



October 14-16, 2021, 7:30 pm
October 21-23, 2021, 7:30 pm
October 17 & 24, 2021, 2:00 pm

The University of Rhode Island, Theatre Department Presents:

Silent Sky

By Lauren Gunderson



Directed by Tracy Liz Miller

Stage Managed by Liam Horne

Scenic Design by Renée Surprenant Fitzgerald

Lighting Design by Audrey Visscher

Sound Design by Michael Hyde

Costume Design by David T. Howard

Silent Sky is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

CAST

Henrietta Leavitt.....Carleigh Boyle
Margaret Leavitt.....Jenna Wentworth
Peter Shaw.....Ben Pereira
Annie Cannon.....Alana Parrott
Williamina Fleming.....Sarah Taylor

UNDERSTUDY CAST

Henrietta Leavitt.....Zoe Pepin
Margaret Leavitt.....Olivia Humulock
Peter Shaw.....Manny Maldonado
Annie Cannon.....Kayla Ribeiro
Williamina Fleming.....Naomi Tyler



There will be a 15 minute intermission.

SETTING

Silent Sky takes place approximately within the years 1900-1920; with various locations including the Leavitt home in Wisconsin, the 2nd floor offices of the Harvard Observatory, an ocean liner on the Atlantic, and in Henrietta's home in Cambridge, MA.

Please turn off or place cell phones on silent mode. Their use along with cameras, recording devices, social media postings and smoking is
PROHIBITED.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

After a long sad dry spell, what a joy it has been to be in a rehearsal process once again. My name is Tracy Liz Miller and I am new to URI and so very excited to be working alongside such terrific collaborators, colleagues, and with the outstanding students of URI's Department of Theatre. And what a terrific play to celebrate the very idea of wonder! I've long admired Lauren Gunderson's work and how she creates stories that place personal existential questions alongside enormous quests for truth in science. And she brings those working on her plays, as well as the audience, right into the middle of these questions with a sense of humor, play, beauty, and yes -- lots of wonder. I couldn't have asked for a better play to bring us all together after such a long absence.

I want to thank my family, Kent and Vivian, for saying "yes" to me being here many nights, away from them. "Afar but not apart." And a tremendous thank you to all that have welcomed me and made me feel a valuable part of this department's chosen family. The outstanding focus and work that so many have given for this production to happen is above and beyond. Without the extraordinary attention to detail needed to make this happen during this remarkable time, we wouldn't be here nor would we feel safe enough to create and then share with you all.

And thank you, audience, for being here! May we never forget how precious this very moment is, minutes away from sharing a gorgeous story!

With gratitude,

Tracy

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director.....	Jacob Richards-Hegnauer
Student Technical Director.....	Erin Doyle
Production Manager.....	Paula McGlasson
Student Production Manager.....	Syd Davey
Assistant Director.....	Audrey Visscher
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Lizzy Klebart, Allegra Levone, Rachel Benz, Marisa Papa, Henry O'Brien, Meagan Frye, David Weber
Dramaturg.....	Mackenzie Blake
Charge Scenic Artist.....	Renee Surprenant Fitzgerald
Paint Crew.....	Melie Hayes, THE 100
Master Electrician.....	Zoë Hayn
Student Master Electrician.....	Colin Cleary
Electricians.....	Theo Fantozzi, Logan Giusti, Casey Pratt, Courtney Satterley, THE 100, THE 161
Properties Designer.....	Lily Ferreira, David Howard
Master Carpenter.....	Chris Kilduff
Carpenters.....	Erin Doyle, Jack Kilduff
Set Construction Crew.....	THE 161, Courtney Cummings, Jenna Goulart, Logan Giusti, Owen Gilmartin, Casey Pratt, Hannah Bagshaw
Light Board Operator.....	Theo Fantozzi
Sound Board Operator.....	Hannah Bagshaw
Stage & Properties Running Crew.....	Ashlyn Banno, Vanessa Ginot
Assistant Costume Designer.....	Riley Nedder
Costume Shop Manager.....	Alison Walker Carrier
Costume Construction Crew.....	Rose Figueira, Marilyn Machon, Kayla Ribeiro, Jordan Cardona, Rachel Arruda, Nyx Bennet, Riley Nedder, Kalif Madriaga
Costume Maintenance Crew.....	Jordan Cardona, Buu Trieu, Rose Figueira
Stitcher.....	Jennifer Cannon
Wardrobe Crew Head.....	Omar Laguerre-Lewis
Wardrobe Running Crew.....	Sabrina Youn, Christopher Scarpa, Meghan Turner, Kayla Ribeiro (alternate)

PRODUCTION STAFF cont.

Publicity Director.....Bonnie Bosworth
Assistant Publicity Staff.....Courtney Satterley, Lizzy Klebart,
Alana Parrott
Digital Program Designer.....Courtney Satterley
Box Office Managers.....Omar Laguerre-Lewis,
Molly O'Connor
Box Office Staff.....Annie Cormier, Liam Horne,
Kaitlyn Ivory, Hallie Ivory, Josh Winderman,
Ben Pereira, Jordan Cardona, Sara Gallagher,
Manny Maldonado
Resident House Manager.....Michael G. Lapointe
Student House Managers.....Owen Gilmartin, Annie Cormier,
Onyeme Peace, Syd Davey, Jenna Muldoon,
Paige D'Iorio
Social Media Staff.....Lizzy Klebart, Allegra Levone,
Michael Galvin, Zoe Pepin, Tess Cruz,
Syd Davey
Videographer.....Sean McVeigh Media

Casting Policy

URI Theatre is committed to equal opportunity and non-traditional casting. Our productions strongly encourage any/and all students, staff, faculty or members of the community to audition and/or participate in URI productions. There will be no discrimination based on sex, race, color, age, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, veteran and/or disability status.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Kathy Geibler

FRIENDS OF THE URI THEATRE

We acknowledge with gratitude the many who have so graciously supported the University of Rhode Island, Department of Theatre

The Richard Beaupre Hope & Heritage Fund
The Larry Bonoff Theatre Fund
Winifred E. Brownell Fine Arts Endowment
Molly Burnap
Forest Foundation
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The Anthony Perrotti Theatre & Music Performance
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The Thomas R. Pezzullo Memorial Scholarship
Colonel Philip J. Saulnier, U.S. Army retired '62
Francis C. Ward
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Marilyn Woloohojian
The Mary Zorabedian Scholarship Endowment

The Kennedy Center



THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts and the President's Advisor Committee on the Arts.

URI THEATRE STAFF & FACULTY

Bonnie Bosworth.....	Administrative Assistant III, Audience Development
Alison Walker Carrier.....	Costume Shop Manager
Jeff Church.....	Guest Artist, Acting
Maria Day Hyde.....	Guest Artist, Intro to Theatre
Anthony Estrella.....	Guest Artist, Acting
Kathy Giebler.....	Master Electrician
James Horban.....	Assistant Professor, Lighting Design
David T. Howard.....	Professor, Department Chair
Michael Hyde.....	Sound Design
Michael G. Lapointe.....	House Manager
Paula McGlasson.....	Professor, Theatre Manager
Tracy Liz Miller.....	Instructor, Acting
Steven Pennell.....	Guest Artist, Theatre History
Max Ponticelli.....	Guest Artist, Stage Combat, Intro to Theatre
Dave Rabinow.....	Guest Artist, Playwriting
Jacob Richards-Hegnauer.....	Technical Director
Joe Short.....	Guest Artist, Voice & Movement
Judith Swift.....	Professor, Comm. Studies & Theatre
Stephanie Traversa.....	Guest Artist, Make-up
Rachel Walshe.....	Assistant Professor, Acting, Directing

Retired URI Theatre Faculty & Staff

Joy Spanabel Emery.....	Professor Emerita (deceased)
Julius Galgoczy.....	Technical Director
Alan Hawkrige.....	Lecturer
Sally Tschantz-Dwyer.....	Costume Shop Manager
Kimber Wheelock.....	Professor Emeritus (deceased)
Christian Wittwer.....	Professor Emeritus
Bryna Wortman.....	Professor Emerita

URI Theatre Mission Statement

The URI Theatre program provides a conservatory experience with a pre-professional liberal art setting. The distinguished faculty, guest artists and staff place an equal emphasis on the theoretical and practical understanding of theatre. Artistically vibrant, relevant and rooted in collaboration, our unique production program enriches all students and serves the educational and cultural needs of the university and the greater community

LAUREN GUNDERSON BIO

Lauren has been one of the most produced playwrights in America since 2015 topping the list twice including 2019/20. She is a two-time winner of the Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award for *I and You* and *The Book of Will*, the winner of the Lanford Wilson Award and the Otis Guernsey New Voices Award, a finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize and John Gassner Award for Playwriting, and a recipient of the Mellon Foundation's 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. She co-authored the Miss Bennet plays with Margot Melcon, and her play *The Half-Life of Marie Curie* is available on [Audible.com](https://www.audible.com). Her work is published at Playscripts (*I and You*; *Exit Pursued By A Bear*; *The Taming and Toil And Trouble*), Dramatists Play Service (*The Revolutionists*; *The Book of Will*; *Silent Sky*; *Bauer*, *Natural Shocks*, *The Wickhams* and *Miss Bennet*) and Samuel French (*Emilie*). Her picture book *Dr Wonderful: Blast Off to the Moon* is available from Two Lions/Amazon. She is currently developing musicals with Ari Afsar, Dave Stewart and Joss Stone. [LaurenGunderson.com](https://www.LaurenGunderson.com)

CAST BIOS

Carleigh Boyle *Henrietta Leavitt*

Carleigh is a senior from Hillsdale, New Jersey. She is a double major in Theatre (with an acting concentrate) and Animal Science. Previously at URI she was in Miss Nelson is Missing! (U/S LaVita), She Kills Monsters (Evil Tina), and The Wolves (#46, KCACTF nominee). She has done countless other shows down in New Jersey as well. She is so grateful that she gets to play one of her favorite characters after a year and a half of not doing live theatre!

Jenna Wentworth *Margaret Leavitt*

Jenna Wentworth is a junior double major in Communications and Theatre with a concentration in Acting from Tewksbury, Massachusetts. She is so excited to make her URI acting debut as Margaret Leavitt in URI Theatre's production of Silent Sky. She recently played Olive Ostrovsky in the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Jenna would love to thank Tracy, Liam, and the rest of the cast and crew for making this such a fun experience for her. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Ben Pereira *Peter Shaw*

Ben Pereira is a junior, double majoring in Public Relations and Theatre with a concentration in Acting. He is from Danbury, CT. His previous performances in URI Theatre include playing Earnest in the virtual play, "The Importance of Being Earnest In A Pandemic".

Alana Parrott *Annie Cannon*

Alana is a Senior Theatre Major with a concentration in acting from Webster Massachusetts. Alana recently played lead of Miss Nelson in URI's production of Miss Nelson is Missing. She will be on Amazon Prime for the College Tour Series in November and was nominated to compete for 2021 Irene Ryan's Award at KCACTF this year.

Sarah Taylor *Williamina Fleming*

Sarah is a Junior at the University of Rhode Island. She is a double major in Film and Theatre with concentrations in acting and directing. Sarah is from the town of North Providence, Rhode Island and would like to thank her mother, father, brother, and grandmother for always supporting her. This is Sarah's first production with the URI Theatre Department.

CAST BIOS

Zoe Pepin *Henrietta Leavitt U/S*

Zoe Pepin is a junior theatre major with concentrations in acting and stage management. This is her second time being an understudy in a URI production, and she has had so much fun with the process. Zoe hopes you enjoy the show!

Olivia Humulock *Margaret Leavitt U/S*

Olivia Humulock is a junior at University of Rhode Island. She is double majoring in Theater with a concentration in acting, and Textile, Merchandise, and Design. She grew up in Narragansett, RI and graduated Narragansett High School. Olivia transferred from Boston Conservatory to University of Rhode Island. Some of her favorite shows that she has participated in include *Fiddler on the Roof* as Hodel and *Grease* as Marty Maraschino.

Manny Maldonado *Peter Shaw U/S*

Manny Maldonado is a Junior at URI and is an Acting Concentrate Theatre major and a Communication Studies major. He lives in Newport, RI. He has been acting for as long as he can remember, his first role being an ensemble cast member in a production of *Grease*. Since then, he has acted in many shows with some of his favorites being *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Big Love*, *King Lear*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. During the summer, he works as a counselor at Theatre At St. Michael's camp, helping children put on productions of Shakespeare plays or writing and performing original musicals!

Kayla Ribeiro *Annie Canon U/S*

Kayla Joan Ribeiro is a double major in Theatre with a Concentration in Acting and Gender and Women's Studies. Kayla is currently in her junior year. She was previously a Theatre Major at Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts (TAPA), where she won an Excellence in Theatre award for her written, produced, and directed play, "Riptide". She has been involved in many local theatre competitions, winning 2nd in State at the English-Speaking Union's 2019 Shakespeare Competition and was a Poetry Out Loud finalist. Kayla is excited to be playing a feminist icon such as Annie Cannon in "Silent Sky".

Naomi Tyler *Williamina Fleming U/S*

Naomi Tyler is a Junior Acting concentrate, with a specific love for musical theater. She loves scenic design and hopes to do more work in the URI scene shop for upcoming shows. Her favorite shows she's been in are *Cabaret* and *As You Like It*, but *Silent Sky* is her first contemporary play. Naomi also wants to give a big shoutout her parents and fiancé for always loving and supporting her, and a huge thanks to Tracy for giving her this opportunity to work with such amazing people.



2021-2022 SEASON



CLUE: ON STAGE

Based on the screenplay by Jonathan Lynn

Written by Sandy Rustin

It's a dark and stormy night, and you've been invited to a very unusual dinner party. Each of the guests has an alias, the butler offers a variety of weapons, and the host is, well.....dead. So whodunnit? Based on the cult classic film and the popular board game, Clue: On Stage is madcap comedy that will keep you guessing until the final twist.

By special arrangement with The Araca Group, Work Light Productions, and Michael Barra/Lively McCabe Entertainment

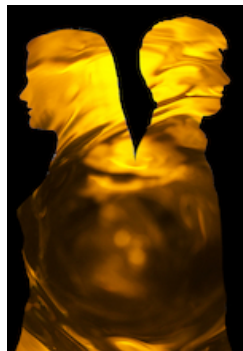
December 2-5 and 9-12, 2021

TWELFTH NIGHT

By William Shakespeare

Shipwrecked in Illyria, Viola disguises herself to work for Duke as his manservant. In this strange land she meets a host of characters: from arrogant servants to a mourning Countess. When her brother, thought dead, arrives in Illyria, all is changed. Twelfth Night is considered to be one of the funniest of Shakespeare's plays and has a long history as a favorite at URI Theatre

March 3-6 and 10-13, 2022



THE WIZARD OF OZ

By L. Frank Baum

With Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg

L. Frank Baum's classic novel comes to life in The Wizard of Oz. This faithful adaptation (by the Royal Shakespeare Company) features all the most beloved songs and moments from the 1939 classic film, brought to life onstage. Dorothy Gale is swept away by a tornado to the magical land of Oz. There, she encounters a host of whimsical and scary characters. To make it home safely, Dorothy must learn an important lesson: there's no place like home.

The Wizard of Oz is presented by arrangement with Tams Witmark, a Concord Theatricals Company 229 West 28th Street, New York, NY 10001
www.tamswitmark.com

April 21- 24 and April 28-May 1, 2022