# I AND YOU

by Lauren Gunderson

### CAST

Caroline Anthony Savannah Rutherford Bakari Prigg

For Friday Evening Performances: Caroline Anthony

Laura Martin Devin Townsend

### TIME/PLACE

Caroline's room, present day

The play runs approximately 90 minutes, without an intermission. Please silence your cell phones. Video recording and photos are not permitted.

### PRODUCERS

Director Scenic Designer Stage Manager Assistant Director Technical Director Sound Designer Lighting Designer Assistant Technical Director Assistant Stage Manager Costume Assistants Props Assistant Lighting Assistant Sound Assistant Dramaturgs Set Construction Amy Guerin David Harwell MJ Segal Chris Wilson Davis Walker Johnna Doty Laura Happel Alexander Hillgartner Sarah Davis Lydia Chappel and Kaylie Miller Amelia Enix Matthew Lawrence Seth Robertson Alexander Hillgartner and Claire Crenshaw The students of TH 425 and TH 122

Produced with special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com)

I and You was first produced in a rolling world premiere by Marin Theatre Company (California), Olney Theatre (Maryland), and Phoenix Theatre (Indiana) as a part of the National New Play Network's Continued Life program.

Originally commissioned and developed by South Coast Repertory.

## I AND YOU DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The play I and You was written in 2014 by Lauren Gunderson, who is, this season, the most produced living playwright in America. And when you experience her work, you get a sense of why that is. Gunderson is able to capture all of the humor, sarcasm, vulnerability and depth that is found in two young people, who are growing into themselves and into their larger world. Her language and rhythm is contemporary and sounds familiar to our ears, especially when heard alongside other popular storytellers, Amy Sherman-Palladino (The Gilmore Girls), Shonda Rhimes (Scandal), and Lin-Manuel Miranda (Hamilton). Caroline and Anthony are on the cusp of life, and searching for connections that will give their lives meaning. Through the poetry of Whitman, those connections are illuminated. Gunderson's use of Whitman is, of course, no accident, because "Song of Myself" is a poem that speaks to all of the bravery, chaos, love, and wonder that is a part of the human condition. As we watch Caroline and Anthony and hear both Gunderson's words, and Whitman's, we are reminded of our own youth, or we recognize immediately that the character's search is our own.

It is my privilege to be a part of this company and my honor to present our work to you.

Special thanks to Samantha Smith, Katie Rickmeyer, John and Dee Martin, and Heather Black for all their help with childcare while I was in rehearsals. I literally could not do this without you. Special thanks, also, to my cat, Skateboard A. Cat, for graciously allowing us to use his image as Caroline's cat.

I dedicate my work on this production to my dear friend, the poet Aaron Glover, whose work is a constant influence in my life.

For Killian Brooke, my joyful heart.

-Amy Guerin, Director

## A NOTE ON I AND YOU PLAYWRIGHT LAUREN GUNDERSON

Lauren M. Gunderson is the most produced living playwright in America of 2016, the winner of the Lanford Wilson Award and the Steinberg/ ATCA New Play Award, a finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize and John Gassner Award for Playwriting, and a recipient of the Mellon Foundation's 3-Year Residency with Marin Theatre Company. She studied Southern Literature and Drama at Emory University, and Dramatic Writing at NYU's Tisch School where she was a Reynolds Fellow in Social Entrepreneurship. Her work has been commissioned, produced and developed at companies across the US including South Coast Rep (Emilie, Silent Sky), The Kennedy Center (The Amazing Adventures of Dr. Wonderful And Her Dog!), The O'Neill, The Denver Center, San Francisco Playhouse, Marin Theatre, Synchronicity, Olney Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Shotgun Players, TheatreWorks, Crowded Fire and more. She co-authored Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley with Margot Melcon. Her work is published at Playscripts (I and You, Exit Pursued By A Bear, The Taming, and Toil And Trouble), Dramatists (Silent Sky, Bauer, Miss Bennet) and Samuel French (Emilie). Her picture book Dr Wonderful: Blast Off to the Moon will be released from Two Lions / Amazon in May 2017. LaurenGunderson.com and @LalaTellsAStory

#### http://iandyouplay.tumblr.com/

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# A NOTE ON WALT WHITMAN

An excerpt of an article originally published *The Springfield Daily Republican* 23 July 1875

"You ask for some particulars of my friend Whitman. ... He is a largelooking man. While in the market, the other day, with a party of us, we were all weighed; his weight was 200 pounds. He is fond of the sun, and, at this season, soon as it is well up, shining in his room, he is out in its beams for a cold-water bath. Then forth for a walk in the open air, or, perhaps, some short exercise in the gymnasium. Then to breakfast—no sipping and nibbling—he demolishes meat, eggs, rolls, toast, roast potatoes, coffee, buckwheat cakes, at a terrible rate. He is not what is called ceremonious or polite, but I have noticed invariably kind and tolerant with children, servants, laborers, and the illiterate. He gives freely to the poor, according to his means. He can be freezing in manner, and knows how to fend off bores, though really the most affectionate of men. Sometimes he and I only-sometimes a large party of us-go off on rambles of several miles out in the country, or over the hills; sometimes we go nights, when the moon is fine. On such occasions he contributes his part to the general fun. You might hear his voice, half in sport, declaiming some passage from a poem or play; and his song or laugh about as often as any, sounding in the open air."

# CAST



#### SAVANNAH RUTHERFORD—CAROLINE

Savannah Rutherford is in her senior year at UAH, pursuing a dual degree in Classical Voice and Theatre Performance. After graduation, she plans to run away to New York to chase her Broadway dreams. Her favorite credits include Hedy LaRue in *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (2014, UAH Theatre) and Audrey in *Leading Ladies* (2015, Theatre Huntsville). She has recently been recognized as Best Stage Manager by Huntsville Theatre Reviews (2016, *'Dentity Crisis*). She wishes to thank the Theatre Department faculty for their unwavering support in her endeavors.



#### **BAKARI PRIGG—ANTHONY**

Bakari is grateful to perform the role of Anthony. Past roles include Bud Frump (*How to Succeed*), Moises Kaufman (*The Laramie Project*), Robin Starveling (*Midsummer*), Loud Stone and Nasty Man u/s (*Eudydice*). Directing credits include 2015 production of *I.M.A.G.E.* by Dennis Allen, 2016 Revue of Black Broadway Musicals (Oakwood Academy), and 2017 production of James Weldon Johnson's *God's Trombones*. Bakari is also a seasoned puppeteer, and has been a part of masterclasses under the tutelage of Sesame Street Muppeteers Matt Vogel, Marty Robinson, and Peter Linz. Bakari thanks all of his supporters.



#### LAURA MARTIN—CAROLINE

Laura Martin is a junior at UAH studying English and Theatre with a focus in performance. She has worked on multiple productions at UAH, including Stage Managing *The Medium*, acting in *Eurydice* as Little Stone and Eurydice's understudy, and voicing the Narrator in *The Laramie Project*. She looks forward to working with the department on future shows and thanks her loving friends, family, and most importantly her professors for their constant support.



#### **DEVIN TOWNSEND—ANTHONY**

Devin is proud to be in his first theater production with UAH's theatre program. He is a freshman, majoring in Foreign Language and International Trade. This is his first full production performance. He thanks his friends and family for the continuous love and support and everyone who made this production possible.

# PRODUCERS



#### AMY GUERIN—DIRECTOR

Amy Guerin is making her directing debut as a new member of the theatre faculty at UAH. She previously taught at Texas A&M University. At A&M she directed Lend Me a Tenor, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, The Conduct of Life, Bus Stop, Measure for Measure, An Ideal Husband, Tartuffe, and Machinal. Previous theatre credits include work in Richmond, VA, Austin, College Station, and Houston, TX. In 2009, Nova Arts Project, a Houston-based theater company she co-founded, received the Houston Press MasterMind Award for Outstanding Creative Contribution. Amy received her BFA from the University of Oklahoma, and her MFA from the University of Houston.



#### DAVID HARWELL—SCENIC DESIGNER

David is the associate professor of theatre at UAH. He received his BFA in theatre at the University of Montevallo and his MFA in scene design from the University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana, in 1991. After many years of working in professional theater in NYC, Boston, and regionally, he is happy to be back in Huntsville, his hometown. David started the UAH Theatre in 2005 and serves as its director and could not be more proud of this epic Menotti collaboration with his talented colleagues and students.



#### MJ SEGAL—STAGE MANAGER

Mary J.C. Segal delights in sharing her UAH Stage Management debut with you in *I and You*. She studies towards two Bachelor of Art degrees, one in English and one in Theatre, with her minor in Arabic. Recent accolades include Huntsville Theatre Review Spotlight Excellence as a Supporting Actress in a Comedy, Little Aven Newcomer of the Year Award, Little Aven Best Actress in a Leading Role, and Jackson Academy Theatre Workshop Leader. Recent theater credits include Edith in 'dentity Crisis, Viola in Twelfth Night, Five Wits in Everyman, and Kate in Taming of the Shrew.



#### CHRISTOPHER WILSON—ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Christopher Wilson is a 4th year student at the University of Alabama pursuing a dual degree in Biological Sciences and Theatre with an emphasis of both performance and technical theare. This is Chris' first time working as an assistant director and he has directed two shows in past: *Blinded by the Knight* and *Justice-Man vs. Numerous Lawsuits*. Other contributions to the UAH Theatre productions include as a performer for 'dentity Crisis and as a sound technician and sound board operator for both *The Medium* and *Proof*. Chris would like to thanks his family and friends for their everlasting support.



#### DAVIS WALKER—TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Davis Walker is a Sophomore Theater Major at UAH, specializing in tech and fabrication. He performed as Robert in 'dentity Crisis Fall 2015, and has worked as the Technical Director for the Fall showings of *Proof* and *The Medium*. His other interests include costume manufacturing, specifically armor and props, gaming, and martial arts.



#### JOHNNA DOTY—SOUND DESIGNER

A graduate of the University of Montevallo in music, Johnna earned a sound design MFA from Boston University in 1994. She has worked professionally in NYC and regionally, and was an Assistant Professor at the City University of New York - Borough of Manhattan Community College. A native of Florence, Alabama, she now resides in Huntsville and teaches at UAH.



#### LAURA HAPPEL— LIGHTING DESIGNER

Laura Happel is thrilled to be designing her first show at the University of Alabama Huntsville. Laura has been working in theater for 25 years as a Master Electrician and Lighting Designer which includes The Cumberland County Playhouse, The Barrington Stage Company and Clemson University.



#### SARAH DAVIS—ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Sarah Davis is a senior here at UAH, who previously served as a light technician at Calhoun Community College. While there she worked on the productions of *Hamlet*, *A Rehearsal for Murder*, and a musical interpretation of *A Comedy of Errors*.



#### LYDIA JEAN CHAPPEL—COSTUME ASSISTANT

Lydia is a junior at UAH pursuing a bachelor's degree in English with a minor in Theatre. She is super excited to be making her costuming debut with *I* and You. Some of her previous shows include The Perfect Ending, Godspell, The Last Illusion, Androcles and the Lion, 'dentity Crisis, and The Medium. Lydia would like to thank her parents for supporting her in all of her endeavors.



#### KAYLIE MILLER— COSTUME ASSISTANT

Kaylie is a junior majoring in Theatre (Technical Concentration) and minoring in Business Administration. She has constructed costumes for productions such as A Midsummer Night's Dream (UAH Theatre) and Mary Poppins (Independent Musical Productions), as well as specialized pieces for local costume rental store Fig Leaf Costumes. Kaylie made her costume design debut with 'dentity Crisis (UAH Theatre) this fall, and she is looking forward to undertaking costume design and construction of Dr. Faustus this spring.



#### AMELIA ENIX—PROPS ASSISTANT

Amelia Enix is a freshman at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. She is pursuing a BA in Theatre (Performance) as well as minors in Music (Voice) and English. Although she has fulfilled technical roles before, this is her debut as a property master. In 2016 she served at Assistant Stage Manager for UAH Theatre's production of *Proof.* She is better known for her role of Jane in 'dentity Crisis, also a UAH Theatre production. Amelia would like to thank her friends, family, and fellow colleagues for their support.



#### MATTHEW LAWRENCE—LIGHTING ASSISTANT

Matthew Lawrence is a second year student at UAH currently double majoring in Computer Science and Theatre. After performing as Toby in *The Medium* last fall, Matthew took the opportunity to spend some time working behind the scenes. He worked as an Assistant Stage Manager during Peace on Earth last Christmas, and was responsible for programming the light board for this show. Matthew will also be appearing in the upcoming stage production *Dr. Faustus*, and the Charger Productions film festival project *Brain Dead*.



#### SETH ROBERTSON—SOUND ASSISTANT

This is Seth's first play assisting with sound design. He has previously operated the sound board for other UAH productions such as *The Laramie Project*, and *You're Gonna Love Tomorrow*. This is his second semester as a Theatre Major and he has really enjoyed the atmosphere and work he has seen so far.



# ALEXANDER HILLGARTNER—ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR AND DRAMATURG

Alexander Hillgartner is a Tech Theatre major at UAH. Having participated in every possible performance at Pope John Paul II Catholic High School, he was ecstatic to find such a bustling theatre community at UAH. He worked as a dramaturg for *I and You*, his first time ever in that position. Alexander looks forward to many more productions with UAH.

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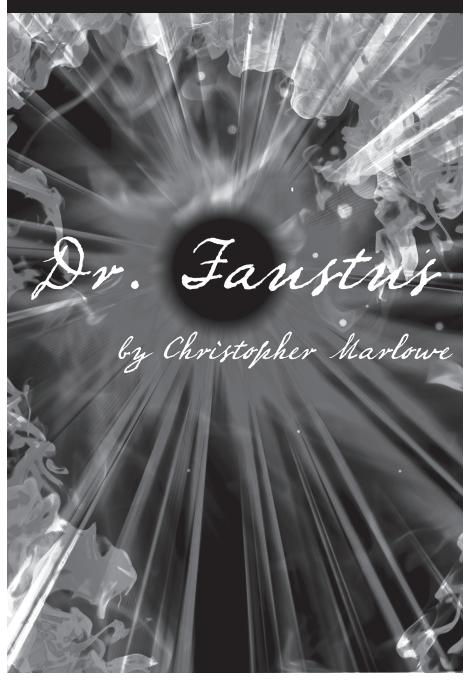
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