# Plays Pictured on the Website...

# The Science of Leaving Omaha

Cast 2F, 1M.

After dropping out of school and surviving a rough turn as a Save Mart clerk, Iris has a job at the Belladonna Funeral Home's basement crematory. Three years later she is trying to find her way out of the job - and out of Omaha. One winter evening a young man named Baker breaks into the funeral home. He has come to say goodbye to his recently deceased wife, Ruth-Ellen, who was killed in a bungled burglary and lies within a body bag awaiting cremation. Now Iris and Baker will spend a very humorous, clumsy, and erratic evening together trying to understand the dismantling of their working-class lives before the police arrive and they are held accountable for present or past transgressions.

#### With

Cast: 1F, 1M.

Clifford and Minnie enlist their derelict son to obtain Death-with-Dignity drugs from the state of Oregon to resolve their own individual fatal illnesses. Due to an accident on the highway, the plan goes hysterically and tragically array. They devolve into a world of humorous, but ultimately heartbreaking minutiae as they navigate laundry, a blizzard, a rat in the kitchen and the UPS delivery of their son's body. Minnie & Clifford's enduring love fuels them through the obstacle course of each day that is meant to be their last.

#### Evie's Waltz

Cast: 2F, 1M

Evie and Danny have been suspended for taking a loaded weapon to their high school. Danny's parents have invited Evie's mother to a backyard barbecue so they can discuss the explosive situation. Instead of her mother, Evie shows up – and Danny is in the woods with a rifle. In a harrowing evening, they explore the politics of parenting, the distortions of American culture, and the proper ways to grill a kebob.

# The Storytelling Ability of a Boy

Cast: 2F, 1M.

A love triangle forms between a storytelling boy, a broken hearted teacher and nail-gun toting girl. In the corridors of a rural high school, love gets complicated when cows, coyotes, rifles, cellos and the devils cabana boy all get caught-up in dueling storytelling narratives.

#### **Ordinary Nation**

Cast: 2F, 3M

Allyson and Nation Jones' marriage is suffering from the same acute polarization as the country around them. As the couple tries to survive their shifting ethics, the fate of their daughter tumbles into the hands of her bookie grandpa, a corrupt senator and a high stakes poker game.

#### While We Were Bowling

Cast: 2F, 5M

In 1957 Buffalo, an elite bowling family, the McGlauphlin's, contend with a rival team, a communist agenda, the civil rights moment, a family curse, a closeted son, and a local pin boy who is in love with their daughter - till he falls in love with her mother.

# The Hummingbird Wars

Cast: 3F, 2M.

The hummingbird is always a few hours away from starving. Warren wonders, who can live like that, as he fights against the onslaught of social media, deceptive cable companies, pharmaceutical invasions, his flooding basement, the mysterious appearance of guns in his home, and the inevitable extinction of the middle class. When his wife disappears in her societal protest against corporate America, the soldier in Warren emerges, and he decides to fight back.

# Women Who Steal

Cast: 2F. 1M

Karen had an affair with Peggy's husband. Peggy confronts her only to find a comrade in arms on the brink of turning 40. The women go on a furious tour of their loves and heartbreaks with the help of tequila and a BB Gun.

# The Cha Cha of a Camel Spider

Cast: 2F, 3M.

A college student majoring in Spoken Word Poetry, assumes her words can change the world. She learns that her father, a mercenary for a company much like Blackwater, has perpetrated a war crime in Afghanistan by removing the artificial heart of a would-be terrorist and sending it back to the company as a trophy. Bethany gets involved with two discontent security guards and an Afghani cab driver who may or may not be the man with the missing heart.

#### The Americans Across the Street

Cast: 2F, 1M.

Pulitzer Prize winning author, Derrick Slaughterhouse, is happily spending his retirement days on his front porch drinking scotch and yelling at his horrible neighbors. His drunken rages directed towards all the Americans across the street are disrupted when his widowed sister, with her 16-year-old daughter in tow, come to live with him.

#### Golf With Alan Shepard

Cast: 4M.

A grocer, a widower, a retired army general and a defrocked priest play a penultimate round of golf. Magic happens between them, on the course, and eventually in the heavens above, when astronaut Alan Shepard arrives to find the ball he hit on the moon in 1971.

#### Soft Click of a Switch

Cast: 2M

Ed and Earl want to blow things up. These two strangers become friends as they take vengeance for their listless days and empty lives. The problem is they don't want to hurt anybody. The futility of their domestic terrorism is both comic and tragic, as they move slowly toward unexpected grace.

# The Wash U. Plays...

#### American Storm

Cast: 4F, 8M

During a morning workout at a small racetrack in Ohio, a two year old colt suddenly runs a world record time. Against the backdrop of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the journey of American Storm's

training meshes with the politics of a nation as they try to save their small town champion from the corporate side of the Sport of Kings.

## Kid Peculiar

Cast 1F, 1M

The Coral Court Motel is the annual meeting sight for Madeline and her son, Stamp. Years ago, Madeline transferred the care of her son to her parents when she moved to Washington DC to become the Commissioner for Presidential Debates. Madeline returns with a plan to reconcile, but Stamp has a plan of his own.

## Civil Disobedience

Cast: 2F, 2M

After her mother's death, the daughter of a retired supreme court judge breaks into her parent's home and steals a signed copy of Henry David Thoreau's essay, *Civil Disobedience*. As she accompanies the judge cross country to install him in her brother's wealthy home, she discovers the criminal past of her anarchist mom, along with the false identity she had to create, to love and marry her father.

### Camden & Lilly

Cast 3F, 2M.

The story of a devoted sister and brother trying to survive the strange and unaccountable death of their eccentric mother. It is a journey filled with opera, dancing, birds and fantastical impossibilities as it is written and presented by Lilly for her 9th grade English class.

### **Unlucky Nick**

Cast: 3F, 2M.

Connie has been in a coma since she was nine years old. Nick has been in a coma for five days. Within their unconscious worlds they meet and fall in love. Their unconscious-world passion revives them both. But they are now in adjacent rooms of a hospital and don't know each other...but they have this overwhelming feeling...

#### The Science of Leaving Omaha

Cast 2F, 1M.

See Above Blurb.

# Other Produced Plays...

#### **Echo Location**

Cast: 2F, 2M.

Once the cat literally hits the ceiling fan, the backyard wedding of Benjamin Rindle gets postponed. As waves crash against the nearby Massachusetts shores, Benjamin desperately attempts to keep his nuptials on schedule. He must navigate the police car in front of his house, the arrival of a young girl claiming to be his daughter, and a heart-broken bookie named Bluetooth's unspeakably violent retribution for his ill-fated.

#### Percentage America

Cast: 2F, 3M.

A new disease is cropping up everywhere. People seeking the truth are afflicted with a physical malady wherein they bang their foreheads against hard surfaces. Arial and Andrew risk their

own heads, as they try to decipher the facts concerning a 15-year-old arrested at the Whitehouse.

#### Men on the Take

Cast: 2F, 1M

Two recently divorced men meet in a coffeehouse. They go on a road trip to make sense of their failed romantic lives, the deterioration of the Cleveland Cavaliers, and what it means to be human in a world of confused identities.

## The One-Eyed Man is King

Cast: 2F. 2M

Bendalli is a brilliant young thief who breaks into a house several nights in a row to "case the place". He does this because he's blind. One night a widow furiously rearranges her furniture, not knowing Bendalli is clinging to the bookshelf above. Now he can't come down. It's a love story. Loosely echoing the parable of H.G Well's short story, *The Country of the Blind* – where the one-eyed man is king.

## An Asian Jockey in Our Midst

Cast: 1F, 3M

During his family's interment, an Asian boy is born in the horse stalls of a racetrack. Years later he becomes the star jockey at the track. The hauntings of his past, the racism of his present, and his dubious future as a professional Asian comedian, collide in this mind bending tale of injustice.

### **Picasso Does My Maps**

Cast: 3F, 3M

An agoraphobic courtroom sketch artist who works remotely from his home, falls in love with the narcoleptic dancer who lives next door. At night they pursue their romance in her dreams, and by day through the back door of the artist's home. The artist's brother is hurting himself and blaming his dead wife. An escaped killer from England sits on a bench outside. He's waiting for the artists portrait of him to understand why he murded his father. A homeless girl lives in the bushes behind the bench. They come together in the odd and hysterical beauty of united strangers.

#### The Women of My Father's House

Cast: 4F

A daughter traces her relationship with her father through his three wives. The first wife is her suicidal mother, the second is their wedding photographer, the third is the daughter's best friend.

## Longevity Abbreviated for Those Who Don't Have Time

Cast: 2F, 5M

The denizens of a rundown racetrack bar try to decipher how their bartender was murdered at Mailboxes Etc. The crime leads to a discovery of fixed races, dicey pasts, and a mysterious visitor.

# What's New...!

# Mary Blandon's Garage

Cast: 3F, 3M.

When 25-year-old Mary Blandon left the small town of LaGrange Ohio she declared herself done with "bingo as intellect and cows as pets." Twenty years later she has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in Literature, served nine years in prison for a murder she didn't commit, and is now ready to come back to LaGrange. Her recently remarried husband arranges with his new Christian bride for Mary to live in their garage.

### **Guys in Cabins**

Cast: 2M.

Naturalist/Author Henry David Thoreau of the 19th century, and domestic terrorist (Unabomber) Ted Kaczynski of the 20th century live side-by-side as neighbors in their individually notorious cabins in the woods. The historical and ideological similarities between these two men are hysterical and perplexing, proffering the question: What if Ted lived then, and Henry lived now, and ultimately, what responsibility does our country bear in the creation of our own domestic terrorists.

# Lit: A Tall Tale of Quarantine

Cast: 4F, 4M.

Lit is the story of a grandmother (Celladora) and granddaughter (Maisie), who refuse to come down from their rooftop apartment after the pandemic has ended. More than a year has passed, when a young man named Down, climbs up the seven-story fire escape ladder to find out why. Down and Maisie fall in love. Down wants to rescue Maisie and bring her back into the world.

# The Story Blinked

Cast: 3F. 4M

In final moments of H.G. Well's delightful story, *The Country of the Blind*, the central character of Nunez abandons love, walks into the mountains, and dies. But in present day, Nunez is no longer willing to be the cooperative character of bygone years. Each night he annoys his supporting characters toward action and demands an opportunity to alter his fate. This fiercely funny journey asks the question: Can we change who we are, or are we eternally doomed to trudge-on in the manner that we've already lived?

## Duck/Rabbit

Cast: 3F, 2M.

A retired history teacher named Hickey is suddenly seeing the future - and it's a cartoon. His wife Shirley and neighbor Jerry think his sanity is slipping. Eventually the future arrives, and it absolutely is a cartoon, so they all take refuge in Shirley's kitchen, hoping the world will eventually right itself. Their daughter Georgeena suddenly shows signs of transitioning to a cartoon. Neighbors Jerry and Angela eventually decide the cartoon world makes sense to them and they leave the kitchen to become part of the chaos. Hickey and Shirley are left with decisions of whether to hide or fight.