

 UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA
DRAMA

THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

(and a recipe for Swedish pancakes)

By Samantha Macher
Directed by Doug Grissom

March 31 at 8:00pm
April 1-2 & 7-9 at 8:00pm
Helms Theatre



DEPARTMENT OF

DRAMA

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

The Arctic Circle (and a recipe for Swedish pancakes)

By **Samantha Macher**

Directed by **Doug Grissom**

Scenic Design by **Rachel DelGaudio Rauscher**

Costume Design by **Kaitlin Sikes**

Lighting Design by **Steven Spera**

Original Music and Sound Design by **Brandon Sangston**

Digital Media Design by **Mona Kasra**

Technical Direction by **Steven Warner**

Production Stage Management by **Michael Giovinco**

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Stage Directions.....	Amanda Diamond
Adult Elin	Emily Yates
20s Elin.....	Yvonne Fox
High School/College Elin	Natalie Pernick
Paul.....	Tim Lewis
Casey/Will/Noah	DJ Braye
Taylor.....	Julia Ruth Holland
Barista.....	Peyton Evans
John/Howard.....	Ali Cheraghpour
Raf/Rick/Colin.....	Stefan Mitrovic
Preston/Joe.....	Brian Ammer
Edwin	James Scales

There will be no intermission.

The Arctic Circle (and a recipe for Swedish Pancakes) was produced
by special arrangement with Original Works Publishing.

www.originalworksonline.com

WHO'S WHO IN *THE ARTIC CIRCLE*

Brian Ammer (4th Year, Foreign Affairs, History Minor): *Museum* (UVA Drama); *Welcome to Thebes*, *Arabian Nights* (Spectrum Theatre); *Oklahoma!*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (First Year Players).

DJ Braye (1st Year, Drama): *Our Town* (UVA Drama).

Ali Cheraghpour (2nd Year, Undeclared): *King Lear*, *The Wild Goose Chase*, *Romeo & Juliet* (Shakespeare on the Lawn); *Really Really* (Virginia Players).

Amanda Diamond (4th Year, Drama): *Every Tongue Confess* (UVA Drama) *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (First Year Plyers); *Arabian Nights* (Spectrum Theatre).

Peyton Evans (2nd Year, Undeclared): *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, *Wonderful Town* (UVA Drama); *Spamalot* (Heritage Theatre Festival); *The Producers* (First Year Players).

Yvonne Fox (4th Year, Drama and Global Development Studies): *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, *The Forgetting River* (UVA Drama); *Really Really* (Virginia Players).

Michael Giovinco (3rd Year, Drama and Cognitive Science).

Doug Grissom (Associate Professor, Playwriting, UVA Department of Drama): Recent directing has included *The Rimers of Eldritch* (Fall 2014) and *Museum* (Spring 2013).

Julia Ruth Holland (3rd Year, Drama, Dance Minor): *Our Town*, *Wonderful Town*, *Vodka Variations: an evening of Chekhov shorts*, *The Forgetting River*, *Fall/Spring Experimental Dance Concerts* (UVA Drama); *Voices of the Class* (Spectrum Theatre); *Romeo and Juliet* (Shakespeare on the Lawn); *Legally Blonde* (First Year Players).

Mona Kasra (Assistant Professor, Digital Media Design, UVA Department of Drama): *blahblah*, *Flesh World*, *(w)hole*, *T.N.B.*, *kaRaoKe MoTeL* (DWZ Collective).

Tim Lewis (4th Year, Drama and Italian): *A Flea in Her Ear*, *Crazy For You* (UVA Drama), *Oklahoma!*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (First Year Players).

Samantha Macher is a playwright and filmmaker based in Washington, D.C. Since beginning her career in 2011, she has had over 40 productions of her written work both in the U.S. and abroad, and is the winner of a StageSceneLA “Best World Premiere Play” for *War Bride* in 2012. Her play

continued

WHO'S WHO *continued*

Reset was a semi-finalist for the Princess Grace Playwriting Award (2015), and her award-winning film *Last Pyramid* (2015) was accepted into several festivals and has helped in the fundraising and awareness-raising efforts for the mission of the Epilepsy Foundation. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia and the Playwright's Lab at Hollins University.

Stefan Mitrovic (1st Year, Drama): *Our Town* (UVA Drama); *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (Ash Lawn Opera).

Natalie Pernick (2nd Year, Drama and Foreign Affairs): *The Producers*, *Godspell* (First Year Players).

Rachel DelGaudio Rauscher (3rd Year, M.F.A. Scenic Technology and Design): *Wonderful Town*, *Vodka Variations: an evening of Chekhov shorts*, *Every Tongue Confess*, *Museum* (UVA Drama); *I Love a Piano* (Heritage Theater Festival); *City of Angels* (Live Arts).

Brandon Sangston (3rd Year, Sound Design for Film, Television, and Interactive Media and Cognitive Science).

James Scales (Business Manager, UVA Department of Drama): *Our Town*, *Wonderful Town*, *Parade* (UVA Drama); *1776*, *My Fair Lady* (Heritage Theatre Festival).

Kaitlin Sikes (2nd Year, M.F.A Costume Design and Technology): *Vodka Variations: an evening of Chekhov shorts*, *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* (UVA Drama).

Steven Spera (2nd Year, M.F.A. Lighting Design): *Our Town*, *Wonderful Town*, *Fall 2014 Dance Concert*, *Spring 2015 Dance Concert* (UVA Drama); *Luv*, *Violet* (Heritage Theatre Festival); *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (winner of Broadway World Chicago for Best Lighting Design, Resident Non-Equity); *Beehive* (WSR).

Steven Warner (Technical/Operations Director, UVA Department of Drama): *Cirque du Soleil*; *Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus*; *Alley Theater*; *Pacific Coast Conservatory for the Performing Arts*; *Utah Shakespeare Festival*; *Texas Shakespeare Festival*.

Emily Yates (4th Year, Drama and English): *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, *The Rimers of Eldritch*, *Crazy for You* (UVA Drama); *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Heritage Theatre Festival); *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (First Year Players).

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Management & Rehearsal Staff

Dramaturg Julia Hurley
Assistant Dramaturg Charlotte Raskovich
Assistant Stage Managers Olivia Cosby, Hannah Klein
Production Coordinator &
Stage Management Faculty Advisor Caitlin McLeod
Run Crew Micah Watson
Swedish Consultant Dixon Smith
Mimicry Instructor Marianne Kubik
Voice Coach Mike Long

Scenic

Assistant Technical Director Aaron Bidleras
Scene Shop Foreman Chris Rybitski
Master Carpenter Vicente Arroyo
Scenic Design Faculty Advisor Tom Bloom
ATD/Draftspersons Brittany Bolick, Casey Horton
Carpenter Shop Assistants Hilary Landowski, Danton Wein,
Students of DRAM 2210

Paint

Scenic Charge Rachel DelGaudio Rauscher
Assistant Scenic Charge Susan Xie
Painters Students of DRAM 2232

Properties

Prop Master Sam Flippo
Prop Artisans Evelyn Davis, Yvonne Fox, Roberto Thomas

Costumes

Assistant Costume Designer Mfon-Abasi Obong
Costume Technology Faculty Advisor Marcy Linton
Costume Design Faculty Advisor Gweneth West
Costume Shop Manager Dorothy Smith
Shop Assistants Jacqueline Ford, Jessica Utz
Stitchers Students of DRAM 2310
Wardrobe Supervisor Haley Tynes
Wardrobe Crew Lauren Kim, Mimi Robinson, Branika Scott

Lighting

Master Electrician Matthew Ishee
Electricians Hannah Devore, Chelsea Dickens, Patricia Gallegos,
Michael Giovinco, Stephen Johnson, Brian Morris,
Erin Ryman, Ryen Wilson
Lighting Design Faculty Advisor Lee Kennedy
Light Board Operator Mariana Gonzalez-Leal

continued

PRODUCTION STAFF *continued*

Sound & Digital Media

Sound Design Faculty Advisor Michael Rasbury
Sound/Projection Specialist Wren Curtis
Sound Board Operator Andrew Barat

Administration

Drama Department Chair Colleen Kelly
Business Manager James Scales
Assistant Business Manager Judy McPeak
Drama Administrative Staff Barbara Koonin, Theresa Lamb
Publicity Manager Sarah Shifflett
Publicity Assistant Kathleen Welch

Box Office

UVA Box Office Manager Andrew Burnett
Box Office Staff Gabrielle Boissoneau, Michaela Campbell,
Claire Corkish, Krystal Ejesieme, Mariana Forero,
Yvonne Fox, Julia Ruth Holland, Mary Hrovat,
Isabelle Gonzalez Roy, Isabella Thompson

Front of House

House Manager Jacqueline Ford
Concessions Managers Erin Ryman, Jessica Utz



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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The very first writing I saw from Samantha Macher (as an example of her writing to get into my Playwriting I class) was a short piece she wrote in high school. It was not only witty, but witty in a unique, fresh way: this was a person who, even then, had her own distinctive voice. How could I not let her join my class? Working with Samantha as an undergraduate was a complete joy, and of course her writing grew and developed, while never abandoning that unique voice. She went on to get her MFA in Playwriting at Hollins, where she learned to become a “real” playwright, both in terms of writing and in getting productions. After several years of success in Los Angeles and other places, Samantha has come back to UVA to develop and expand an already successfully produced and published play, *The Arctic Circle (and a recipe for Swedish pancakes)*. Once again, she was a joy to work with, and the students have benefited greatly by working on this rich, new, evolving script. Welcome home, Samantha, and thank you for giving us this opportunity.

—Doug Grissom

PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES

The playwright would like to thank her director and mentor Doug Grissom, the cast and crew, and the University of Virginia Department of Drama for helping to develop the newest version of *The Arctic Circle (and a recipe for Swedish pancakes)*.

The opportunity to be able to work with Doug and his cast on the rewrites has been a wonderful experience, and the result of having a fuller, funnier, more heartfelt play is even better than I imagined. Working on this piece again was a bit like being able to go back in time with the chance to change how you did things before: some things I tried to make better, some things I erased, but mostly, I was able to try new things I hadn't done before because I didn't know how back then. Revisiting this play which I wrote almost 7 years ago now, has allowed me a rare chance to give Elin a richer story, and the world around her more life, humor, and even sweetness that didn't exist before. This journey back in time has been a lot of fun and the chance to make the “past” a little better has been invaluable to the script, and powerful for me as an artist as well.

—Samantha Macher



The Kennedy Center

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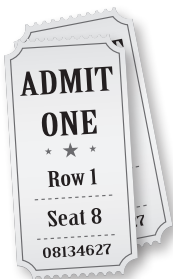
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David and Alice Rubenstein.

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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.



UPCOMING PRODUCTION

Spring Dance Concert

April 28 - 30 at 8pm

Ruth Caplin Theatre



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