

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Michigan State University Department of Theatre Announces our 2017-2018 Season: Divergent Voices

In a time where **debate** may be equivalent to yelling; where **respect** can mean only similar points of view; where we all seem to only agree on **disagreement** – theatre must do what it was created to do-- offer an outlet for DIVERGENT VOICES.

We in the MSU Department of Theatre offer chances to examine topics, characters and stories from differing perspectives. Our season offers a chance for **debate** about contrasting interpretations; exploration of characters dissimilar to ourselves with **respect**; productions that allow audiences to embrace **disagreement** related to theatrical experiences.

Our season is devoted to compelling stories with varying points of view from our own to illuminate our similarities and our differences – offering a platform for DIVERGENT VOICES.

imaGen Title: TBA New Musical

Pasant Theatre: September 22-24

The Great Gatsby

Based on the novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Adapted for the Stage by Simon Levy

Directed by Deric McNish

Pasant Theatre: October 13-22

*In the extravagance and decadence of the roaring twenties, when thoughtless millionaires ruled with impunity, the mysterious Gatsby describes Daisy, his one obsession: “Her voice is full of money.” Passion and greed infect the American dream in this adaptation, where F. Scott Fitzgerald’s **voice** remains fresh as we watch the rich **escape** consequences and the power of money to corrupt.*

Haunted Aud

MSU Auditorium Building: October 28-31

*Are the **voices** in your head? Are you brave enough to allow those tormented souls trapped within the Auditorium? Don’t **diverge** from the path! (All proceeds go to student initiatives.)*

The Misanthrope

By Molière

Translated by Constance Congdon

Directed by Dan Smith

Arena Theatre: November 10-19

*This French classic is a comedy of manners about friendship and love in a world of absolute power enforced through surveillance. While his friends and rivals wield wit for sport and use compliments as commerce, Alceste’s **dissenting voice** seeks truth at all costs.*



College of
Arts and Letters

Department of
Theatre

542 Auditorium Road
113 Auditorium
East Lansing, MI 48824-1120

517-355-6690
FAX: 517-355-1698
theatre@msu.edu
theatre.msu.edu

Freshman Showcase: Giants Have Us In Their Books & Other Works by Jose Rivera

By Jose Rivera

Directed by Dionne O'Dell

Studio Theatre: November 30- December 3

*An opportunity for the new **voices** in the MSU Theatre Department to shine. Jose Rivera's collection of short, fantastical, "children's plays for adults" is infused with magical realism and metaphor, exploring **diverse** perspectives and **divergent** realities. Mr. Rivera will be a guest on campus in the Spring of 2018, and we are pleased to include his provocative work in our season.*

Thus With a Kiss I Die

Conceived and directed by Rob Roznowski

Fairchild Theatre: February 16-25

*This immersive theatre piece follows the days and hours leading up to a murder that takes place during a performance of Romeo and Juliet at a small southern university. The audience seeks clues to identify the victim and murderer as they follow the numerous characters through the nooks and crannies of the Auditorium. Each audience members experience is **unique** in this experimental piece that **diverges** from traditional theatrical forms.*

Dog Act

By Liz Duffy Adams

Directed by Christina Traister

Arena Theatre: March 16-25

*This capstone thesis production featuring the 2018 MFA Acting candidates follows the traveling performer Zetta Stone and her companion Dog and her **diverse** theatre troupe in this post-apocalyptic vaudeville as they journey through the wilderness of the former Northeast U.S., heading toward a gig in China. Will they find it? Will their **voices** be heard? Will they survive the journey?*

American Idiot

Book and lyrics by Billie Joe Armstrong

Book by Michael Mayer

Music and lyrics by Green Day

Directed and choreographed by Brad Willcuts

Musical direction by Dave Wendelberger

Pasant Theatre: April 13-22

*A rallying cry for 21st century American youth, this Rock Opera examines the boundaries and **diverging voices** of love and rage, patriotism and anarchy and the personal vs. the political. This Tony award-winning musical with Grammy Award winning music explodes onto the stage as a high-octane exploration of what it means to young and **different** in suburban America.*