine Arts School of Theatre*

Scenic Designer	Ami Okazaki
Lighting Designer	Slick Jorgensen
Sound Designer	Jay Eddy
Costume Designer	Michael O'Herron
Production Stage Manager	Fanni Horváth*
Music Director	Jay Eddy
Fight Director	Ben Heath
Props Artisan	Ami Okazaki
Scenic Artist	Sarah Lloyd
Movement	The Company
Sound Consultant	Gage Baker
Dance Captain	Leah Kreitz*
Production Assistant	Maggie Kearnan
Master Electrician	Jack Culton
Electricians	Silvano Spagnuolo, Jesus Suarez, Cat Vess-Ovsiannikov, Irene Wang
Set Crew	Simone Crowder, Ember Erickson Matt Leal
House Manager	Ember Erickson
Front of House Staff	Simone Crowder, Matt Leal, Brandon Zang

Additional orchestrations for "Baby, Pass the Alligator"  
by Zach Fontanez and Sam Plattus

## **CAST**

Happy	Leah Kreitz*
Sweetness	Katherine Perry
Big Mack/Doctor Shrinker	Zach Fontanez
Teeny/Doctor Croc	Sam Plattus
Songbird/Ensemble	Maurie Moore
Alligeetar/Ensemble	Kendall McShane
Howligator/Ensemble	Savannah Scott
Henry 5/Ensemble	Ernesto Garrido Gonzalez

***Alligator-a-Phobia in 3D!* runs approximately 90 minutes with no intermission.**

*A strobe effect is used in this play.*

*Content Advisory: Cartoon violence, psychiatric violence, light sexual content*

\*Appearing through an Agreement between Boston Playwrights' Theatre  
and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors  
and Stage Managers in the United States.

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

---

---

# A NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

*for my father and for Henry, the alligator*

The alligators are in the house.

The house is a Frankenstein's monster of every house I've ever lived in or loved: the hardwood half-turn staircase at the townhouse in New Haven, the cramped galley kitchen in Flatbush, the split-level Z-shaped hall of doors on the second-floor of my childhood home on the South Shore, the dark garage at my grandparents' place on the Cape where reverent spiders mummified old bikes and beach chairs and croquet mallets in hanks of silk, the gated front entrance of my London flat, the screened-in porch at the lodge in Maine. The house is grafted limbs and uncharneled parts, impossible anatomy, code-violating, colossal, sprawling...

And full of alligators.

Mouths open, bellies dragging on the floor, alligators chase me up the stairs and through the kitchen and down the zig-zag hall, into the unlit unfinished half-wild spaces where the house is concrete block and bone. Alligators with hungry yellow eyes, charging out from corners, overturning furniture. Alligators with oil-spill scales and spikes on their backs, unkillable as cockroaches, slippery as rats.

I run and run and my lungs are burning, I slam doors behind me, seal off every room, condemn alligators like Antigone to die in living tombs, the house coils like a snake and digests me, becomes a labyrinth, and I am stockaded in the pent-up center, the only way out is back: through the alligators.

I wake up and turn to my partner, already half-conscious in bed beside me, and breathlessly recap my nightmare: the alligators, the house, the ever-shrinking space—and then I stop. My partner looks at me with smiling comprehension in their eyes. "Oh," I say, "Okay."

*Alligator-a-Phobia in 3D!* began with a nightmare—or maybe it emerged from my twisting and tangling and ever-multiplying fears. Fear is an ecosystem.

*Alligator-a-Phobia* also emerged during a kind of nightmare—a nightmare within a nightmare, doors upon doors. I wonder how we are going to make sense of the pandemic years. How we will make peace with, or seek to avoid and control, the chaos beyond our front doors. How we will reimagine what we need to be happy or the shape of a good life, how we will build our communities, how we will ever feel at home. I wonder: will I welcome change with open arms—or with a barricaded door?

—Jay Eddy

---

## CAST & CREW

**JAY EDDY (Playwright/Music Director/Sound Designer, they/them)** is a writer, composer, and performer. Stage works include *Driving in Circles* (Richard Rodgers Award, Jean Kennedy Smith Playwriting Award, KCACTF Musical Theatre Award), *The Boys Are Angry* (FringeNYC, Fringe Encore @ Soho Playhouse), and *Big Red Button* (Samuel French OOB Festival). MA Music Theatre from The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

**ZACH FONTANEZ (Big Mack/Tall Mover/Doctor Shrinker/Big Gator)** is an actor, musician and artist based in Meriden, CT. Past credits include a workshop production of Jay Eddy's *Driving In Circles* (Improv Acadia), *Cabaret* (formerly The Harpers Theater, now The EPs), *Pygmalion* (Legacy Theater Company), and *The Otherworldly Adventures of George Ghostly* and *Paul T. Geist* (Nelson Hall Performing Arts at Elm Park). Prior to the pandemic, he was a company member at Bridgeport, CT's Downtown Cabaret Theater, performing in their Theatre for Young Audiences series. He is excited and most grateful to be working with talented and dedicated artists, producing bold new work at Boston Playwrights' Theatre!

**ERNESTO GARRIDO GONZALEZ (Henry 5/Ensemble)** is a senior acting major at Boston University. His recent credits include *Laure* (Henri), *Transfers* (Chris), and *Mankind* (Ensemble). Ernesto is very excited to be a part of such a wonderful cast and is very grateful for such a special *Alligator-a-Phobia in 3D!* crew. Ernesto started acting in film at five years old and has been studying acting since.

**FANNI HORVÁTH\* (Production Stage Manager)** is thrilled to be back at BPT! She is very grateful to have worked with such a talented and fun cast and production team! She enjoyed every minute of it. She recently assistant stage managed at Wheelock Family Theatre and has stage managed for Boston Playwrights', Arts Emerson, FTLO Theatre, Two Sharp Quills Productions, Pariah Theatre Company, Eastern Nazarene College, and South Shore School of Theatre. When not in the theater, you will find her "stage managing" in real life as a Staff Assistant at Harvard University. She would like to dedicate her work to baby Poldo, Reggi, and to her wife, Allison, who is her biggest supporter.

**SLICK JORGENSEN (Lighting Designer)** is a second-year MFA student in Lighting Design from Chicago. Previous Boston University credits include *Passage*, *Little Row Boat*, or, *Conjecture*, *Aurora Borealis*, and *Little Women*. Slick is a proud member of IATSE Local 2 Stagehands and IATSE Local 476 Studio Mechanics.

**MAGGIE KEARNAN (Production Assistant)** is a first-year MFA Playwright at Boston University. She is also a director, performer, educator, and scenic artist. Maggie has painted sets for many Boston theater companies and educational programs including *Incels and Other Myths* and *Beasts* in BPT's 2021-22 season. Her play *The Mrs.* had a virtual production with Newton Theater Company, and *IDK [What This Is]* and *Idawalley* have been produced at Boston College.

---

Maggie's ten-minute play *3,247* was a Region One finalist at the 2023 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

**LEAH KREITZ\* (Happy/Dance Captain)** is a Brooklyn-based actor. She is a co-founder of production company Hapa Media. TV/Film: *Dash & Lily* (Netflix), *She Said* (Universal), *Where It Stops* (Hapa Media). NYC Theater: *Rex* (New Light Theater Project), *Imperfectly Frank* (Manhattan Repertory Theatre), *Fat Kid Rules The World* (Workshop). Regional Theatre: *Dog Sees God* and *Snoopy! The Musical* (The Onyx), *RENT* (Ovation Showroom), *Reefer Madness* (Atlas Theater), *Damn Yankees* (SST). UNLV Alum—Go Rebs. Proud member of AEA and SAG-AFTRA. Love to Na and Gabe! <3 my reps Lori and Team DGRW.  
[@leahkreitz](#)

**KENDALL MCSHANE (Alligeeter/Ensemble, he/him)** is an actor from the Boston University School of Theatre. Favorite moments at BU include starring as Casey in Matthew Lopez's *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, the Ringmaster in George Brant's *Elephant's Graveyard*, and an ensemble member in faculty-directed *Colossal* in the Booth Theatre. Kendall is also an avid writer and has found a new love of guitar playing.

**MAURIE MOORE (Songbird/Ensemble, she/her/hers)** is a senior acting major in the School of Theatre at Boston University and will receive her BFA in May. Some of her favorite projects include working with Lorne Michaels on *Future Cult Classic*, Boston University's production of *Once* (Girl) directed by Shamus, and *Heaven Sent*, now streaming on PureFlix. In 2018, she toured internationally with the opera Gianni Schicchi throughout Tuscany and in 2022, received her formal classical acting training from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. She is represented by KU Talent. All of her love and gratitude extends to her family.

**MICHAEL O'HERRON (Costume Designer)** is a Boston-based Costume Designer in his final semester at Boston University, where he is pursuing a BFA in Costume Design. Michael's recent design credits include *Little Women* and *Our Town* for the Boston University Opera Institute, *Freaky Friday* for the Bigfork Summer Playhouse, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Boston University's School of Theatre. Recent assistant design credits include *Seven Guitars* at Actors' Shakespeare Project, *Paradise Blue* at Gloucester Stage Company, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Shakesperience Productions, and *Passage* and *Shakespeare in Love* at Boston University. [michaeloherron.com](#)

**AMI OKAZAKI (Scenic Designer/Props Artisan, she/her)** is in her senior year at Boston University studying Scenic Design. Her design credits include *Far Away* (Boston University, 2020), *Shakespeare's R&J* (Boston University, 2021), *Machinal* (Boston University, 2021), and *Little Women* (BU Opera Institute, 2023). Ami's design for Caryl Churchill's *Machinal* has been chosen for the 2023 American Exhibit at the Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space. She is grateful to be a part of this Gator-tastic team for her final show at BU!  
[amiokzk.com](#)

---

**KATHERINE PERRY (Sweetness, they/she)** is an actor, educator, and creative engine based in Philadelphia whose work celebrates the creativity in every body and the storyteller at all stages. Previous on stage collaborations include Quintessence Theatre Project, Arden Theatre Company, and Revolution Shakespeare including several new works and world premieres. As an educator Katherine teaches in classrooms across the Philadelphia area with 1812 Productions, The Unscripted Project, Philadelphia Young Playwrights, and supports the education team at the HMS School for Cerebral Palsy. Katherine is the creator/performer behind Brooke Spitz and *SEX TALK (the show)*. [katherine-perry.com](http://katherine-perry.com)  
[@iamkyppear](https://www.instagram.com/iamakyppear)

**SAM PLATTUS (Teeny/Small Mover/Doctor Croc/Little Gator, they/them)** is a performer and director from New Haven, CT. Recent credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Acadia Repertory Theatre), *Hamlet* (Legacy Theatre), *Romeo & Juliet* (Valley Shakespeare Festival), *Beached, An Island Tragedy* (Portland Stage), *Spring Fling '98* (American Globe Theater). Sam is a graduate of Bowdoin College and the National Theater Institute.

**SAVANNAH SCOTT (Howligator/Ensemble, they/them)** is a sophomore Theater Arts major, thrilled to be a part of their third production at Boston University. Last semester they worked on a project with Wheelock Family Theater as the Assistant Director and Assistant Choreographer of *Matilda the Musical*. They also performed in *Elephants Graveyard* last quarter with director Terri McMahon. However, this has been their favorite show to be a part of at BU and they can't wait to debut their Equity performance with this cast and show. They'd like to dedicate this performance to any gender queer actor who doesn't believe they have a place in theater and the world: you do, you are important, you matter! Enjoy the show gators! :D

**SHAMUS (Director, he/him/his)** is chomping at the bit to return to BPT after directing J.C. Pankratz's *Eat Your Young!* Recent: *Make Way for Ducklings*, Wheelock Family Theatre (Associate); Kevin Esmond's *Vintage Illustrations of the Devil*, PlayPenn; and Jay Eddy's *Big Red Button*, Samuel French OOB Festival, and *Driving in Circles*, Improv Acadia, (Associate). His original musical, *Close Your Legs, Honey*, co-created with Hannah Parke, premiered at PHIT Comedy and was remounted by Bootless Stageworks. Other favs: Kimmel Center, Arden, Die-Cast, Temple, and Philadelphia Young Playwrights. Next up, reuniting with Pankratz at the Playwright's Center in Minneapolis and directing *Two Gentlemen of Verona* the musical for Philadelphia's Shakespeare in Clark Park.  
[shamushuntermccarty.com](http://shamushuntermccarty.com) [@mononymous\\_shamus](https://www.instagram.com/mononymous_shamus)



Actors' Equity Association ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. #EquityWorks



## SPECIAL THANKS

Lily Bitner, Jessica Breda, Cleo Brooks, Jenna Burns, Grace Ferrera, Jenna Giordano, Mitchell Kawash, Michael Kennedy, Bosco Layne, Melinda Lopez, Fatima Maan, Henry Morehouse, Kendall Mood, Ronán Noone, Malika Oyetimein, J.C. Pankratz, Keith Robinson, Annaka Saari, Riley Satterfield, Kate Snodgrass, Max Wallace, Elise Wien, McKayla Witt





---

# JACK WELCH PLAYWRIGHTS' FUND

*We are grateful to our friends for their support of our mission—to provide a home for new works for the stage.*

*If you are interested in making a donation to Boston Playwrights' Theatre, please contact Managing Director Darren Evans at (617) 353-5899 or visit our online donation form at [www.BostonPlaywrights.org](http://www.BostonPlaywrights.org).*

## **Executive Circle (\$1000+)**

Ellen Dolnansky and  
Don Ingber  
June K. Lewin  
Anastasia and Will Lyman  
Amy Merrill

## **Leadership Circle (\$500-\$999)**

Anonymous

## **Playwrights' Circle (\$100-\$499)**

Rosanna and Gustavo Alfaro  
Susan Almquist  
Anonymous x 6  
Erika Bailey and  
Fausto Espinosa  
Janet Bailey  
Alan Bedenko  
Nancy Berliner and  
Alan Plattus  
David Berndt  
James Brown  
Maureen Conboy and  
Marc Olivere  
Dana Edell  
Peter Floyd  
Hortense Gerardo  
Dennis C. Hart  
W.J. Hughes  
Mary C. Huntington  
Karl W. Kirchwey  
Jim Miller  
Lowell Partridge

Dossy Peabody  
Charlotte and Ed Peed  
R.N. Sandberg and V.A. Zakian  
Lourey and Wes Savick  
In the name of Margie Semilof  
Sayre Sheldon  
Bill Skocpol  
Kate Snodgrass  
In honor of Kate Snodgrass  
Martha Sproule  
Joyce Van Dyke  
Bex White  
Debra Wise  
Veronica Wiseman

## **In-Kind Contributions**

Dolly Brooks  
Matthew Goode and  
Jeffrey Petersen  
Melinda Lopez  
Ronán Noone  
Kate Snodgrass

## **Friends' Circle (Up to \$99)**

Anonymous x 22  
E Alexander  
Cynthia and Nick Bargar  
Margaret Ann Brady  
Tamar Brown  
Elisabeth Burdick  
Alexandria Chang  
Tyler Dean  
Natalie Eldridge

Olisa Enrico  
Carol Goldfarb  
John Greene  
MJ Halberstadt  
Margaret Harris  
Jeremy Holstein  
Weizhen Hou  
Ellen Jamieson  
Daniel Jimenez  
Faith Justice  
Jen Lewis  
A. Nora Long  
Claudia MacDermott  
Eileen MacDougall  
Kim Mancuso  
Barbara Martin  
Anne and John McGannon  
Laura McLaughlin  
Christine Mesarch  
Marc Miller  
Kara Noble  
Carolyn Palo  
Joyce Peseroff  
Yekaterina Ratner  
Anna-Constantia Richardson  
Floyd Richardson  
Jay Sekora  
Ellen Simons  
Bobbie Steinbach  
David Sullivan  
Rebecca Talbott  
Roland Tec  
Lisa Tucker  
Beth Turner  
Rachel Watson  
David M. Young

---

 **Boston PLAYWRIGHTS' Theatre**

Boston Playwrights' Theatre is an award-winning professional theatre dedicated to new works. Founded in 1981 by Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott and located on the campus of Boston University, BPT produces a season of new work, an annual "marathon" of 10-minute plays, and a festival of new plays by teenage writers. At the core of all of our work is our partnership with BU's renowned English Department, in close collaboration with BU's School of Theatre, as we educate and nurture the writers of the MFA Playwriting Program. The Program's alumni have had their work produced in regional and New York houses as well as in London's West End, and have garnered national, regional and local awards.

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 we produce a festival of student-written ten-minute plays, New Noises, the culminating event of the Massachusetts Young Playwrights' Project. In this program, 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 selected 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 our own plays, we continue BPT's mission through our Play Space program, which makes theatre space available at deeply subsidized rates to other New England theatre companies and playwrights for new-play related events including readings, classes, auditions, rehearsals, conferences, and full productions.

*Megan Sandberg-Zakian, Artistic Director*  
*Darren Evans, Managing Director*  
*K. Alexa Mavromatis, Marketing Coordinator*  
*Alec Haklar, Technical Director*

*Nathan Alan Davis, Associate Professor of the Practice of Playwriting*  
*Melinda Lopez, Adjunct Assistant Professor*  
*Ronán Noone, Adjunct Assistant Professor*  
*Gary Garrison, Visiting Lecturer*

*Derek Walcott, Founder*  
*Kate Snodgrass, Professor Emerita of the Practice of Playwriting*

**We are proud of our mission.**  
**To get involved, visit [BostonPlaywrights.org](http://BostonPlaywrights.org).**