

Merely Players Presents

WAKEY, WAKEY
by Will ENO

A virtual production

October 17, 18, 22, 23, and 24, 2020

Presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

Cast

Guye	Elizabeth Gray+
Lisa	Jessica Jane Harris+

The Creative Team/Crew

Director	Mona Wood-Patterson+
Film Editor/Animations	Charles Ford+
Composer	Pink Mage
Camera Operators	Anthony Kingsley Sarah Harris

+ Merely Players Artistic Company

WHO'S WHO

Elizabeth Gray (*Guye*) is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of Arts (Stella Adler Studio/Excellence in Acting award recipient), The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA London, certificate holder), and The Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB, NYC). Elizabeth has worked as a performer and teaching artist in theaters and schools across the country, with an emphasis in teaching classical theatre to youth (CTE License). She has previously appeared with Merely Players in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Titania/Snug), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Beatrice), *The 39 Steps* (Annabella/Margaret/Pamela), *The Shape of Things* (Evelyn), and *Dames at Sea* (Joan). A huge thank you to Anthony, my family, and Mona and Charles for their unwavering support. And deep gratitude to Will Eno for teaching me to love the plan and love the adjustment in myself and everywhere. Black Lives Matter.

Jessica Jane Harris (*Lisa*) is grateful for the way Merely Players has adapted to keep theatre available and thriving in this area in spite of setbacks. She has loved reuniting with old friends, and becoming acquainted with new characters. You may have seen her in Merely Players' past productions of *Mamma Mia!* (Sophie) or *Mary Poppins* (Mary Poppins), but this is her first straight play in over a decade. She counts herself

lucky to have quality training from DPAC, Brigham Young University Hawaii, and of course, Merely Players, to help her through the unique challenges that came with this production. Jessica Jane would like to thank her charming husband and energetic son for their inspiration and support. She hopes this show speaks joy and perspective to all who will watch it.

Charles Ford (*Technical Director and Designer*) is a master backstage technician and the Co-Artistic Director of Merely Players. An avid puppeteer, mask-maker, make-up artist, robotics engineer, and special effects designer, he has designed dozens of sets for a variety of theatrical genres. During his career as Durango High School's tech director and resident designer, Charles was the recipient of several awards, including the Durango Foundation of Educational Excellence's Outstanding Teacher Award and the Rocky Mountain Theatre Association Technical Theatre Award.

Sarah Harris (*Camera Operator*) is a senior attending Durango High School who participated in plays as a middle schooler. She has loved the Merely Players productions and is honored not only to be a part of this beautiful play, but also to meet such talented and kind people in the process. She has loved this experience, which has become a huge inspiration to her. She has learned so much from the people who have brought this play to life and looks up to them and their passion. This play has opened her eyes to the infinite possibilities in expressing emotions through art, even when it is through a screen.

Anthony Kingsley (*Composer and Camera Operator*) is an electronic and rock musician, and a graduate of the music program at Bard College, where he focused on electroacoustic/noise music. He has performed with the Calder Foundation and multiple modern dance productions, and spent a decade playing very loud bass guitar in grimy NYC basement venues. He moved to Colorado in 2019 to start a new project, Pink Mage, which focuses on live electronic improvisation. Since the beginning of this new phase in our world's history, he has pivoted to studio music production, but looks forward to being able to perform live again. Anthony is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with Merely Players for the second time (*Zoom Alice*). Live performances of music and theater may be on hold for the time being, but he hopes that this production serves as a reminder that art as a whole is not.

Mona Wood-Patterson (*Director*) has devoted her professional life to studying, teaching, and making theatre. She has directed over 125 productions in various venues and presented at educational and theatre conferences both in the United States and abroad. The Co-Artistic Director of Merely Players, Mona has been the recipient of numerous awards; including Colorado Theatre Teacher of the Year and Fort Lewis College Distinguished Alumnus. Mona was recognized as the director of an exemplary theatre program by the International Thespian Society, and was awarded a Fulbright to teach theatre in England. In 2011, she was inducted into the Colorado State Thespian Hall of Fame. She received the Broadway World -Denver award for Best Director of a Play for her direction of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in 2018.

Lesley Garrett's "Flower Duet" from *Lakme* Courtesy of Silva Screen Music America
Cave painting photo by P Sevela
Sunrise video by Maria Boyarina
Animal video images courtesy of *Your Daily Laugh* on YouTube

Background floral image by pinkisuperstar@freepic.com
End quote from Mary Oliver's "The Summer Day"

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Photos Courtesy Of:

Jennie Albert	Kristin Albright
Mandy Arcomano	Marc Arbeeny
Harry Boyd	Kara Cavalca
Shea Costa	Charles Ford
Ella Gavlinski	Lisa Govreau
Elizabeth Gray	Charlie Grice
Jessie Harris	Jessica Jane Harris
Susan Hillmeyer	Austin Hohnke
Erica Holt	Kristi Horvath
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Selena Trujillo	Riki Tsethlikai
Marie Voss-Patterson	Jill Weaver
Lucy West	Jeannie Wheeldon
Karina Wolfe	Enid Wood
Mona Wood-Patterson	

“*Wakey, Wakey*” world premiere originally produced by Signature Theatre, New York City: Paige Evans, Artistic Director; Erika Mallin, Executive Director; James Houghton, Founder.

A Note about the Production:

Will Eno’s *Wakey, Wakey* played Off-Broadway in 2017. Directed by the award-winning author, the play continued his canon of rich linguistic and existentially-themed work. Merely Players was delighted when Eno granted us permission to create a virtual production of his play and to cast a female in the leading role. As we move through our often-troubling world, may we all remember to appreciate the smaller things in life. These moments of beauty, laughter, love, and connection are our individual and collective treasure.

MERELY PLAYERS has been making theatre in the region since 1995. We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and we assure you that any money donated will go toward making quality theatre in Durango both now and in the future. Merely Players is a tradename of Imaginary Friends Productions.

For more information on Merely Players, to get involved, or to be added to our mailing list:

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