



PHOTO BY JAMES GIBBS

**THE BUILDERS ASSOCIATION**  
***STRANGE WINDOW: THE TURN OF THE SCREW***

World Premiere | Thursday, September 13, 2018, at 7:30pm  
Colwell Playhouse

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# PROGRAM

## THE BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

### **STRANGE WINDOW: THE TURN OF THE SCREW**

World Premiere

Based on *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James

Adapted by Moe Angelos, James Gibbs, and Marianne Weems

Written by James Gibbs

Directed by Marianne Weems

Sound Design and Original Music Composition by Dan Dobson

Video Design by Austin Switser

Lighting by Jennifer Tipton

Scenic Design by Neal Wilkinson

Costume Design by Andreea Mincic

## PERFORMERS

Moe Angelos

Sean Donovan

Hannah Heller

Lucia Roderique

Joe Solava

Finley Tarr

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Cathy Fazio, stage manager

Terri Ciofalo, production manager

Carl Whipple, technical director

Ryan Schultz, build technical director

Eleanor Bishop, assistant director

Tyler Thomas, associate dramaturge

Jesse Garrison, associate video designer

Josh Smith, associate lighting designer

Katherine Brook, producer

## KRANNERT CENTER PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS

Nick Loweree, assistant production manager

Adriane Binky Donley, properties

Dan DeLuca, child supervisor

Maria Miguens, assistant stage manager

Jenna Keefer, assistant stage manager

Anja Hose, media assistant

Alena Samoray, lighting assistant

Omri Schwartz, programmer/board operator

Luke Parker, audio assistant

*This performance will be presented with no intermission.*

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*This production of Strange Window: The Turn of the Screw by The Builders Association was built and premiered at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts/University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, was commissioned by Krannert Center and by BAM for the 2018 Next Wave Festival, and was co-produced by the Arts Division of the University of California, Santa Cruz, and 3LD Art & Technology Center.*

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*Special thanks to Mike Superhero Ross, Kevin Cunningham, Joseph Melillo, and Susan Solt.*

**THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING THIS PERFORMANCE**

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## PROGRAM NOTES

The Builders are thrilled to introduce our new work here at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts; the support and warm welcome here has created a second home for the company.

Henry James' classic ghost story *The Turn of the Screw* is famous for its central ambiguity: are the ghosts in the story real or are they imagined by its imperiled protagonist, the Governess? The question has divided readers and sparked passionate debate among critics for nearly a century.

But the text itself resists a resolution. The ambiguity is in fact the engine of the story; the ghosts are both there and not there; both real and imagined. The Governess is both mad and

perfectly sane. And the spectres, whether real or imagined, are the product of the social and class structures that bind the Governess and against which she struggles.

*Strange Window* stages these ambiguities and restrictions and uses them as a springboard—an interrogation of truth, of truth-telling, and of storytelling. Psychologists—representatives of 20th and 21st century techniques of knowledge—invade the story, teasing out and explicating what it means to tell the truth and to lie, both to ourselves and to others.

*Strange Window* is a memory, a story, and a haunting; it is a window into another world, and, perhaps, into our own.

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# PROFILES

**THE BUILDERS ASSOCIATION** was founded in 1994 and directed by Marianne Weems. It is a New York-based performance and media company that creates original productions based on stories drawn from contemporary life. The company uses the richness of new and old tools to extend the boundaries of theatre. The Builders Association is one of the most active experimental theatre companies in America. Based on innovative collaborations, Builders' productions blend stage performance, text, video, sound, and architecture to tell stories about human experience in the 21st century. From Brooklyn Academy of Music to Bogata, Singapore to Melbourne, Minneapolis and Los Angeles to Budapest, The Builders Association's OBIE award-winning shows have toured to major venues the world over.

The Builders have collaborated on 14 multimedia theatre projects: *Master Builder* (1994), *The White Album* (1995), *Imperial Motel* (Faust) (1996), *Jump Cut* (Faust) (1997), *Jet Lag* (1998) with Diller + Scofidio, *Xtravaganza* (2000), *Alladeen* (2003) with motiroiti, *Avanti* (2003), *Super Vision* (2005) with dbox, *Continuous City* (2008), *House / Divided* (2010), *Sontag: Reborn* (2012), and *Elements of Oz* (current). Their work has also been presented at The Brooklyn Academy of Music in 2003, 2005, 2008, and 2011.

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## PERFORMERS

**MOE ANGELOS** (performer) is a theatre artist and writer. In addition to her work with The Builders, she's one of The Five Lesbian Brothers, an OBIE-Award winning theatre company, and has been a member of the Wow Café Theater since 1981. She has collaborated with many downtown NYC performance luminaries including Lisa Kron, Anne Bogart, Lois Weaver, Kate Stafford, Brooke O'Harra, Carmelita Tropicana, Half Straddle, and The Ridiculous Theatrical Company. Angelos is a mentor in Queer/Art/Mentorship and has taught and lectured at universities across North America.

**SEAN DONOVAN** (performer) is an actor, dancer, writer, choreographer, and director. He has been nominated twice for BESSIE awards for Outstanding Performer for his body of work. He has worked with Faye Driscoll, Miguel Gutierrez, Jane Comfort, The Builders Association, Witness Relocation, and many others. Recent credits include *Thank You for Coming: Attendance and Play* (BAM, Danspace Project, international tour), *Age & Beauty Part 2* at NYLA, and *House / Divided* at BAM along with a national tour. Donovan holds a Bachelor in Fine Arts from NYU's Experimental Theater Wing. His newest work, *Cabin*, will premiere in May 2019 at The Bushwick Starr.

**HANNAH HELLER** (performer) is a New York-based performer and writer. Select New York theatre credits include *Elements of Oz* (The Builder's Association), *Emily Climbs* (The Brick), *Evelyn* (The Bushwick Starr), *Actress Fury* (The Bushwick Starr), *The World is Round* (BAM), and *The Reception* (HERE Arts Center). Heller will soon be seen in Nellie Tinder's *All Long True American Stories* play-cycle at The Bushwick Starr. Film and television credits include *Lemon* (Magnolia Pictures/Killer Films), *Hard World For Small Things* (WEVR), and *Jeff and Some Aliens* (Comedy Central). Heller is the director and co-creator of the web series *Morning Chardonnay*. As a dancer, she has worked with Dorrance Dance and Savion Glover.

**LUCIA RODERIQUE** (performer) is a performer, Full Spectrum Doula, and student based in Brooklyn. Past favorite productions include: *Carmen La Cubana* (Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris), *Sheila's Day* (Lincoln Center, New York), *The Apartment* (Abrons Art Center, New York), *The Unfortunates* (Joe's Pub, New York). She is a Carnegie Mellon University graduate in drama and is currently pursuing a master's degree in midwifery.

**JOE SOLAVA** (performer) is 12 years old and is in 7th grade at St. Matthew's Catholic School. He has been in *Fun Home* at the Station Theatre, his school play, and *13 the Musical* at the SoDo Theatre. He hopes you enjoy the show.

**FINLEY TARR** (performer) is a second grader at Booker T. Washington STEM Academy who loves dancing, singing, and gymnastics. Locally she has performed in several camp and class shows at Class Act Champaign, and is always putting on a show in her family's living room with her sisters. She is beyond thrilled to join The Builders Association for her Krannert Center debut.

## COMPANY

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**ELEANOR BISHOP** (assistant director) is a director and writer based between New Zealand and New York. Recent works include an adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's *Mrs Warren's Profession* (Auckland Theatre Company) and *Jane Doe*, a participatory piece about rape culture that has evolved over three years with participation from multiple colleges campuses in the United States. She has worked as an assistant director for The Builders' Association's *Elements of OZ* (Montclair Peak Peak Performances, 3LD). She received her Master of Fine Arts in directing from Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama (USA). For more information, visit [www.eleanorbishop.org](http://www.eleanorbishop.org).

**KATHERINE BROOK** (producer) is a director and producer who creates original work with her performance ensemble, *Televiolet*. She has worked as a producer for The Foundry Theatre, New York City Players, The Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theatre Festival and StoryCorps. Brook received her Master of Fine Arts from Carnegie Mellon University.

**TERRI CIOFALO** (production manager) is the associate director for production and the director of new work at Krannert Center as well as a member of the stage management faculty in the department of theatre at the University of Illinois. Originally from New York City, Ciofalo was the production manager and production stage manager for Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet prior to joining Krannert Center in 2007. She has stage managed for the Yale Repertory Theatre, Long Wharf Theatre, Baltimore Shakespeare Festival, American Players Theatre, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, and Maryland Stage Company. Ciofalo is the program director of The Armagh Project, bringing American college students to Northern Ireland each summer to study playwriting, performance, creative writing, and journalism. She earned her Master of Fine Arts in stage management at the Yale School of Drama.

**DAN DOBSON** (sound design and original music composition) is a founding member of The Builders Association and has designed sound for all of their productions. In addition to editing and scoring for film he has played zither and Chapman stick for Blue Man Group since 1995.

**CATHY FAZIO** (stage manager) graduated in May 2018 with a Master of Fine Arts in stage management from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Recent stage manager credits include *Il Re Pastore* with the San Francisco Opera Merola Program, Jessica Lang Dance Residency at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Krannert Center/Banks Bridgewater Lewis Fine Arts Academy production of *Dreamgirls*, and assistant stage manager of *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Seussical* at the Utah Festival of Opera and Musical Theatre. Her University of Illinois credits include stage manager of the Illinois Theatre production of *In the Blood*, assistant stage manager and company manager of *Long Lost*, a new play by Donald Margulies and directed by Daniel Sullivan. This fall she will move to Seattle to work with the youth program at Seattle Opera.

**JESSE GARRISON** (associate video designer) is an LA-based multimedia artist and video designer. He uses a range of technology to examine the boundaries between the physical and digital. This work incorporates everything from computer vision libraries and augmented reality software development kits to colored oil and 35mm slides. Recent stage work includes The Builders Association's *Elements of Oz* (3LD), Only Child Aerial Theater's *Asylum* (Skirball Center), and *Thread* at the Edinburgh Fringe. Recent installation work includes *The Woods*, an exploration of our relationship with the forest, *VROM*, a virtual reality meditation experience, and *NewsPrint*, an anachronistic printing machine. Find more information at [takethefort.com](http://takethefort.com).



**JAMES GIBBS** (writer and dramaturge) is a writer and company dramaturge with The Builders Association. He has worked with the company since 1998 in a variety of roles, including contributing and directing 3D-animated visual material. He is currently at work on his first novel and recently had short fiction published with *Storyscape Journal* and anthologized by *Epiphany*. Gibbs was a founder and remains a director of DBOX, a company that makes stories about buildings (advertising, branding, and media) and won an Emmy for *Rising: Rebuilding Ground Zero*. His photography work with DBOX and with husband Dick Page has been published in *The New York Times*, *Surface*, *allure*, *W*, and *Interview* magazines, among others.

**ANDREEA MINCIC** (costume designer) is a visual artist who works as a theatre designer in New York City. She likes working on various types of performances and always tries to be involved in new, unconventional, and challenging projects. From stage design to costumes, making masks, or puppets, Mincic loves everything that has a good idea. She is the type of artist who uses her hands to make things, an individual with a versatile set of skills. She designs mostly for downtown theatre companies, and some of her favorite collaborators include The Builders Association, Two Headed Calf, Half Straddle, 31Down, Hoi Polloi, Jim Findlay, Radiohole, Mallory Catlett, Susan Marshall, Banana Bag & Bodice, and Big Dance Theater.

**RYAN SCHULTZ** (build technical director) is the technical director as well as the Chair of the Scenic Technology program for the department of theatre at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts staff in August 2016, Schultz was the technical director for Chicago's Goodman Theatre, where his credits included the annual production of *A Christmas Carol*, Disney's *The Jungle Book* adapted by Mary Zimmerman, *The Iceman Cometh* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music starring Nathan Lane and Brian Dennehy, Robert Fall's and Seth Bockley's massive interpretation of Roberto Bolaño's *2666*, and the Broadway production of *War Paint* starring Patti LuPone and Christine Ebersol. Schultz received his education from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

**JOSH SMITH** (associate lighting designer) is a New York City-based set and lighting designer. Recent projects include *Big Fish* (Theatre Raleigh), *Power of Emotion* (Abrons Arts Center), *Bear Slayer* (Ars Nova), *Boy at the Edge of Everything* (Lincoln Center), *How To Get Into Buildings* (New Georges), *Million Dollar Quartet* (Bucks County Playhouse), *Clara Not Clara* (Knockdown Center), *The Power Of Emotion* (The Public Theatre: UTR), . . . *Ichabod Crane* (Park Avenue Armory), *Feeling* (New Ohio Theatre), *Lady Han*, and *Party in the USA* (Incubator Arts). For more information, visit [www.josh-smith.com](http://www.josh-smith.com).

**AUSTIN SWITSER** (video design) has worked with the The Builders Association on *Elements of Oz*, *Sontag:Reborn*, *House/Divided*, *Jet Lag 2010*, and *Continuous City*. Switser has also designed video for numerous operas and performances around the world. He is also the creative director of Switser + Knight, a Brooklyn-based design studio. For more information, go to [www.switserknight.com](http://www.switserknight.com).

**TYLER THOMAS** (associate dramaturge) is a multidisciplinary theatre maker and cultural worker. Her work has most recently been shown at the New York Musical Festival, HERE Arts Center, Paradise Factory, The Performing Garage, and NYU. Recent assisting credits include *The Public Theater*, *Soho Rep*, *The Foundry Theatre*, *City Center Encores!*, and *University Settlement*. Upcoming credits include *Atlantic Theater Company* and *The Flea Theater*. She is a former Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation Observer, alum of the Lincoln Center Directors Lab, visiting artist at the Athens Conservatoire in Greece, and current resident director at *The Flea Theater*. Tyler holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Drama and a Master of Arts in Arts Politics from NYU.

**JENNIFER TIPTON** (lighting designer) is well-known for her lighting for theatre, opera, and dance. Her recent work in theatre includes *Richard Nelson's Uncle Vanya* at the Old Globe in San Diego. Her recent work in opera includes *Gounod's Roméo et Juliette* at the Metropolitan Opera and her recent work in dance includes *Alexei Ratmansky's Romeo and Juliet* for the Bolshoi Ballet. She teaches lighting at the Yale School of Drama. She received the Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize in 2001, the Jerome Robbins Prize in 2003, and in 2008 she was awarded the USA "Gracie" Fellowship and a MacArthur Fellowship.

**MARIANNE WEEMS** (director) is the artistic director and co-founder of The Builders Association and has directed all of their productions. Weems has also worked in various creative roles with The Wooster Group (where she was the dramaturge from 1988-94), David Byrne, Taryn Simon, Susan Sontag, and many others. She serves on the board of Art Matters, a small but fierce arts foundation. From 2008-2014 she was the head of graduate directing at Carnegie Mellon University and participated in founding a new program there in Integrative Design, Arts, and Technology.

**CARL WHIPPLE** (technical director) is a freelance production manager and technical director based in Brooklyn. Recent credits include *17c* (Big Dance Theater), *Mourning Becomes Electra*, *Pay No Attention to the Girl* (Target Margin), *Othello*, *Hadestown* (New York Theater Workshop), *Elements of Oz* (The Builders Association), *YOUARENOWHERE* (Andrew Schneider), MoMA, The New Museum, as well as a variety of shops and venues throughout NYC.

**NEAL WILKINSON** (scenic designer) joined The Builders Association as production manager in 2004, co-designed scenery for *Continuous City* and *House / Divided*, and designed the scenery for *Elements of Oz*. Recent set design credits include *Mata Hari* by Matt Marks and Paul Peers (WestEdge Opera), *Donovan and Calderon's Reception* (HERE), *Degenerate Art Ensemble's Predator Songstress* (Yerba Buena), and *Kaija Saariaho's Emilie* (Finnish National Opera). Wilkinson is founder of the production management and design firm Corps Liminis, whose credits include *Prelude to the Shed*, *Broadway Asia's China Goes Pop* (Chinese Tour), *Tony Oursler's Imponderable* (MoMA), and *Anri Sala's Ravel Ravel* (New Museum).