





RECKLESS

by Craig Lucas



PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR.....Tom Smith
 SCENIC DESIGN.....Amanda Sweger
 COSTUME DESIGN.....Kathleen Anderson*
 GAME SHOW SOLAR SYSTEM COSTUME DESIGN....Abigail Leake
 LIGHTING DESIGN.....Amanda Sweger
 SOUND DESIGN/PROPS DESIGN.....Tom Smith
 STAGE MANAGER.....Brandon Foster*

PRODUCTION CREW

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR.....Henry Loughman*
 COSTUME SHOP MANAGER.....Kathleen Anderson*
 ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER.....Tiana Price*
 SIGN LANGUAGE CONSULTANT.....Julie Cottom
 SCENIC CHARGE ARTIST.....Adaline McCormick*
 SCENIC CONSTRUCTION.....Mathæus Andersen*, Brandon Foster*, Alana Henerlau, Annika Nordleaf-Nelson*, Daniel Purcell, Ben Rampley, Z Rich, Allison Sheflo*, Anna Van Vleet
 COSTUME CONSTRUCTION.....Natalee Aalgaard*, Audrey Borloz, Destiny Colville*, Kenzie Knapp, Abigail Leake, Emelie Pennington-Davis, Z Rich
 MASTER ELECTRICIAN.....Micheal Peters, Benjamin Rampley
 ELECTRICIANS.....Zane Davenport, Bil Nowicki, Madeleine Pfeiffer, Anna Van Vleet
 PROPS.....Mathæus Andersen*, Melanie Young

RUNNING CREW

HOUSE MANAGER.....Indiana Hopkins
 LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR.....Mykahla George
 SOUND BOARD OPERATOR.....Nathan Lovitt
 STAGE CREW/USHERS.....Glen Fritz, Annika Peterson, Benjamin Rampley, Bella Schnieder, Monroe Torkelson, Ayu Uematsu
 COSTUME CREW.....Destiny Colville, Kenzie Knapp, Elena Oliver, Z Rich (Lead)
 HAIR AND MAKEUP.....Marissa Boeshaar, Meghan Johnson

CAST

Rachel.....Neena Malcom
Tom/Man in Ski Mask/Tom Jr.....John Pedro
Lloyd.....Dalen Todorov
Pooty/Sue.....Alison Rucker
Roy/Tim Timko/Receptionist.....Bil Nowicki
Trish/Game Show Hostess/Talk Show Host/Patient.....
.....Chloe Taggart
Doctors 1-6.....Natalie Hodges
Announcers/Voices.....Mathæus Andersen*, Glen Fritz*,
Ayla Grace Roberts

TIME/PLACE

1980s

Springfield

There will be one 10-minute intermission

Reckless contains strobe lights, gun violence and adult content.

Did you know...?

- Rachel's costume is inspired by Clara in *The Nutcracker*
- We set the world of this play inside a snow globe
- *Reckless* was described by the New York Times as "Alice in Wonderland fused with *Candide* into a contemporary antidote to Frank Capra's holiday heartwarmer *It's a Wonderful Life*."

SPECIAL THANKS

Dean Cameron Bennett and the School of Arts and Communication, Marissa Boeshaar, Lakewood Playhouse, Travis Pagel, PLU Communication Department, Taproot Theatre

*Denotes membership in Alpha Psi Omega (ΑΨΩ), National Theatre Honor Society

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Mathæus Andersen (Announcer/Voice) is a PLUS student taking a BFA in Acting/Directing with minors in dance and communication from Copenhagen, Denmark. His recent credits include Pastor Paul in *The Christians* (PLU), Ensemble singing "A Musical" and "Hygge" in *Make 'Em Laugh* (PLU) and Trent Conway in *Six Degrees of Separation* (Tacoma Arts Live). He would like to thank Kody, his friends and family as well as the other international students for their support.



Glen Fritz (Announcer/Voice) is a sophomore Musical Theatre major from Poulsbo, Washington whose recent credits include Ensemble in *Make Em Laugh: a musical revue* (PLU), Ensemble in *NOMT: Into Evil* (PLU), and Jack Kelly in *Newsies* (Central Stage Theatre). He would like to thank Brandon Foster for reminding him to submit his bio form.



Natalie Hodges (Doctors 1-6) is a junior Acting/Directing major whose recent credits include Ensemble in *Broadway at the Movies* (PLU), Alice in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (Lakewood Playhouse), and Marcy Park in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Franklin Pierce High School). She would like to thank her family and the wonderful cast/crew of *Reckless* for their support.



Neena Malcom (Rachel) is a second year Musical Theatre major with a minor in dance from Fort Collins, Colorado whose recent credits include Ensemble in *Broadway at the Movies: a musical revue* (PLU), and Martha in *The Children's Hour* (Fort Collins High School Tower Theatre). They would like to thank their amazing friends and family for always being so loving and supportive, their fellow cast and crew members for working so hard, and director Tom Smith for this opportunity!

Bil Nowicki (Roy/Tim Timko/Receptionist) is a second year Acting/Directing major from Sumner, Washington, whose recent credits include Bella Zangler in *Crazy For You* and George Banks in *Mary Poppins* at Emerald Ridge High School. He would like to thank his parents, his grandparents, Makayla Hopkins and director Tom Smith.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES (cont.)



John Pedro (Tom/Man in Ski Mask/Tom Jr.) is a first-year Theatre major from Tacoma whose recent credits include *The Ghost of Christmas Present* in *A Seussified Christmas Carol* at Tacoma Little Theater, Horton in *Seussical* at Tacoma Little Theater, and various roles in One Act productions at Franklin Pierce High School. He would like to thank his Mom, Dad, Mel (his sister) and Bentley (his nephew), as well best friend Natalie (Doctors 1 thru 6 in this production) and director Tom Smith for this opportunity.



Ayla Grace Roberts (Announcer/Voice) is a fourth year Theatre major from Puyallup, WA whose recent credits include Katy in *Twisted Tales of Poe* (PLU), Mermaid 2 in *Dust* (PLU) and Sam in *The Ladies Room* (PLU). She would like to thank her mom, her best friend Jenna, and director Tom Smith for this opportunity.



Alison Rucker (Pooty/Sue) is a second year Musical Theatre major with a minor in Dance from Las Vegas, Nevada whose recent credits include Dance Ensemble in *NOMT: Into Evil* (PLU), Euterpe in *Xanadu*, and Luciana in *Comedy of Errors* (The Las Vegas Academy of the Arts). She would like to thank her dad, sisters, and friends for always encouraging her to pursue what she loves.



Chloe Taggart (Trish/Game Show Hostess/Talk Show Host/Patient) is a first year Computer Science major from Mount Vernon, Washington, whose recent credits include Bonnie Boylan in *Annie* (Theatre Arts Guild MV), Mordra in *Space Princess Wars* (Mount Vernon High School), and Penelope Martin in *Coconuts* (Skagit Valley College Drama). This is her first show at PLU and she would like to thank everyone on the *Reckless* team for this exciting opportunity!

Dalen Todorov (Lloyd) is a fourth year Psychology and Computer Science major with a minor in Theatre from Las Vegas, Nevada whose recent credits include Dr. Pinch in *Comedy of Errors* (PLU), *Machinal* (University of La Verne). He is a member of the Clay Crows Improvisational Theatre team (PLU). He would like to give a hearty thank you to his wonderful family and friends who are always there when he needs them.

PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

Kathleen Anderson (Costume Design) has an MFA in Costume and Set Design from Northwestern University. Her favorite designs for PLU Theatre include costume and set designs for *Twelfth Night* and *The Spitfire Grill*, costume design for *Cabaret*, *A Dream Play*, and *The Fantasticks*, and puppet and costume design for *The Floating World*. She has also designed extensively for Tacoma Opera and Harlequin Productions in Olympia.

Brandon Foster (Stage Manager) is a third year Theatre and Computer Science major from Eugene, Oregon whose recent acting credits include *Old Man in Twisted Tales of Poe* (PLU) and *Aegeon in Comedy of Errors* (PLU). This is his first time stage managing a production. He would like to thank his family, the cast and crew, Amanda Sweger for convincing him to stage manage, and Tom Smith for all the help along the way.

Abigail Leake (Game Show Solar System Costume Design) is a third year Theatre student. She works in the Costume Shop through the school year pursuing her costume passion, though she also enjoys contract employment with Trike Theatre in Arkansas, working to develop curriculum for youth. Her favorite jobs include Trike Theatre's *La Tortuga and the Hare* and *Missing at the Museum*, and designing hair for PLU's *Comedy of Errors*. She is immensely grateful for her husband's support and the wonderful and graceful personalities leading the PLU Theatre.

Henry Loughman (Technical Director) received his BA in Theatre from San Diego State University. Prior to his arrival at PLU in 2006, he worked as Production Coordinator and Technical Director at Christian Community Theatre in San Diego and as Technical Director at the Palo Alto Children's Theatre.

PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES (cont.)

Tiana Price (Assistant Stage Manager) is a third year Technical Theatre major whose recent credits include stage managing *Twisted Tales of Poe* and *Broadway at the Movies* at PLU. She would like to thank her family and friends for always coming to see the show and the department for giving her the opportunity to do shows.

Amanda Sweger (Scenic and Lighting Design) is a lighting and scenic designer who has freelanced in Seattle, Chicago, Nashville, and Philadelphia. She received an MFA from Northwestern University in 2011 and is now a tenured professor at Pacific Lutheran University. She is proud to have designed with companies such as The Second City, TimeLine Theatre, the Seattle Theatre Group, and Taproot Theatre Company.

Tom Smith (Director/Sound Design/Props Design) is Professor and Chair of PLU Theatre and Dance. Previous productions at PLU include *Broadway at the Movies*, *The Last Five Years*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Broadway Today!*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Aunt Raini* (regional premiere), and *The Shape of Things*. He is a proud member of Dramatists Guild and Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers.

COMING SOON...

Dance Team Winter Showcase

December 4 @ 7:30pm

Late: A Cowboy Love Song

March 3-5 @ 7:30pm

PIPPIN

March 17-19 @ 7:30pm and March 20 @ 2pm

All tickets available at the door

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Shortly after World War I, theatre entered the Age of Isms. Motivated by the atrocities of war, for the first time multiple styles of theatre began competing for audiences. Alongside Realism, theatre introduced Expressionism, Dadaism, Symbolism, Existentialism, Surrealism and scores of other “isms.” This in turn prompted the little theatre movement, in which cities and towns across America built community theatres to present more avant-garde works meant for artists and poets and scholars. One of the most prominent isms during this era was Absurdism.

Absurdism examines the question: why do people spend their entire lives trying to figure out why they exist—what their purpose is—even though they will never know for sure? Absurdist playwrights toy with this question by having random things occur in their plays. A clock strikes 14. An elderly couple live in garbage cans. A man changes into a rhinoceros.

Craig Lucas' *Reckless* is a dark, absurdist comedy. In it, Rachel struggles to find her purpose and identity after being cast out into a strange and surprising world. Her quest to find meaning among chaos and to stay positive in a time of crisis is what drives the play. It is also what resonated with us strongly enough to include it in our 2021-2022 season.

During this pandemic, seemingly everything has felt as shaken up as a snow globe. We find ourselves asking: am I happy in my job? Am I the person I want to be? Am I with the person I want to be with? Am I happy?

The theme of *Reckless* and the basic tenet of Absurdism is: things just happen. We can't always identify our purpose in life, and we can't always get the big questions answered, but we can find a community of other humans who will help us feel less alone on our journey.

It is my sincerest hope that tonight that we can be that community for you and that, perhaps, you might feel a little less alone.

--Tom Smith, director

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PLU is on the traditional lands of the Nisqually, Puyallup, Squaxin Island, and Steilacoom peoples; we acknowledge and respect the traditional caretakers of this land.