

Daria T. Okugawa (2nd Year MFA Acting): *The Imaginary Invalid, Fuddy Meers* (U.Va. Drama); *Moonlight & Magnolias, Last Night of Ballyhoo* (HTF).

Sam Rabinovitz (4th Year Math/Physics): *The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer* (Asst. Set Designer), *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Asst. Set Designer).

Michael Rasbury (Assistant Professor, Sound Design)

Justin Smith (2nd Year MFA Technical Direction)

Tashi Thomas (2nd Year MFA Acting): *The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer, Language of Angels* (U.Va. Drama); *Big Love* (Notre Dame).

Betsy Rudelich Tucker (Assistant Professor, Performance)

PRODUCTION STAFF FOR *DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE*

Assistant Stage Managers Ally Boate, Eudora Chua
Department Technical Director Steve Warner
Scene Shop Manager David Hale
Assistant Technical Director Alan Perez
Scene Design Faculty Advisor Tom Bloom
Master Carpenter Jessica Cloutier
Carpenters Miguel Algarin, Mark Ambrose, Tom Christensen, Christopher Dickens,
Diana Fang, Molly Kampmann, Stephanie Maksymiuk, Christopher McElaney,
Michelle Miller, Rita Sono and the Students of DRAM 2210

Paint Charge Jeffrey Kmiec
Assistant Charge Mary Butcher
Painters Virginia Berg, Jacob Bloom, Garrrett Madjic, Kelsey Nix,
Isabelle Sazak and the Students of DRAM 2232

Props Master Kristin Freshwater
Props Assistants Lauren Chilton, Angela Pirko, Olga Zeveleva
Costume Design Faculty Advisor Gweneth West
Costume Shop Manager Josh Bond
Costume Technology Supervisor Marcy Linton
Assistant Costume Design Emily Price
Lighting Design Faculty Advisor Lee Kennedy
Master Electrician Paul Perscheid
Assistant Sound System Designer James Norton

Sound Board Operator Justin Freshwater
Sound System Installation Max Krembs and the Students of DRAM 2630
Run Crew Students of DRAM 2230 and DRAM 2250
Dramaturg Betsy Tucker
Business Manager James Scales
Assistant Business Manager Jenny Mays
Arts Box Office Manager Andrew Burnett
Arts Box Office Staff Reina Abboud, Ally Boate, Sarah Edwards,
Betsy Graves, Stephanie Harvey, Russ Hicks, Hunter Link,
Danny Navarro, Leigh Spoden, Ashleigh White.

House Manager Portia Henry
Concessions Manager Vashti Harrison
Front of House Staff Jarred Boone, Ashley Henry,
Maurice Patterson, A.A. Corbin Puryear

Publicity Assistant Carol Ann Van Deventer
Production Manager Caitlin McLeod

Special Thanks to

Doug Schneider, Jemmy Chen and Zora Tucker @ www.myspace.com/billiemoon.

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

DRAMA

DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE

BY SARAH RUHL

DIRECTED BY
BETSY TUCKER



HELMS THEATRE

MARCH 25-27, 30-31

APRIL 1-3, 2010

DEPARTMENT OF
DRAMA
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Presents

DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE

by Sarah Ruhl

Directed by **Betsy Rudelich Tucker**

Scenic Design by **Virginia Berg** and **Sam Rabinovitz**

Fight and Dance Choreography by **Marianne Kubik**

Costume Design by **Sarah Elizabeth Edwards**

Lighting Design by **Ryan Logue**

Sound Design by **Audrey Edwards** and **Michael Rasbury**

Technical Direction by **Justin Smith**

Production Stage Management by **Kendall Booher**

Playwrights Horizons, Inc., New York City, produced the New York Premiere of *Dead Man's Cell Phone* Off-Broadway in 2008.

Originally produced June 2006 by Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Washington, DC, Howard Shalwitz, Artistic Director; Kevin Moore, Managing Director.

Dead Man's Cell Phone was commissioned by Playwrights Horizons with funds provided by the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Commissioning Program.

Dead Man's Cell Phone is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

CAST

Jean. Sylvia Kates
Gordon Alex Grubbs
Mrs. Gottlieb Daria Okugawa
Hermia Tashi Thomas
Dwight Tom Christensen
Carlotta. Brooke Howard

Please see the signs in our lobby for the names of each night's cell phone ballet dancers.

There will be one 15 minute intermission

And now for something completely different...

Playwright Sarah Ruhl makes it a point to deliberately leave stage directions...well, let's just say flexible. It's not as if she doesn't know what works best, it's that sometimes she *just doesn't know*: theater is, after all, live, transient and very individual to each production of the same script. *Dead Man's Cell Phone* is no exception; with an Act 2 "cell phone ballet," Ruhl admittedly leaves wide open to interpretation. I considered the original usage of the term *ballet* as "a theatrical representation of story performed to music by trained dancers." This play speaks about connection where you might not expect. So why not try exploring such a theme within our larger community? We sent invitations to every adult dance organization and listserv we could think of in Charlottesville, asking only that each performer have solid movement skills and participate in at least three performances. Nineteen dancers are sharing in this "ballet" that will be improvised nightly. No performance will share the same configuration of dancers or pre-determined roles. No performance will ever be the same. Using a thematic structure I provided coupled with the lyrical strands of singer Zora Tucker and creative editing by Michael Rasbury and Audrey Edwards, the dancers seek to uncover for us—and for each other—new and memorable connections to contribute to the playwright's vision of a modern-day "music of the spheres." Who knows what connections we'll see tonight? Well, we'll see.

— Marianne Kubik, Fight and Dance Choreographer

WHO'S WHO IN DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE

Virginia Berg (2nd Year Drama): *Sweeney Todd*, *Urinetown*, *West Side Story* (FYP); *She Loves Me* (Spectrum); *High School Musical* (Danville Carrington Pavilion).

Kendall Booher (4th Year Art History/Spanish): *Oliver!*, *Little Shop of Horrors* (HTF).

Tom Christensen (2nd Year Undeclared): *La Petite Teet* (U.Va. Sketch Comedy Group); *The Nerd* (Fauquier Community Theatre).

Audrey Edwards (4th Year Drama)

Sarah Elizabeth Edwards (4th Year Psychology/Drama; MT Elementary Education): *The Imaginary Invalid* (U.Va. Drama); *Tom Sawyer* (St. Andrews Players); *Cabaret* (FYP).

Alex Grubbs (2nd Year MFA Acting): Theatre of War @ U.Va.; *Taruffe* (Live Arts); *Fuddy Meers*, *The Imaginary Invalid* (U.Va. Drama).

Brooke Howard (4th Year Drama/Government): *Day of Absence* (U.Va. Drama); *Ceremonies in Dark Old Men* (PRP); *Words as Weapons* (Carter G. Woodson).

Sylvia Kates (2nd Year English/Drama): *Sweeney Todd* (FYP); *Vagina Monologues* (Spectrum Theater).

Marianne Kubik (Associate Professor, Head of Theatre Movement)

Ryan Logue (4th Year English)