

LSU

School of Theatre



other Desert
Cities

WRITTEN BY JON ROBIN BAITZ
DIRECTED BY KENDALL BERRY

Cast

Brooke Wyeth.....	Sarah Short
Polly Wyeth.....	Arden Forrand
Lyman Wyeth.....	Nicholas Russo
Trip Wyeth.....	Dalton Major
Silda Grauman.....	Makaylee Secret

Production Staff

Director.....	Kendall Berry
Stage Manager.....	Soleil George
Dramaturg.....	Hannah Thibodeaux
Scenic Designer.....	Ashley Nguyen
Dress Construction.....	Brookelyn LeBlanc
Costume Designer.....	Alyssa Pacaccio
Makeup Designer.....	Brookelyn LeBlanc
Sound Designer.....	Rayne Garcia
Lighting Designer.....	Liz LeBlanc
Light Board Operator.....	Liz LeBlanc
Graphic Designer.....	Maddy Lewis

Cast Biographies

Arden Forrand (Polly Wyeth) is a junior Theatre major (Performance). This is her second lab series show. Her past credits include *The Moors*, *Brooklyn Bridge*, and *God Gun!* She would like to thank her parents for being her biggest supporters and the angelic Kendall Berry for giving her this opportunity.

Dalton Major (Tripp Wyeth) is a graduating senior with a double major in Theatre (Performance) and English (Creative Writing.) *Other Desert Cities* is Dalton's first production with LSU's School of Theatre. Previous credits include *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *An Act of God*, *The Mousetrap*, and *Macbeth*.

Nicholas Russo (Lyman Wyeth) is a senior Theatre major (Theatre Studies). His past LSU School of Theatre productions include *Brooklyn Bridge*, *Anonymous*, and the student production of *God Gun*. He is also the current president of LSU's Improv Club.

Sarah Short (Brooke Wyeth) is a sophomore Theatre major (Performance). Previous credits include LSU Theatre Mainstage's *(Anon)ymous* and UTA's *Clown Bar*. She also performed in Theatre Baton Rouge's *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. She also danced in multiple productions of *The Nutcracker* with New Orleans Ballet Theatre and Delta Festival Ballet. She would like to thank her best friends for their endless support and love, her family, and Kendall Berry for her trust, guidance, and support.

Makaylee Secrest (Silda Grauman) is a sophomore Theatre major (Performance). Her previous credits include LSU's *Anon(ymous)* and Theatre Baton Rouge's *Our Town*, *The Crucible*, *She Kills Monsters*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Mak will also be directing *The Goat* next year's Lab Season. She would like to thank the cast and crew for making her feel at home in this department.

Director's Note

Well, we made it guys! We're back in the theatre! Together!! I want to start by thanking you. Thank you for taking the time to plan for this, to make time for this, to get ready, to drive here. Your presence in this space makes a world of a difference. And not just the proverbial "you" as a kind of placeholder for a broader sense of audience, you. Your presence matters. From the bottom of my heart I thank YOU for bringing yourself here to share this experience with us tonight.

To my cast, thank you. Thank you for opening yourselves up to this story and to these characters. Thank you for teaching me more about them than I could have ever learned myself. And thank you for trusting me, even when I made you stand and look into each other's eyes without speaking for two minutes straight. You all have my heart.

I love this play. I love the script. I love the characters and the story and I am so excited for you to be there with them through it all. Life is messy, as I'm sure we are all painfully aware of at this point, but it is fascinating at the same time. Every single one of us has a life, chock full of experiences, different from anyone else's, that makes us unique. And all of these experiences have created that you that is sitting here today. They have given you values, beliefs, views on relationships, politics, art, tragedy, and life itself. Every person created is an experiment. An experiment for how the present society affects people. Now I truly believe that everyone is trying their best. Every parent, mentor, teacher, trying their best to raise up a new person as best they can. But they mess up. We get hurt while growing up. We develop faulty ways of thinking because of it and unfortunately sometimes we get deadly combinations. But we have to look at how we got there. We have to look at where it went wrong. And it is, god knows, painful, but it is the only way we can learn. We have to look at our mistakes, we have to let people show us where we went wrong and try to learn from it. We have to keep progressing.

There is so much worth and beauty and merit in your story. YOUR story. It is so much bigger than you. Keeping your pain to yourself doesn't help anyone, but sharing it has the possibility of helping so many. You are a whole person with a whole life's worth of experiences that made you the way that you are. So please, share your story. Share it with your friends, your family and for the artists in the room, share it with anyone who will listen.

Thank you,
Kendall Berry

SCHOOL OF THEATRE

Faculty and Staff

Joshua Allred.....	Lead Coordinator, Recruiting and Student Success
Jeremy Bernardoni.....	Assistant Professor (Costume Design)
Joe Chrest.....	Adjunct (Film and TV)
Sonya Cooke.....	Assistant Professor (Acting; Head, Undergraduate Performance)
John Michael Eddy.....	Professional-in-Residence (Props)
Nick Erickson.....	Associate Professor (Movement; Head, M.F.A. Acting)
Femi Euba.....	Louise & Kenneth Kinney Professor (Black Drama and Playwriting)
Melissa Fay.....	Theatre Business Officer
John Fletcher.....	Billy J. Harbin Associate Professor (Theatre History)
Tara A Houston.....	Assistant Professor (Scene Design)
George Judy.....	Gresdna A. Doty Professor (Acting and Directing)
Kyla Kazuschyk.....	Associate Professor (Costume Technology)
James L. Murphy.....	Professor (Technology; Production Manager; Head, M.F.A. Technology/Design)
Susan Perlis.....	(Co-Head Dance)
Isaac Pletcher.....	Assistant Professor (Film and TV)
Claudio Ribeiro.....	(Co-Head Dance)
Rockford Sansom.....	Assistant Professor (Voice)
Alan Sikes.....	Associate Professor (Literature, Theory, and Criticism)
Amy Smith.....	Assistant Dean, Office of Student Success
Kristin Sosnowsky.....	Department Chair, Professor (Arts Administration; Producer, Swine Palace)
Vastine Stabler.....	Managing Artistic Director
C. Touchet.....	Instructor of Entertainment Lighting and Media Production
Shannon Walsh.....	Associate Professor (Theatre History: Head, Ph.D. Program)
Chris Wood.....	Professional-in-Residence (Scene Shop Supervisor)

M.F.A. Acting Program

Head.....	Nick Erickson
Students.....	Alana Johnson, Justin Newell, La Donna Ouedraogo, Carolina Queiroz Couto, Adam Seeholzer, Douglas Streater, Alice Wilkinson

M.F.A. Technical Design Program

Head.....	James L. Murphy
Students.....	Emma Arends, Crystal Haner, Kellie Murphy, Madison Stinemetz

Ph.D. Program

Head.....	John Fletcher
Students.....>>	Rachel Aker, Anna Broussard, Simi Fadirepo, Heyjin Kwon, Dori Leeman, Ben Munise, Katie Morris, Kyra Smith, Taren Wilson, Aaron Wood