

# THE SHAPE OF THINGS

By Neil LaBute, Directed by Rachel Blackwell

THEATRE & FILM



College of Liberal Arts

[www.UAF.edu/TheatreFilm](http://www.UAF.edu/TheatreFilm)

February 24 - March 5, 2023



# SPECIAL THANKS

College of Liberal Arts  
CLA Dean Ellen Lopez  
Provost Anupma Prakash  
Chancellor Dan White  
Nicholas Middelstadt  
Cameron Wohlford

# FOR THE AUDIENCE

Run time: 2 hours  
No intermission

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR PHONES.  
PHOTOGRAPHY, AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING  
STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

*The UAF campus is SMOKE FREE.*

Restrooms are located at the top of the stairs in the corner of the  
Great Hall and downstairs by KUAC.

For our shows to begin on time, we request that ticket holders arrive  
at least 15 minutes before curtain, and encourage others to purchase  
tickets before the evening.

Tickets are available at: [www.uaf.edu/theatrefilm/](http://www.uaf.edu/theatrefilm/)

# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

**BY RACHEL BLACKWELL**

*The Shape of Things* has long been on my bucket list of plays I hope to  
one day see brought to life. I love a play that leaves the audience with  
more questions than answers. I want our audiences to leave thinking  
about love and cruelty, the subjectivity of art, and how we treat one  
another. This play has always intrigued me and I believe you have to  
experience it to really appreciate it.

Welcome to an experience you won't soon forget. Art is visceral.  
Experience every moment.

# THIS SHOW IS RATED R

## CAST

Adam ..... Seamus Knight  
Evelyn ..... Riley von Borstel  
Phillip ..... August Cooper  
Jenny ..... Hannah Greene

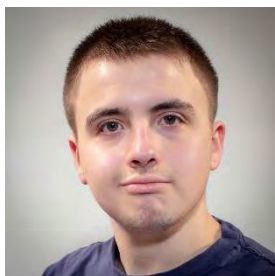
## PRODUCTION CREW

Director ..... Rachel Blackwell  
Set Design..... Kade Mendelowitz  
Costume Design ..... Stefanie Kramer  
Lighting & Projection Design..... Kade Mendelowitz  
Master Electrician ..... Alex Gagne-Hawes  
Electricians..... Alex Armstrong, Alex Gagne-Hawes,  
Hannah Greene, Adrian Peterson, Seamus Knight  
Sound Design ..... Frank Gamboa  
Associate Producer & Casting Director ..... Carrie Baker  
Technical Director .....Kade Mendelowitz  
Stage Manager ..... Kjrsten Schindler  
Assistant Stage Manager .....Deyanira Van Acker  
Master Carpenter .....Alex Gagne-Hawes  
Set Construction & Painters .....Alex Armstrong, Alex Gagne-Hawes,  
Rori Kattnig  
Costume Construction .....Stefanie Kramer & Bryan Kramer  
Dressers, Props and Flys .....Bethany Cohen & Charles Wolgemuth  
Board Operator .....Alex Armstrong  
Scene Shop Manager .....Alex Gagne-Hawes  
Costume Shop Manager..... Stephanie Rivet  
Theatre UAF Box Office Manager ..... Sarah (Sam) Seifert  
Box Office Ticketer ..... Diana Berry  
Publicity ..... Kade Mendelowitz

# CAST & CREW BIOS



**Rachel Blackwell (Director)** a Theatre UAF alum, has been participating in local theatre in Fairbanks for the last 20 years. She works with Theatre UAF, FLOT, FST, and FDA. In 2019, she had the honor of performing the original Michael Shaeffer play, *Caddyshakes*, at the Kansas City Fringe Festival with a fun troupe of Fairbanks locals. Rachel also dabbles in stand up comedy and burlesque dancing with her company, Naked Stage Productions. She most recently directed *Rope* at Fairbanks Drama Association and you may have seen her on stage as Arsinoe in *The Misanthrope*.



**August Cooper (Phillip)** would like to thank his family and friends for helping him with his career mindset. He would like to thank Carrie Baker for being an amazing mentor, and would love to thank the spectacular director Rachel Blackwell for allowing August to be a part of this amazing production! August is a Film and Performing Arts major with a minor in Communication, and wishes to use all the skills he has learned to become a film and stage actor!



**Hannah Greene (Jenny)** is a born and raised Alaskan from the big city of Anchorage! Currently a sophomore, she is pursuing a major in Film and Performing Arts with a minor in Creative Writing. This is her first official Theatre UAF production, but she has performed with Ground Squirrel Improv in their two shows: *Springin' Back into Improv* and *Cup'O Improv*. Hannah is grateful for the amazing cast and crew and the ongoing support of her friends and family!



**Seamus Knight (Adam)** is an aspiring composer and performance artist from central Massachusetts. While there, some of his favorite roles included Julian in Stratton Players' *The Unexpected Guest*, Ralph in *Awake and Sing* at the Sprinkler Factory in Worcester, Gus (and Augustus) in Concord Players' *Arcadia*, and Al in Fitchburg State University's *Sacco & Vanzetti* in 2013. He is thankful to his parents Michael and Tracy Knight, who met while both pursuing theater degrees, for always helping memorize lines and providing insight on roles.





**Stefanie Kramer (Costume Designer)** has been active on the Fairbanks theatre scene since 2016. She has designed costumes for several shows at Fairbanks Drama Association including *The 39 Steps* and *Shakespeare in Love*. Her previous theatre experience at UAF was on stage in the *Winter Shorts*. She earned a B.A. in English/Drama-Theatre at Pepperdine University in California.



**Kjrsten Schindler (Stage Manager)** is a fourth year at UAF who is majoring in Psychology and Film and Performing Arts: Film Concentration as well as minoring in Creative Writing and Music: Vocal Performance. She grew up mostly in Aberdeen, South Dakota before her family started, and is still, moving to Delta Junction, Alaska in 2012. She began her studies at UAF in Biology and Pre-Vet in Fall 2019 before switching majors in Spring 2022. *The Shape of Things* is her first production with the UAF Department of Theater & Film. She would like to thank her family, friends, and all the UAF Theater staff and faculty for always being extremely supportive and encouraging!



**Deyanira Van Acker (Assistant Stage Manager)** is in her second year at UAF and is majoring in Film and Performing Arts: Theater Concentration. She was born in Ft. Wainwright, Alaska, and grew up in both Alaska and South Carolina, moving back to Fairbanks in 2016. She started UAF in the fall of 2022 after completing one semester of film school at Montana State University. *The Shape of Things* is her first production at UAF Department of Theatre & Film. She would love to thank her family, friends, and the UAF Theater staff for always being supportive, kind, and encouraging.



**Riley von Borstel (Evelyn)** is a fourth year senior majoring in Justice, Political Science, and Film and Performing Arts at UAF. She grew up in Seward, Alaska, and began her studies at UAF in the fall of 2019. *The Shape of Things* is her third production with Theatre UAF, after playing Jane in *Pride and Prejudice* and Celimene in *The Misanthrope*. She has also gotten involved with the Fairbanks Drama Association and television acting; she played Lydia in *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley* and was featured in an episode of the Amazon Prime series *The College Tour*. She would like to thank her boyfriend, friends, family, and UAF Theatre staff and faculty for always being incredibly supportive of her acting endeavors.

# FLPA FACULTY & STAFF



**Carrie Baker (Associate Producer & Casting Director)** is a Professor of Theatre & Film, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, a member of Actors' Equity Association, and a member of Screen Actors Guild-American/Federation of Television and Radio Artists. New York Theatre acting credits include: New Age Classics, New Perspectives Theatre Company, NYU Festival of New Works, Manhattan Theatre Source, Coyote REP. Regional Theatre: Utah Shakespearean Festival, Irvine Barclay Theatre, Summer Repertory Theatre, Washington Shakespeare Company, Potomac Theatre Project, Washington Stage Guild, Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre. TV: *Guiding Light*, *Ed*, commercial voiceovers. Film: *Mining for Ruby*, *The Messenger*, *AlaskaLand*, *Chronic Town*, *Eat Me*. Directing credits include: *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, *Stop Kiss*, *Speech & Debate*, *How I learned to Drive*, *The Laramie Project*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Three Days of Rain* (Theatre UAF), *Turandot* (Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra), *The Taming of the Shrew* (Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre), *Verdi and the Bard* and *The Telephone* (Opera Fairbanks). Carrie holds a B.A. in Theatre/English from Middlebury College and an M.F.A. in Acting from the University of California, Irvine. <https://carriecrosbybaker.com/>



**Kade Mendelowitz (Set Design/Lighting Design)** is a Professor of Lighting Design and Technical Director for Theatre & Film UAF, and is the current Department Chair. This award-winning lighting designer designed scenery, projections and lights for FLOT's *Les Miserables*, scenery and lighting for last year's *Seminar*, and recently wrote and directed the film *A Night for Conversation*. You're invited to learn more about his work at: <https://kade.theatricaldesign.com/>



**Maya Salganek (Associate Professor of Film and Video Arts)** is the founding director of the UAF Film Reel Alaska Mentoring Experience (FRAME). As a filmmaker and educator living on the unceded lands of the Dena people of the lower Tanana river, her cinematic work often features the people and stories of Alaska, which aim to decolonize the screen. Maya is dedicated to developing positive role models on film that reflect the diversity of our community. Through her courses and projects, she nurtures visually sovereign storytellers capable of expressing themselves within their own communities, as well as to a wider audience. Maya has worked as a producer or director on dozens of films in Alaska, from feature-length narrative films to NSF funded documentaries about climate change. <https://www.mayasalganek.com>



**Kavelina Torres (Indigenous Media Assistant Professor)** received their MFA in Creative Writing from The University of British Columbia where they studied scripts and scripting in addition to prose and graphic novels. They graduated with their undergrad in Indigenous Filmmaking from UAF. They have credits in theatre, prose and monologue anthologies, and film. Kavelina has been a part of productions on *Growing Native*, *Boat Buyers*, *Christmas Crazier*, *Big Miracle*, *Messenger*, *Bodies of Water*, *Feels Good*, *Alaska Daily Weather*, KTVF news, KXDF news, *Molly of Denali* plus her own films, *Yugumalleq* and *The Wild Witch*. Kavelina's theatre production credits include *Something in the Living Room*, *Machinations*, *Little Bits*, and *Bob and Bones*. Prose credits include Technician Qamaq North in CAROUSEL magazine where Tor.com called it a must-read in January 2022. and Kegg' and Qiuq at medium.com plus Monologues from The Last Frontier Theatre Conference. Their film *Yugumalleq* was played across the US on PBS and FNX. Kavelina is a 2014 Sundance Indigenous Film Program Alum.



**Alex Gagne-Hawes (Scene Shop Supervisor)** is thrilled to join UAF this year as the Scene Shop Supervisor. Previously, Alex had been at UAF as a playwright and director for Student Drama Association *Winter Shorts*, as a lighting designer for FLOT and the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, and as a camera operator for outdoor graduation and Nanook hockey games. He is currently the technical director of the Dance Theatre Fairbanks. Before moving to Fairbanks, Alex worked in Los Angeles and Chicago and toured regional theater festivals as technical director and lighting designer for the performance collective, tEEth. He thanks the great Alaskan arts community and his loving family.



**Stephanie Rivet (Costume Shop Manager)** is a senior double majoring in Theatre with a performance emphasis and Art with a ceramics focus. Her minor is in film. Stephanie has been working in the UAF costume shop for several years and loves sewing. She is thrilled to have been recently hired as the new Costume Shop Manager, and is deeply grateful to have the opportunity to continue making art for years to come with such wonderful people.



**Sarah "Sam" Seifert (Administrative Assistant, Box Office Manager)** graduated from UAF with a BA in Sociology and a Minor in Asian Studies in the fall of 2012. They were born in Fairbanks, Alaska and have lived there most of their life. *The Shape of Things* is the first UAF Production they will be helping to get off the ground since they were doing Box Office tasks as a Student Worker.



# TUMYARAQ-QAA

Written  
&  
Directed  
by  
KAVELINA  
TORRES



Sci-Fi Indigenous Comedy  
Join the Live Studio Audience  
for Television Taping  
UAF Lee H. Salisbury Theatre  
March 31 & April 1 at 7:30PM  
April 1 and 2 at 4PM  
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