

Basement Arts Presents

Walgreen
Drama Center

March 21st 7
pm & 11 pm
March 22nd 7
pm

Newman Studio

THE EFFECT

By Lucy Prebble
Directed by
Jeffrey Wagner

Free Admission



M ARTS INITIATIVE

BASEMENT ARTS

proudly presents...

The Effect by Lucy Prebble



CREATIVE TEAM

Director.....	Jeffrey Wagner
Assistant Director.....	Cecilia Bermudez
Intimacy Choreographer.....	Brynn Aaronson
Fight Choreographer.....	Izzy Chilian
Costume Designer.....	Sammer Ali
Lights/Projections Designer.....	Tate Zeleznik
Assistant Lighting Designer.....	Sarah Lau
Sound Designer.....	Ty Altomari
Production Stage Manager.....	Cecilia Bermudez

THE EFFECT is presented by special arrangement with
Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play
Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)



CAST

Connie.....	Amelia Fontaine
Tristan.....	Nolan White
Dr. Lorna James.....	Sophia Lane
Toby	Joshua Kroll
U/S Dr. James and Connie.....	Shalini Krish

CREW

Light Board Operator.....	Zhang Zhang
Sound Board Operator.....	Chloe Deutschman, Stuart Sheffield



NOTICE OF CARE

This production uses strobing and black light effects.

This play includes conversations about death by suicide, mental health, drug use, and depression.

**This play runs for 2 hours and
15 minutes with one intermission.**



Director's Note

Once We Played

BY [MATHILDE BLIND](#)

*Once we played at love together—
Played it smartly, if you please;
Lightly, as a windblown feather,
Did we stake a heart a piece.*

*Oh, it was delicious fooling!
In the hottest of the game,
Without thought of future cooling,
All too quickly burned Life's flame.*

*In this give-and-take of glances,
Kisses sweet as honey dews,
When we played with equal chances,
Did you win, or did I lose?*

This show explores love under the most heightened circumstances. It challenges us to question what draws us to each other as humans and how far we are willing to trust a “gut instinct”. The show and playwright also speak upon the modern notion of mental illness, and what it means to have a “normal” mind. I have had the privilege to work with an incredible team. Each person who has touched this production has truly been a blessing, and I am so excited for audiences to experience this heartwarming story that explores the love of four humans.

-Jeffrey Wagner, Director



Bios

TATE ZELEZNIK (Lights/Projections Designer; he/him) is excited to be working with Basement Arts again after having worked on *At The Wake of a Dead Drag Queen*, *I and You*, and *33 Variations*. Endless gratitude to Sarah and Zhang for making *The Effect* possible. U-M Lighting Design: *Plano*; *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*; *Golden Boy*; *Prometheus*. *Beginnings*; *Murder on the Orient Express*; *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; *She Loves Me*; *The Pirates of Penzance*; *Patience*; *33 Variations*; *This is Our Youth*; *Asking Alice*. U-M Projection Design: *Every Brilliant Thing*; *Tick, Tick... Boom!*

NOLAN WHITE (Tristan) One of the things Nolan loves the most about *The Effect* is the mind-boggling level of depth that each of the characters have. The true-to-life dialogue gives you so much to work with! It's been a joy discovering how the character of Tristan observes and responds to the world around him. Easily the best part of the process, though, was getting to work with such a fantastic cast and creative team. Nolan is honored to share the stage with Amelia, Sophia, and Josh. They truly are all one of a kind actors, and, more importantly, people.

SARAH LAU (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a sophomore dance major with a minor in design and production, with a strong interest in stage presentation and visual elements. She is particularly drawn to lighting, photography, filming, and editing, exploring how these elements shape performance and perception. Lighting fascinates her for its ability to transform space, create depth, influence mood, and enhance movement. Rather than focusing solely on technical execution, she is intrigued by how visual composition interacts with dance to create a cohesive and immersive experience.

SHALINI KRISH (U/S Dr.James and Connie; she/her) is a junior majoring in Computer Science. She's excited to be the understudy for Connie/Dr. James! This is her first time working on a production of this scale, and she's grateful to be working alongside such a talented cast and crew. It has been a wonderful learning experience, and she's thrilled to be a part of bringing this show to life! :)

SAMMER ALI (Costume Designer; she/her) is a sophomore costume designer. *The Effect* is her third show with Basement Arts. Other BA credits include: *33 Variations*; *Orion and the Goatman*. In her free time, she plays the NYT games. Sammer would like to thank the company for being great collaborators and her roommates for letting her paint on their living room floor.

Bios

ZHANG ZHANG (Light Board Operator; he/him) is a Mechanical engineer by trade, and a car enthusiast at heart—especially the ones with cool headlights. Where better to explore that fascination than in a theater filled with stage lights? Zhang is stoked to be part of this production, fusing his passion for engineering with the art of illumination.

SOPHIA LANE (Dr. James; she/her) This is Sophia's second show with Basement, previously being in a production of *for colored girls...* She is so excited to be working on a character that means so much to her for her last project at U of M. She is grateful to Jeff for putting on this play and his great support and direction, and the entire cast and crew. Thank you to Sam for supporting me in all I do.

AMELIA FONTAINE (Connie; she/her) Amelia is from West Palm Beach Florida, loves cats (she has two of them) and loves to act.

JOSHUA KROLL (Toby; he/him) is a skilled actor from West Bloomfield, Michigan, with experience in four theatrical productions. Notably, they performed in *Lost in Yonkers* with Michigan Stage, a professional theater company. Currently a pre-med major, Joshua Kroll demonstrates a strong commitment to both their academic and artistic pursuits, bringing a disciplined and thoughtful approach to their work on stage.

BASEMENT ARTS

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Katy Dawson.....	Associate Artistic Director
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Shelby Alexander.....	Dramaturgy & Community Engagement Director
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Statement on the Anishinaabe Land Transfer

Anishinaabeg gaa bi dinokiiwaad temigad manda Michigan Kichi Kinoomaagegamig. Mdaaswi nshwaaswaak shi mdaaswi shi niizhawaaswi gii-sababoonagak, Ojibweg, Odawaag, minwaa Bodwe'aadamiig wiiba gii-miigwenaa'aa maamoonjiniibina Kichi Kinoomaagegamigoong wi pii-gaa aanjibiigaadeg Kichi-Naakonigewinning, debendang manda aki, mampii Niisaajiwan, gewiinwaa niijaansiwaan ji kinoomaagaazinid. Daapanaming ninda kidwinan, megwaa minwaa gaa bi aankoosejig zhinda akiing minwaa gii-miigwewaad Kichi-Kinoomaagegamigoong aanji-daapinanigaade minwaa mshkowenjigaade.

The University of Michigan is located on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe people. In 1817, the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Bodewadami Nations made the largest single land transfer to the University of Michigan. This was offered ceremonially as a gift through the Treaty at the Foot of the Rapids so that their children could be educated. Through these words of acknowledgment, their contemporary and ancestral ties to the land and their contributions to the University are renewed and reaffirmed.



Basement Arts is a sponsored student organization housed within the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre and Dance's Department of Theatre and Drama.

DEPARTMENTAL ADVISORS

Dr. Tiffany Trent.....Chair, Department of Theatre & Drama

Kathryn Pamula.....Department Manager & Artistic Administrator

Arie Shaw.....Performance & Studio Manager

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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