

# **WOMEN'S PROJECT THEATER**

www.womensproject.org

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For Immediate Release Please

Women's Project Theater's 2013 - 2014 Season is  
Jessica Dickey's *Row After Row* directed by Daniella Topol  
Five Authors' *The Architecture of Becoming* staged by Three Directors  
&  
Catherine Trieschmann's *The Most Deserving* directed by Shelley Butler

NEW YORK - Women's Project Theater, the 36-year-old non-profit company dedicated to producing plays written and directed by women, will present its 2013-2014 season of new plays at New York City Center Stage II, 131 West 55th Street, January 15 to May 4, Julie Crosby, Producing Artistic Director announced.

"We're celebrating our 36th season with plays that wrestle with the notion of cultural currency, and how art and history are assigned value in America today. Who decides what's fit to print...or paint or record for posterity?" said Ms. Crosby, whose controversial season last year included *Bethany*, *Jackie* and *Collapse*.

"Last season was provocative. This season is more introspective. *Row After Row* (January 15 – February 16) is a dark comedy about a group of Civil War re-enactors. *The Architecture of Becoming* (February 25 - March 23) is a collaborative series of short plays inspired by New York City Center's improbable history (the building, not the city). Catherine Trieschmann's *The Most Deserving* (March 30 - May 4), her third play for Women's Project Theater, is a tart, satirical comedy about a small Kansas arts council tasked with awarding \$20,000 to a deserving local artist," said Ms. Crosby.

## Women's Project Theater's 2013 - 2014 Season

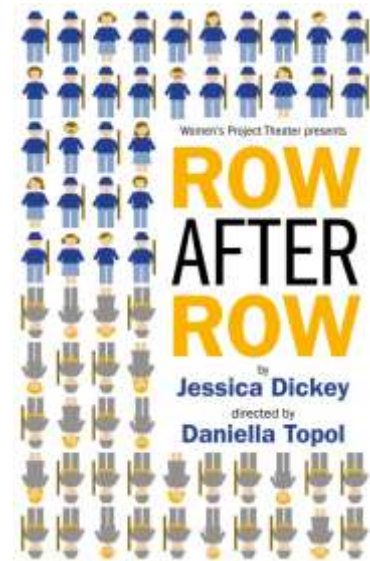
### **Row After Row** January 15 through February 16

By Jessica Dickey, directed by Daniella Topol

Two hard core Civil War re-enactors who show up for their annual Gettysburg beer find a pretty stranger at their table. Straddling 1863 and today, **Row After Row** is a dark comedy about choosing a cause and finding courage.

**Jessica Dickey's** play *Charles Ives Take Me Home* just ran at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater (who nominated it for the Susan Blackburn Prize), for which Jessica was hailed as "a talent to watch". She is perhaps best known for her one woman show *The Amish Project*, which premiered at the New York Fringe before transferring to Cherry Lane and then opening at the Rattlestick Playwrights Theater to great acclaim from audience and critics alike. *Charles Ives Take Me Home* is already slated for the City Theatre in Pittsburgh next season.

**Daniella Topol** is on her third tour of duty at Women's Project Theater, having directed Catherine Treischmann's *How the World Began* (in association with South Coast Rep), Sheila Callaghan's *Lascivious Something* (Women's Project Theater & Cherry Lane), and Trista Baldwin's *Sand*. She's reenlisting with Ms. Dickey after directing her *Charles Ives Take Me Home* at Rattlestick last month.

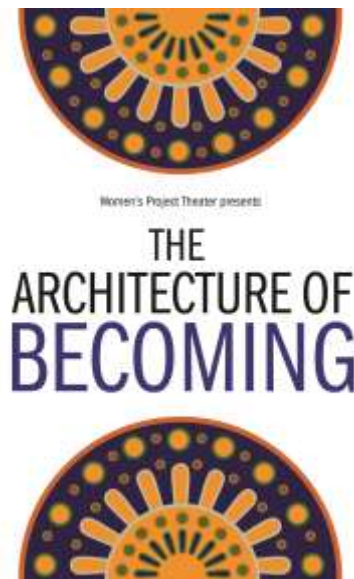


### **The Architecture of Becoming** February 25 through March 23

Written by Kara Lee Corthron, Sarah Gancher, Dipika Guha, Virginia Grise and Lauren Yee; directed by Elena Araoz, Lydia Fort, and Lauren Keating; produced by Deadria Harrington, Jane Jung, Meropi Peponides, Aktina Stathaki, and Lanie Zipoy

Secret societies, silent films, raucous parties, and the greatest performers of our time are in New York City Center's DNA. This world premiere production weaves together five richly diverse stories inspired by City Center's improbable history.

The writers are: **Kara Lee Corthron**, whose plays include *Etched in Skin on a Sunlit Night* (InterAct), *AliceGraceAnon* (New Georges), and *Holly Down in Heaven* (Forum). Her awards include Princess Grace, Helen Merrill, and MacDowell Fellowships. She's a Julliard alumna. **Sarah Gancher** has been produced/developed at London's National Theatre, Edinburgh's Traverse, Budapest's Quarter6Quarter7 Festival, PS 122, La Mama, Ars Nova, Telluride Theatre. She is a member Ars Nova Play Group. She holds a 2013 Founder's Award from New York Stage and Film. **Virginia Grise** awards include 2011 Asuncion Queer Playwriting Award, 2010 Yale Drama Series Award and 2010 Princess Grace Award in Directing. Her published work: *The Panza Monologues* (University of Texas Press) and *blu* (Yale University Press). **Dipika Guha's** recent plays include *The Betrothed* (Chester



Theatre Company, Wellfleet Harbour Actors Theatre), *Passing* (Risk Is This Festival, Cutting Ball) and *Herculine and Lola* (workshops OSF, Wordbridge). She is an Ars Nova Playgroup Alum and Dramatists Guild Fellow. Her current commission is from New Georges. **Lauren Yee:** *Ching Chong Chinaman* (Pan Asian, Mu, Impact), *Hookman* (Company One), *The Hatmaker's Wife* (Playwrights Realm, Moxie). Her plays have been developed at O'Neill Conference, Bay Area Playwrights Festival, PlayPenn and her commissions have been from LCT3, Mixed Blood, and Encore.

The directors are: **Elena Araoz**, whose credits include *La traviata* (New York City Opera/BAM) and; *Phallacy*, *Three on a Couch*, and *Thirst* Off Broadway. She has also directed *Midsummer* (Prague Shakespeare), *The Power* (Beijing), Mac Wellman plays (ArtsEmerson), *Lawnpeople* (Cherry Lane), and *Falstaff* (Brooklyn Philharmonic/BAM). **Lydia Fort** has directed at The McCarter, The Public, freeFall and New Federal Theatre. She is a Drama League Fellow and TCG New Generations Grantee. MFA, University of Washington. **Lauren Keating** has directed *The Harmonious Pimps of Harmony's Last Show* (Ars Nova) and *Al's Business Cards* (AtPlay/Old Vic). She is an NYU/Tisch Alumni and a Drama League Directors Project and a New Directors/New Works Fellow.

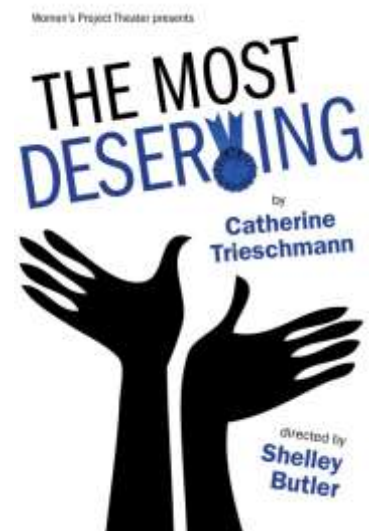
The producers are: **Deadria Harrington** is a Producing Artistic Leader of The Movement Theatre Company for which she is credited with *4 Sustenance* (Greener Planet Award Recipient) and *look upon our lowliness* by Harrison David Rivers (Lead Producer). **Jane Jung** is General Manager of Ping Chong + Company and producer for Little Lord, a Brooklyn-based theater company. **Meropi Peponides** is co-founder of radical evolution performance company, producing assistant at the Public Theater and a graduate of the MFA theatre program at Columbia University. **Aktina Stathaki** is founder of Between the Seas Festival of Mediterranean Performing Arts. She is freelance actor, director and producer and a graduate of the National Greek Theater and University of Toronto. **Lanie Zipoy** was associate producer for *Bethany* (Women's Project Theater). She also produced *Universal Robots* (ITBA's Best Off-Off Broadway Play), *Caroline, or Change* (Brooklyn Premiere) and *Voices Inside/Out*.

### ***The Most Deserving*** March 30 through May 4

By Catherine Trieschmann, directed by Shelley Butler

A county arts council in Kansas, giving away the largest individual artist grant in its history, must agree on who is the most deserving. When a professor from the local community college makes a case for an unconventional outsider, the council braces for battle. ***The Most Deserving*** is a tart, satirical comedy about what happens when the arts collide with sex, class, and politics.

**Catherine Trieschmann's** plays include *The Bridegroom of Blowing Rock*, *crooked*, *How the World Began*, *Hot Georgia Sunday* and *The Most Deserving*. Her work has been produced Off-Broadway at Women's Project Theater, Bush Theatre (London), Out of Joint at the Arcola Theatre (London), South Coast Repertory, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, the Denver Theater Center, and Florida Stage, among others. She has received commissions from South Coast Repertory, Manhattan Theatre Club, and the Denver Theatre Center. She is the recipient of the Weissberger Award, the Otis Guernsey New Voices Playwriting Award from the Inge Theatre Festival, and the Edgerton New Play Award. She also wrote the screenplay for the film *Angel's Crest*, released by Magnolia Pictures. Originally from Athens, Georgia, she now lives in a small town in western



Kansas.

**Shelley Butler** is directing a preview production of Catherine Trieschmann's *The Most Deserving* at Denver Center Theatre Company. Recent credits include *This is Fiction* by Megan Hart, starring Richard Masur at Cherry Lane (InViolet Rep), *The Borrowers*, (South Coast Repertory), *No Way to Treat a Lady* (The Colony Theater), world premieres of Christina Gorman's *Sacred Ground* (Stella Adler), Ruth McKee's *The Nightshade Family* (SPF), John Glore's adaptation of *A Wrinkle in Time* (South Coast Repertory) and Eric Coble's *Straight On 'Til Morning* (Great Lakes Theater Festival).

### **FOR SEASON TICKETS**

Women's Project Theater memberships for the entire season, which includes all three main stage shows and some special events, start at \$60 and may be purchased at [www.womensproject.org](http://www.womensproject.org) or by calling 212-765-1706.

### **FOR SINGLE TICKETS**

Beginning on September 3, tickets can be purchased online at [www.NYCityCenter.org](http://www.NYCityCenter.org), by calling CityTix® at 212-581-1212, or at the New York City Center Box Office at 131 West 55th Street (between Sixth and Seventh Avenues).

### **BACKGROUND ON 36 YEARS OF PRESENTING WOMEN THEATER ARTISTS**

Women's Project Theater was founded in 1978 by Julia Miles to address the significant under-representation of women in the American theater, and has since built a tremendous legacy. Although even today women playwrights and directors severely lack parity in pay and opportunity, the extraordinary women artists who have broken through the glass ceiling have all crossed the threshold at Women's Project Theater, including Eve Ensler, Lynn Nottage, Maria Irene Fornes, Suzan-Lori Parks, Diane Paulus, Sarah Ruhl, Paula Vogel, and Anna Deavere Smith, among the many. Throughout its 36-year history, Women's Project Theater has produced and/or developed over 600 plays and published 11 anthologies of plays.

Recently acclaimed plays produced by Women's Project Theater include this past season's *Bethany*, *Jackie* and *Collapse* and from seasons past *How the World Began* and the Obie-winning *Milk Like Sugar*, *Freshwater*, *Aliens with Extraordinary Skills*, *crooked*, *Sand*, *Or*, *Smudge*, *Lascivious Something* and *Apple Cove*.

Leadership support of Women's Project Theater is generously provided by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation New York Theatre Program, Bloomberg Philanthropies, New York Community Trust, Shubert Foundation, Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, and Time Warner Foundation, Inc. Women's Project Theater is also supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and by the National Endowment for the Arts, Art Works.

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