

theatre **KAPOW** *presents*

ROOM



Room 303 and Girl's Bedroom by Enda Walsh
I Used to Feel by Ailís Ní Ríain

Friday, April 30, 7:30 pm
Saturday, May 1, 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm
Sunday, May 2, 2:00 pm
Live Stream

Welcome!

Here we find ourselves at the end of a very strange season 13. Room is our 6th live streamed performance since the beginning of the pandemic. While all of us are very proud of the work we have done this year, the prevailing sentiment in our room (our rehearsal room that is) this past week has been that we really can't wait to be back in a room together with all of you very soon. For many years now, theatre KAPOW has ended every process with a question, "Now what?" It's our way of taking a moment to reflect on the work we have just completed and to challenge ourselves to reach further and do more in the future. The "Now what?" moment at the conclusion of this process will be an epic one. We know that we aren't just going to go back to "business as usual" next season.

I once read that a show wasn't successful unless the audience left the theatre fundamentally changed. I believe that will also be the standard by which we judge this company following the pandemic. Something has fundamentally changed, so what are we going to do about it? The coming weeks and months will provide some clarity (I hope) but we do know that some of the ways we have found to tell stories absolutely have to come back with us. Our love/hate relationship with cameras and streaming will almost certainly continue as we explore ways to blur genres and provide hybrid viewing experiences for audiences. While this whole streaming experiment felt a bit like taking a step off a cliff it somehow feels like it is going to take another step off the cliff to get us to season 14. We are eternally grateful, however, for all of you who make every "Now what?" moment truly worth the asking.

~ Matt Cahoon



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theatre KAPOW presents

ROOM

A Girl's Bedroom by Enda Walsh

Girl..... Emily Karel
Director Rachael Chapin Longo
Music: "Street Song" by Ailís Ní Riain

I Used to Feel by Ailís Ní Riain

Young Woman..... Heidi Krantz
Clarinet Player..... Stephanie Ratté Jenkins
Director..... Matt Cahoon

Room 303 by Enda Walsh

Man..... Peter Josephson
Director..... Rachael Chapin Longo
Music: "When I Die You Can Do What You Want" and "Ragdale" by Ailís Ní Riain

Lighting Design.....Tayva Young

~ *There is no intermission ~ Running time: 60 minutes ~*

Presented through special arrangement with the playwrights

The Company

Emily Karel (Girl) is excited to be back with Theatre KAPOW for Room! Emily was last seen with tKAPOW as Lizzy in *Pride and Prejudice* by Kate Hamill. Emily is a Seacoast New Hampshire based actor and producer. She has studied acting for theatre, film, and television in New York and Los Angeles, and is a graduate of the Conservatory and Winter Intensive programs at Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, Massachusetts. Recent credits include Ada in *Ada and the Engine* By Lauren Gunderson (Glass Dove Productions/New Hampshire Theatre Project), Henrietta Leavitt in *Silent Sky* by Lauren Gunderson (tKAPOW), Maire in *Translations* by Brian Freil (tKAPOW), Thomasina in *Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard (Glass Dove Productions), and Hannah Brennan in the United States premiere of *Mary and Me* by Irene Kelleher (Glass Dove Productions). Emily is looking forward to continuing the United States premiere tour of *Mary and Me* when theatres re open for live performance! Emily would like to thank Rachael for her direction and guidance on this beautiful piece, the talented cast and crew of *ROOM*, and all of you for helping to keep the arts alive during this difficult time. Thank you.

Heidi Krantz (Young Woman) has been on the directing team for a number of shows including music directing and assistant directing at KCT, Pinkerton Academy, Hood Middle School, and now tKAPOW. She has also been in a myriad of shows and is an NHETG award winning actress. She is really excited

to jump back into theatre and to bring the audience along with her!

Stephanie Ratté Jenkins (Clarinet) received a B.M. in Music Education from the Crane School of Music in Potsdam, NY and an M.M. in Clarinet Performance from Michigan State University, where she studied under Elsa Verdehr. She performs with Infinities Chamber Ensemble, which is on the Massachusetts Young Audiences roster. Stephanie has performed with many New England choruses and orchestras, including Great Waters Music Festival, Symphony by the Sea, and Green Mountain Opera Festival. She currently teaches applied clarinet and Clarinet Choir at Keene State College, and is also on the faculties of St. Paul's School and the SYMS program at UNH.

Peter Josephson (Man) is in his tenth season as a member of theatre KAPOW. An accomplished actor and director, he has won two New Hampshire Theatre Awards for his roles in *Penelope* and *Exit the King* (both with tKAPOW). He has performed with the New Hampshire Theatre Project, the Winnepesaukee Playhouse, and the Seven Stages Shakespeare Company, and has appeared in numerous productions with theatre KAPOW, including *Agamemnon*, *A Dream Play*, *Macbeth*, *Buried Child*, *Stupid F&%ing Bird*, and *Translations*. He trains regularly with the International Michael Chekhov Association and tKAPOW, and teaches acting workshops on the Seacoast and in the Manchester area. For 35 years he has benefited from the love and support of his wife, without whom he would be a shadow of his present self.

Rachael Chapin Longo (Director, *A Girl's Bedroom*, *Room 303*) received her BS in Theater from Skidmore College and her MA in Educational Theatre from NYU. She is an actor, director, and playwright. Rachael has dedicated herself to educational theatre and arts administration and has worked as a professional teaching artist and education director; creating curriculum and teaching classes in acting, directing, playwriting and movement. Her directing credits include *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Laramie Project*, *The Death of a Caterpillar*, *West Side Story*, *The Tempest*, *South Pacific*, *Sister Act*, *Singin' in the Rain* and *Silent Sky*. Acting credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Crucible*, *Desdemona*, *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*, *The Penelopiad* and *The Burial at Thebes*. She was a finalist for a NHTA "Best Director" Award in 2019. Rachael has taught with many NY based theaters including The New Victory Theatre and Lighthouse Youth Arts Center. She served as the Director of Education and Operations Manager for The Play Group Theatre in White Plains, NY for several years. Rachael is currently an adjunct professor of acting and theater arts in the Visual and Performing Arts Department at Merrimack College. She is also a company member and actor with theatre KAPOW. She is grateful to have the support of her tKAPOW family as she continues to train and learn. The opportunity to explore great storytelling of the human experience is a gift.

Matt Cahoon (Director) is one of the co-founders of theatre KAPOW and, over the course of the past thirteen+ years has directed over 30 productions for the company. Matt has received multiple NH Theatre Awards for his work with tKAPOW including Best Director for a Drama/Comedy (*Penelope*, *Exit the King* and *The Penelopiad*) and Best Scenic Design (*Raining Aluminum*). Matt has also directed for other companies including the Winnepesaukee Playhouse (*Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, *Israel Potter*, *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*, and *Miss Julie*), Jean's Playhouse (*Kimberly Akimbo*),

and LaMaMa Umbria (*Bea and Me*). In 2018, Matt co-directed *The Life and Times of Lee Harvey Oswald* at LaMaMa Etc. in New York. Matt has an MA in Arts Administration from Goucher College and his theatre training includes work with Tectonic Theater Project, Double Edge Theatre Company, SITI Company, the New England Center for Circus Arts, and Range of Motion Arts. As his "day job" Matt serves as the Director of Cultural Programming at Pinkerton Academy in Derry.

Tayva Young (Lighting Designer) is in her 10th year with tKAPOW. She is feeling blessed to be working on the 13th season: *We Can Get Through This*. She is excited to be a part of a production that is thinking out of the box and working hard to still bring you a form of Live Theatre. She considers tKAPOW her theatre family and could not have asked for a more talented, supportive and imaginative group of people to work with. She has been honored with two NH Theater Awards for best Lighting Design for *Time Stands Still* and *Living in Exile*. Some of her favorite tKAPOW productions are: *Melancholy Play* by Sarah Ruhl, *Living in Exile* by Jon Lipsky, *Grounded* by George Brant and *Silent Sky* by Lauren Gunderson. She enjoys the collaboration process with so many talented individuals, bringing the magic of live theatre to all audiences and in this case from our living room to yours. She thanks each and every one of you for supporting the arts, during this time of uncertainty and distance. Enjoy the Show!

Enda Walsh (Playwright) is a multi-award-winning Irish playwright. He lives in London. His recent plays include *Arlington* at the 2016 Galway International Festival; an adaptation of Roald Dahl's *The Twits* (2015); *Misterman*, (2011–2012); and several plays for Druid Theatre Company, including *Penelope*, which theatre KAPOW presented in 2014, *The New Electric Ballroom*, and *The Walworth Farce*. He collaborated with David Bowie on the musical *Lazarus*, and won a Tony Award in 2012 for writing the book for the musical *Once*, seen on Broadway, in the West End and on a US tour.

Ailís Ní Ríain (Playwright) is an Irish composer who aims to produce work that challenges, provokes and engages. She composes concert music, site-specific music installations, opera, music-theatre and has collaborated with writers, dancers, visual artists, illustrators, filmmakers, poets and theatre artists. She has been awarded international fellowships, associate artist positions and residencies at Yaddo, USA, the Atlantic Center for the Arts in Florida, The Irish Cultural Centre in Paris, the Ragdale Foundation in Illinois and at ArtOMI in New York State. Ailís is/has been an artistic assessor for the PRS Foundation, the Irish Arts Council, Sound and Music, Art & Disability Ireland and Arts Council England. In 2016 Ailís was awarded the prestigious Paul Hamlyn Award for Composers. She was made a member of the Ivors Academy Classical Committee in 2020.

*theatre KAPOW thanks the following people and organizations
for their support of ROOM:*

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season 13: we can get through this

“Isolation offered its own form of companionship” ~ Jhumpa Lahiri

Over the past several months most of us have found ourselves in various states of isolation. theatre KAPOW was just days away from beginning rehearsals for the third show of our 12th season when the reality of the pandemic arrived in New Hampshire effectively closing down theatres all over the state. Like so many people across the globe, our activities moved from close and personal interactions to the decidedly distant and impersonal world of video conferencing.

As artists, creating in that time was very difficult. Perhaps out of desperation for some sense of normalcy, isolation truly did begin to offer its own form of companionship. It was in this state of isolation that we, like the tree limb deprived of the sun, began to reach out and grow in new ways to seek the nourishment of creative expression and connection.

We repeated over and over again, “We Can Get Through This.” That phrase was not just a way to reassure each other of our resilience, but a pledge to do what we must to thrive in the face of great adversity. And now we have come to this moment: Season 13. This season of live stream theatre has explored isolation, resilience, courage, and conviction. We love the energy of the in-person audience, but for this series, we will be engaging you in an intimate virtual space in real time. Bring these amazing stories into your homes and find companionship in isolation.

theatre **KAPOW**

*Stay Tuned...
season 14 is coming...*



The goal of Expanding the Canon: a play reading circle is to expand our familiarity with the works of BIPOC playwrights. We simply must do the work to change "the canon." Becoming familiar with these works is one small thing that we can do to move toward the equity we want to see in the world. A guest dramaturg will curate the list of plays the circle will read and come together to discuss.

In this first year, Jasmine Bracey will lead the circle in a study of five works by contemporary Black playwrights beginning on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 18, 2021. Jasmine is a Chicago-based member of Actor's Equity and is currently an adjunct faculty member at The Theatre School at DePaul University. Her Chicago acting credits include working with The Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, American Blues Theatre, and Chicago Dramatists. Regionally, she has worked with Berkeley Repertory Theatre, The Alley Theatre, The Guthrie Theater, The Resident Ensemble Players, The Acting Company, and Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival. She has received theatre degrees from Florida State University, The American Musical and Dramatic Academy, and the University of Delaware.

Participation in the reading circle will be free of charge and meet for discussions online. Participants must purchase copies of the plays on the list. theatre KAPOW will purchase and make available a limited number of each play so that expense need not be a barrier to participation.

A complete list of the plays, schedule of discussions, and registration information can be found on www.tKAPOW.com

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