

# THE YOUNGSTOWN PLAYHOUSE

presents

A Griffith-Adler Moyer Room Production of



Written by **Will Eno**

November 10-19, 2023

THE FLU SEASON is presented by special arrangement with Broadway  
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**THE FLU  
SEASON**

NOVEMBER 10 - 19  
MOYER ROOM

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MAIN STAGE

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MAIN STAGE

THE  
CURIOUS INCIDENT  
OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME

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MAIN STAGE



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## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"It is a chronicle of love and no love, of interiors and exteriors, of weather, change, entry-level psychology, and time; but, oh, lo --- what chronicle isn't." Opening Prologue of *The Flu Season*.

One of my favorite spaces to work as a director is The Moyer Room at The Youngstown Playhouse. Small and intimate, it allows a director to work with new and inventive scripts, scripts that are not just popular entertainment, but also exercise for the mind. Plays that challenge not only a director, but are a workout for the actors and the audience alike. *The Flu Season* is the perfect example of such a script. Chicago Theatre critic Tom Williams says "*The Flu Season* is one of those plays that should be seen by serious theatre goers because of its inventiveness. The work creeps up on you and leaves you thinking about it long after you leave the theatre."

I have long been a fan of Will Eno. I think he is one of the funniest playwrights working today. He plays with language as well as anyone. *The Flu Season* was the winner of the 2004 Oppenheimer Award for the best New York debut by an American playwright. His play, *Thom Pain (based on nothing)* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Drama in 2005. His play *The Realistic Joneses* appeared on Broadway in 2014, where it received a Drama Desk Special Award and was named Best Play on Broadway by USA Today, and best American play of 2014 by The Guardian. His play *The Open House* was presented Off-Broadway at the Signature Theatre in 2014 and won the Obie Award for Playwriting as well as other awards, and was on both TIME Magazine and Time Out New York's Top Ten Plays of 2014.

*The Flu Season* proceeds on two different levels. The play opens as we meet two characters called The Prologue and Epilogue. These two characters, it turns out, might be different aspects of the same person and that person might be a playwright writing a play as we the audience are allowed to watch. We meet the characters being created; a Man, a Woman, a Nurse and a Doctor. We find ourselves at The Crossroads Psychiatric Retreat Center just before winter.

Eno never allows the audience to simply sink into a story about a relationship between a man and a woman. The Prologue and Epilogue step in often to remind us in very Brechtian terms that this is theatre, that we are being manipulated. Sometimes The Prologue falls victim to the characters and the play takes on unexpected turns.

As an audience member, it's best to let yourself sink into the conceit of the play, laugh hilariously and feel all the feels. Go ahead and jump on the merry-go-round and enjoy the wacky ride. We've had a wonderful time dipping our minds into another dimension with Will Eno. We hope you do also.

Pat Foltz

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**THE YOUNGSTOWN PLAYHOUSE**

600 Playhouse Lane

Presents

A Griffith-Adler Moyer Room Production of

**THE FLU SEASON***Written by* **Will Eno***Directed by* **Pat Foltz***Scenic Designers***Pat Foltz & Matthew Mazuroski***Costume Design***Pat Foltz***Lighting Design***Leslie Brown***Sound Design***Matthew Mazuroski***Board Operators***Dezeon Brooks****Molly Galano***Set Construction***Matthew Mazuroski & Johnny Pecano***Costume Construction***Regina Rees**

THE FLU SEASON was originally produced at  
The Gate Theatre, London, April 7, 2003.  
THE FLU SEASON was subsequently produced by  
Rude Mechanicals Theater Company at  
The Blue Heron Arts Center  
in New York City, January 29, 2004



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# CAST

Prologue.....MATTHEW MAZUROSKI  
Epilogue.....ERIC KIBLER  
Doctor.....JAMES HAIN  
Man.....ADAM DOMINICK  
Nurse.....JEANINE REES  
Woman.....NAILAH THOMAS



Matthew  
Mazuroski



Eric  
Kibler



James  
Hain



Adam  
Dominick



Jeanine  
Rees



Nailah  
Thomas

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*There will be a 15 minute intermission.*

\* \* \* \* \*

*Please turn off ALL electronic devices.  
No photographs or recordings permitted.*

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# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**MATTHEW MAZUROSKI** (Prologue). Matthew has worked across the country as an actor, director, fight choreographer, and theatre educator. He has directed nearly 90 university or professional productions. Matthew is thrilled to be working with The Youngstown Playhouse once again. His past Playhouse productions include directing *August*, *Osage County*, *The Elephant Man*, *Noises Off*, *Good People*, and *Our Lady of 121<sup>st</sup> Street*; acting in *Harry's Friendly Service*, *American Buffalo*, and *Keely & Du* as well as set and sound designing for a number of notable productions. Most recently, he directed and set designed the local production of *Rent* mounted at DeYor Performing Arts Center in March of 2023.

Matthew has taught all levels of University acting, directing, stage combat, improvisation, film acting, and playwriting. He has worked as the fight choreographer for over 100 productions. Some of his award-winning productions as director include *Bent*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, and *Buried Child*. He has collaborated with playwrights on play development. Matthew also directed the production of *Jackie & Me* for Children's Theatre of Charlotte where it was selected as one of the best productions for the 2014-2015 theater season. He recently retired as a Professor of theatre at Youngstown State University. Matthew would like to thank his wonderful partner in life, Pat Foltz, for her love, intellect, talent, and support over the past 35 years!

**ERIC KIBLER** (Epilogue). Eric has appeared in or directed over 150 productions on area stages. Some favorite recent roles are Silvio (a Vietnam vet down on his luck) in *The Day They Shot John Lennon* here in the Moyer Room, Selsdon (the hard-drinking veteran actor) in *Noises Off* on the Playhouse mainstage, and noted lawyer Clarence Darrow in the one-man show at Selah Theatre. For Mahoning Valley Players, Eric has recently directed *Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged*, and *The Tempest*. Eric is a lawyer, and his family members (wife Amy-Anne and offspring Maja and Elsie) are also active in community theatre.

**JAMES HAIN** (Doctor). James has appeared in nearly 100 shows. Some of his favorite roles include Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Yvan in *Art*, and Titus in *Titus Andronicus*. He was last seen at the Playhouse as Tim in *Noises Off*.

**ADAM DOMINICK** (Man). Adam is thrilled to be making his Youngstown Playhouse acting debut in *The Flu Season*! This will be the first straight play he has performed in seven years. Recently, Adam directed his original full-length musical *The Other Side* which premiered at Hopewell Theatre. You may have seen him on the stage in *The Valley*, as Michael in *Tony n Tina's Wedding* (MTC), Marcellus in *The Music Man: In Concert* (YSU), Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* (YSU), and many other YSU mainstage productions. Offstage, Adam can be found at Students Motivated by the Arts (SMARTS) downtown as the Staff Assistant. He'd like to thank his partner, Sydney, for being a constant source of encouragement and love.

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# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**JEANINE REES** (Nurse). Jeanine has been involved with theatre, both on stage and behind the scenes, since 1989. Recent favorite shows include *The 39 Steps* (Clown 1), *Venus in Fur* (Vanda), and *A Tuna Christmas* (Arles) at The Youngstown Playhouse; *Steel Magnolias* (Truvy) at Hopewell Theatre; *Painting Churches* (Mags) at Selah Dessert Theatre; and *Julius Caesar* (Casca) with the Mahoning Valley Players. Jeanine made her directing debut with *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* at Hopewell Theatre, and she is a member of the area's premiere improv and sketch comedy troupe, The Dinner Theatre Rejects.

**NAILAH THOMAS** (Woman). Nailah comes to this production as a resident of Warren, Ohio. For the past two years, she attended The American Musical and Dramatic Academy Conservatory in New York City, majoring in Studio Acting. She recently moved back to Warren and plans to enroll in Kent State Trumbull to finish her degree in theater and early childhood education. When not acting, Nailah enjoys all genres of music and art. She hopes to one day combine her love for arts and children to develop programming using storytelling and acting as therapy for at-risk children.

**PAT FOLTZ** (Director). Pat has been seen as an actor at The Youngstown Playhouse as Dottie in *Good People* and Ross in *The Elephant Man*. She has been seen at Hopewell Theatre in *20th Century Blues* and *Steel Magnolias*. She was Director of Clarity, *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, *The Colored Museum*, *American Buffalo*, *Keely and Du*, *Greater Tuna*, *Tuna Christmas*, *Venus in Fur* in the Moyer Room, *A Grand Night for Singing* on the Main Stage, *Harry's Friendly Service*, and *How I Learned to Drive* at YSU. Pat wishes to thank her amazing husband of 33 years, Matthew Mazuroski, for sharing an endless addiction to all that is magical in the theatre.

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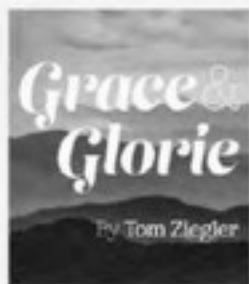
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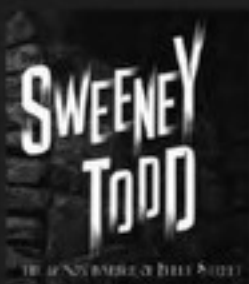
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