



 and Redgie & Holly Gutshall
SWEAT
WRITTEN BY LYNN NOTTAGE DIRECTED BY LINDSAY CURRY

THE CAST

Jas Abramowitz as **Stan**
Erin Barnes as **Tracey**
Sean Clinkscapes as **Evan**
David Girard as **Brucie**
Antoinette Johnson as **Cynthia**
Kat McLeod Raspa as **Jessie**
Richie Rosado as **Oscar**
Jaron Wallace as **Jason**

IN OUR
GALLERY
YELLOW HOUSE
PRESENTS

Bearing Witness

This exhibition is inspired by Al Letson’s play *The Centre Cannot Hold*, an expression of his experience as a reporter and human being during the Rally Against Hate that took place in Berkeley, California in the summer of 2017. Just as in Charlottesville, Virginia, during what is often referred to as the ‘summer of hate’, protestors, counter-protestors and police were brought face to face in a moment of great tension. Letson found himself serving as a human shield protecting a man being beaten in the streets by five masked protestors. This moment and its aftermath were fraught with complexity, leaving Letson...and all of us...to reckon with issues on both a national and highly personal level.

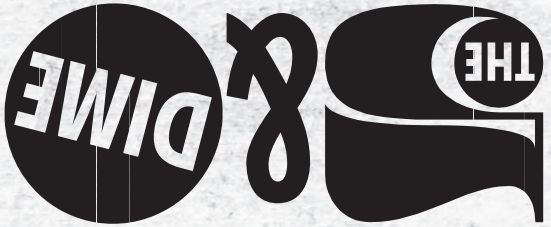
Robin Kunkel’s series *We Keep Us Safe: Community Defense in Charlottesville* captures the intimacy of human reactions to the events as they unfolded during the Unite the Right Rally. “We’ve all seen the overhead videos of that day; these images are not that. Rather than a play by play of events, these are the people who caused them, suffered them, and survived them. This is their fear, aggression, their sadness, and determination.” Kunkel is an artist and community organizer from Kentucky who uses her camera to amplify the work of anti-racist and prison abolition activists. As she bears witness she does not attempt to “demonize or valorize, but to show the very real and current face of organized white supremacy and the equally real need for active opposition.”

Equally as powerful and intimate are the works by Deja Echols. Based in Jacksonville, Echols is honing her voice as an activist within the African American community by focusing her work on themes of representation and identity. She is inspired by those before her, like Renaissance woman Augusta Savage, but is also driven by her desire to be seen in the hierarchy of art history. “Representation matters. Without representation, how can I spark hope in those who are underrepresented?” This commitment is especially poignant in this series “Black Voices in White Spaces” where the consistent threat of violence against young black men is intensely rendered in scenes of martyrdom. Echols works provide an important narrative in attempting to understand the lived experience of Al Letson and any black man in America.

For more than a year, the Gallery at The 5 & Dime has hosted exhibits curated by Yellow House. Each installation connects to the themes and ideas explored on stage and express the commitment of both organizations to exploring socially relevant issues through the power of art.

For 2019, The Gallery at The 5 & Dime will continue to host exhibitions curated by Yellow House with each installation having a direct connection to the themes and ideas being explored on stage.

THE 5 & DIME
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A THEATRE COMPANY


THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Lighting Design Nicole Kosnic Anderson
Stage Manager Kristen Walsh
Assistant Stage Manager Pamela Bernkrant
Production Assistant Stephen D'Angelo
Lighting Board Dolly Johnson & Nicole Kosnic Anderson
Set Design Lindsay Curry
Set Construction Bob Chapman & Dolly Johnson
Production Manager Lee Hamby
Scenic Painting Katie Dawson
Set Dressing Lee Hamby
Costumes Lee Hamby & Cast
Projection Design Drew L. Brown
Properties Lee Hamby & Pamela Bernkrant
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Fight Choreographer Caitlin Charrler
Volunteer Coordinator Christian Cabrera



Rashaud Sessoms

Rashaud Sessoms (Chris) was born and raised here in Jacksonville, FL. He is an aspiring actor currently attending the University of North Florida and will be graduating the same day of opening performance! This is his first performance here at The 5 & Dime, and he's very excited to perform alongside an incredible cast. He lives by one simple principle; discipline. Seeing others give incredible performances fuels his dedication to the craft and motivates him to strive for better. To have the unique opportunity tell someone's story in a way that compels others is truly an honor for him. He is thankful for every opportunity given and has high hopes for a bright future.



Kat McLeod

Kat McLeod Raspa (Jessie) Kat is honored to have been trusted with the character of Jessie in this intensely important production. As the wife of a bartender, Kat has had the opportunity to witness how an establishment, such as the setting of this script, can bring people together in the best and worst moments of their life. She hopes this production allows you to reacquaint yourself or experience for the first time, the struggles that Americans felt and the hope and loss that a small town feels when their livelihood and sense of tradition is taken away.



Sean Clinkscales

Sean Clinkscales (Evan) is excited to be working with The 5 & Dime and director Lindsay Curry in the production of *Sweat*. Sean is an award-winning independent film writer and director. He is honing his acting craft, studying Meisner and Strasberg techniques at Creative Veins Studios here in Jacksonville, Florida. Sean recently attended an intensive day workshop, hosted at Creative Veins and curated by veteran actor Robert Mello (*Venom*, *Father Figures* and *Prisoners*). As a single-father, Sean is very proud of his 13-year-old daughter Anastasia, following in his creative footsteps. She currently attends LaVilla School of the Arts as a Musical Theatre student and will be entering the eighth grade in the fall.



Richie Rosado

Richie Rosado (Oscar) is excited to make his second appearance at The 5 & Dime! He has portrayed many roles in both the Jacksonville and Gainesville areas such as: Rodney in *Small Mouth Sounds*, Haman in *Esther the Young Queen*, Man #2 in *Kiss Me, Kate*, Underling in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and many more. Some of his Jacksonville credits include: *Bridges of Madison County*, *Hair*, *Jacques Brel*, *Mildred Wild*, and *Room Service*. He would like to thank his friends and family for their support and wishes many broken legs to the cast of SWEAT!



Erin Barnes

Erin Barnes (Tracey) is excited to be making her onstage debut at The 5 & Dime in *Sweat*, though she is no stranger to this theatre, having served as music director/piano conductor here for *Falsettos*, *Company*, and *A New Brain*. As actor, singer, pianist, and director, Erin has kept busy throughout the region since graduating Summa Cum Laude from the Jacksonville University school of music in 2003. Favorite onstage roles include Francesca in *The Bridges of Madison County*, Aunt Spiker in *James and the Giant Peach*, and Morticia in *The Addams Family*. A big thank you to Lindsay Curry for trusting her to take on this challenging and rewarding role in this incredible play. Thanks as always to ever supportive husband Matt for his unconditional love.



Nicole Kosnik Anderson

Nicole Kosnik Anderson (Lighting Design) is honored to be working on this production of *Sweat*. Past lighting design credits include *Sex AKA Wieners and Boobs*; *The Clean House*; *Hir*; *'night Mother*; *Shipwrecked*!; *The Comparables*; *Vanya*, *Sonia*, *Masha*, and *Spike*; and *A Lesson Before Dying*. Most recently she has focused her efforts on designing and writing for Jacksonville's premier sketch comedy troupe, *Awkward Silence Jax*.



David Girard

David Girard (Brucie) is most excited to do another show at The 5 & Dime. He has stayed up nights learning his lines, working on character development, and trying not to get as high as his character. None of this he will use on stage, but he learned early on in his career, process is most important. He has done a lot of other shows on a lot of other stages, but his always proud to be on stage with other people. He was most recently seen in his one man show, *"The Other Side"*. No, wait, he was most recently seen in *Chalk*.



Antoinette Johnson

Antoinette Johnson (Cynthia) is pumped to return to the stage after a few years away. She's been in many productions around Jacksonville, including *Gem of the Ocean* by August Wilson (PBTS), *Passing Strange* by Stew (PBTS), and *This Seat's Taken* by Barbara Colaciello to name a few. This is her first show with The 5 & Dime. She is honored to grace the stage with such an amazingly talented cast. Special thanks and appreciation to everyone who made this show possible including the people reading this bio. Your presence is a gift. Thank you for sharing it.



Pamela Bernkrant

Pamela Bernkrant (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be involved with local theater again after a ten year break. She has been involved with the stage crew for *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and has acted in *Guys and Dolls*, *Damn Yankees*, *Roberta*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and several one acts. She has also been in several improv showcases. Pamela interprets American Sign Language for a living and has enjoyed interpreting performances such as *Peter Pan*, *Twelfth Night*, and *A Taste of Sunrise*.



Jaron Wallace

Jaron Wallace (Jason) is an actor, writer and filmmaker living in Jacksonville, FL. His impressive body of work includes award winning films *Inzomniac*, *Bad Guy*, *Self-Hell*, and *Metaphysical Education*, amongst others. Jaron is excited about playing Jason, a character so drastically different than himself. Finding the humanity in someone you might feel is so unlike yourself is a great challenge, that comes with its own unique rewards. Jaron would like to thank Lindsay Curry, and The 5 & Dime for the opportunity to return to the stage with such an interesting and dynamic role.



Jas Abramowitz

Jas Abramowitz is an actor, published author, performance poet, and filmmaker, living in Jacksonville, FL since 2016. He is elated to bring his interpretation of Stan to The 5 & Dime stage. Jas connects with Stan in a lot of ways. Like Stan, he was ushered from a long-term job he loved due to circumstances beyond his control, and had to forage a new path. Jas digs his bartender-poet-philosopher style, his loyalty, his work ethic, and his empathy for his crew. Being a young man with young kids when the recession and housing crisis decimated the Midwest he saw many of his friends and family lose jobs, lose homes, lose dignity and ultimately lose their identity. That is why he was drawn to this play, and why he thinks it's such an important work. So much of who we are, we define as what we do. When that identity no longer exists, what do we turn to in order to fill the void? Each character in this play answers that question in their own unique and beautiful way. Jas would like to thank the cast, crew, his *Awkward Silence Jax* family, The 5 & Dime, RACC, but most of all his amazing wife Dolly, and their two fur kids: Valley da Greyhound and Shi-Thead da Cat.



Kristen Walsh

Kristen Walsh (Stage Manager) is excited to be working on her fourth production with The 5 & Dime. You might have seen her recently as Alice in ABET's *Alice in Wonderland* or as Woman in The 5 & Dime's production of *Cock*. Other past favorites include Talia in Phase Eight's *Women's Work*, Poppy in Phase Eight's *Noises Off*!, and Lydia in Theater Jax's *Pride and Prejudice*. When she's not on stage, she can usually be found behind it, doing everything from stage managing to running lights to tracking down props and costumes.

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Lindsay Curry

Lindsay Curry (Director) is delighted to be once again working with The 5 & Dime to bring this important story to life. She most recently directed *Top Dog Under Dog* and was seen in *The Walls* here at The 5 & Dime. You may have also seen her in *'night, Mother* (The 5 & Dime), *Hair* (ACT), *The Lyons* (PBTS), *Dog Sees God* (PBTS) *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (PBTS) and *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* (PBTS). Her previous directing credits include *Constellations* (5& Dime), *God of Carnage* (ABET) and *Quills* (PBTS). She'd like to thank her actors, crew and fellow artists for bringing their best selves to this project. We couldn't do this without your talent and love for art.

THANK YOU!

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