

LUCY PREBBLE'S

THE EFFECT

DIRECTED BY LES MILLER



KEYAIRA AUGUSTUS • LEONARD LUTTRELL
HANNAH LONGSHORE • AARON RIFE

THEATRE OF ARTS

HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

MAY 9th-12th & 16th-19th, 2024

STELLA ADLER THEATRE

6773 HOLLYWOOD BLVD. • LOS ANGELES, CA

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I am absolutely thrilled to be helming this student production of Lucy Prebble's "The Effect". Via its powerful exploration of love, ethics, and the complexities of human connection, this play offers a wonderful opportunity for these amazing young actors to delve into challenging roles. Bringing this dynamic script to life on stage also allows us to ignite conversations about the intersection of science and emotion, and I am excited to witness the talent and dedication of our Theatre of Arts conservatory cast and crew as they embark on this exhilarating theatrical journey. Thank you for coming!



Les Miller
Director & Theatre of Arts Faculty

Les Miller is an award-winning short film director and screenwriter. Her acting journey began at 16, studying the Meisner Technique with Sidney Kay from The Neighborhood Playhouse, followed by two years with the legendary Stella Adler in NYC, and further study with Uta Hagen at HB Studio.

Currently she teaches acting for the camera, and audition technique in the UCLA Theatre department, film directing and the art of directing actors for the camera at the UCLA Extension, and is a much sought-after private audition coach whose clients regularly appear on screen in the U.S. and abroad.

Previously, Ms. Miller worked as a Casting Director, casting independent feature films and commercials for major brands (Snickers, AT&T and Renuzit). She has also directed several plays, staged readings, and many industry/actor showcases. She has also taught acting and film directing at the New York Film Academy at Universal Studios, served as Director of New Works for the Ark Theatre Company, and was a member of the Playwrights Unit at LA's Ensemble Studio Theatre.

Ms. Miller holds an M.F.A. in Film Directing and Production from UCLA. She also holds a Certificate in Screenwriting from the UCLA Professional Program in Screenwriting. Les proudly graduated Summa Cum Laude with a dual Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, and the Thomas Hunter Honors Program from Hunter College, City University of New York.

THE EFFECT

Love, science, and ethics collide in a gripping exploration of the mind & heart.

Set within the clinical confines of a drug trial, Lucy Prebble's electrifying drama "The Effect" focuses on two volunteers who find themselves irresistibly drawn to each other as they navigate the blurred lines between attraction and the effects of the experimental medication. As their connection deepens, questions of authenticity and the very nature of reality emerge, forcing both characters and audience to confront the profound consequences of chemical intervention in matters of the heart. With razor-sharp dialogue, intense performances, and thought-provoking themes, "The Effect" is a pulse-quickening theatrical experience that lingers long after the final curtain falls, leaving audiences questioning the boundaries of love and science.

Written by Lucy Prebble
Directed by Les Miller

Executive Producer: David Conolly

Producer: Adam Kroeger

Set Design: Les Miller

Lighting & Sound: Nick Foran

Costumes: Les Miller

Choreographer/Dance Captain: Bobbytony

Properties: Les Miller

Stage Manager: Dora Zulin

Voice Over Sound Recordist: Bill Mendieta

Running Crew: Trisha B. Akins, Bobbytony

Front of House Managers: Megan Lomeli, Patrice Ward, Drew Stevenson

Special Thanks:

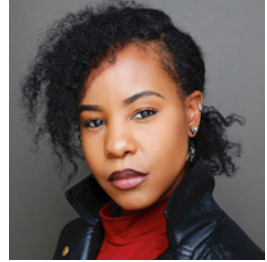
David Bollar, Bill Mendieta, Dr. Michael Miller, MD., John Wooden,
and The Robey Theatre Company

Production Support:

Juan de la Rosa

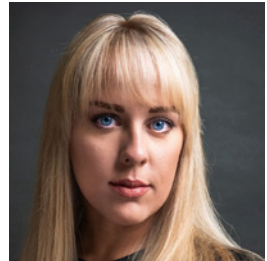
THE CAST

Keyaira Augustus (Connie): Keyaira Augustus was born and raised in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she discovered her love for performing arts. She has performed on stage in “UNCLE RUFUS: ODELLA REVENGE” at The Main Theater, as well as in “SHADE OF GREY”, “ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN”, “THE NACIREMA SOCIETY”, “MY JUILLIARD”, “BLACK GIRL”, “DANCE ON WIDOW ROW”, “THE OLD SETTLER”, and “ITS’ A LIFE”. Her screen credit includes web series “The Enforcement” and “Liminal Spaces”, plus short films “Til Death” and “Home for Christmas”. Keyaira is also an accomplished director, winning “Best Female Director” at the 2021 Medusa Online Film Festival. She’s an active member of her sketch comedy team Hot Coffee and improv team Blood Pact, where she performs at The Pack Theater.



Hannah Longshore (Dr. Lorna Jones):

Hannah grew up performing in community theatre in Seattle, and is excited to make her Los Angeles stage debut. Her recent productions with “Standing Room Only” theater company include “THE 39 STEPS”, “MAMA MIA, “YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN “ and “The PAJAMA GAME”. She has volunteered directing plays with 6-12 year olds at the Boys and Girls Club of America since 2019. Currently, she is enrolled at Theater of Arts and will graduate in July 2024. She would like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her in her journey.

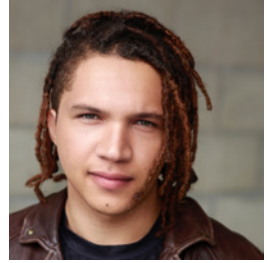


Leonard Luttrell (Dr. Toby Sealey):

Leonard is a proud Compton, California native whose previous productions are “ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN” at the Zephyr Theatre in West Hollywood, where he played the character of Russell Adams. He has also Assistant Stage Managed “UNTIL HE WASN’T” at Theatre 68 in North Hollywood. Leonard will soon be graduating from Theatre of Arts, and is proud to be in his first leading role as Doctor Toby Sealey in “THE EFFECT”. Upon graduation, Leonard intends to work with the Robey Theatre and continue his acting education.



Aaron Rife (Tristan): Aaron Rife is so excited to be working with Theatre of Arts in this production of “THE EFFECT”, after having previously performed in “FRIENDS WITH GUNS” and “POLAROID STORIES” at The Complex Theatre in Hollywood. He has also been a stage manager for the Zephyr Theatre and their production of “ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN”. Aaron is a proud alumnus of the Theatre of Arts acting program, and can't wait for you to see his work at the renowned Stella Adler Theatre



Trisha Bishop Akins (Med. Tech 1/Running Crew): Born and raised in Los Angeles, Trisha began pursuing her training in acting as a student at the Theater of Arts Conservatory. Currently she is a fourth term student in their six term program. Trisha was also apart of the short film “The Algorithm” directed by Alex Feldman. This is Trisha's first theatrical production, and she is very proud to be a cast member of “THE EFFECT”.



Bobbytony (Med. Tech 2/Running Crew): Born in Lakeview Terrace California, Bobbytony served 7 years in the US Army as a paratrooper. Following his honorable discharge from Germany, he made his way to Los Angeles to pursue his aspirations to be a TV talkshow host inspired by Ricky Lake, Montell Williams, and Jerry Springer. He finds great honor in having this opportunity to make his theater debut in “THE EFFECT” and hopes this will be only the beginning of his success in theatre, film, and TV. He would like to thank Les Miller for the opportunity alongside TOA.



THE CREW

Bobbytony, Choreographer/Dance Captain

Bobbytony has kicked off his choreographer/dance captain career by choreographing the salsa dance for the award-winning play “THE EFFECT” directed by Les Miller. He is trained in several dance forms including salsa, hip-hop, modern dance, as well as capoeira, and military drill & precision movement. With this experience working with “THE EFFECT”, Bobbytony hopes to have more opportunities as a choreographer and dance captain.

Nick Foran, Lighting & Sound Designer

Originally from Australia, Nick has worked in LA as a stage manager and designer since 2014, working with directors such as Broadway legend Robert Allan Ackerman in “BLOOD” (2016) as well as touring with the Second City company. He is currently the technical director at numerous theaters as well as being resident designer with various theater companies. This is his 4th production as lighting and sound designer with Theater of Arts

Lea Mada, Intimacy Coordinator

Lea Mada, Los Angeles-based actor, director, and intimacy coordinator, holds a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance from Boston University and an MFA in Acting from the UCLA School of Theater, Film, and TV. She trained in intimacy coordination with Laura Rikard via T.I.E. (Theatrical Intimacy Education) and has served as intimacy coordinator on multiple TOA productions. Recent theater acting credits include: HAND TO GOD (Coachella Valley Rep), A BRIGHT NEW BOISE (Dezart Performs), THE SOUND OF MUSIC (Alaska CAP), and SHE LOVES ME (Actors Coop). Proud member of AEA and SAG-AFTRA

Bill Mendieta, Voice Over Sound Recordist

Bill Mendieta has performed Voice Over in commercials, animation, audiobooks, and audio plays and currently narrates shows at Griffith Observatory’s Samuel Oschin Planetarium. In 2022, Bill produced the award-winning feature “WAKE UP”, a heartbreaking look at human trafficking in the foster care system. He has been a producer and casting director at production companies WSR Creative, Fiction Films, and Cover Story. As an actor, he’s best known for playing Ricky Ricardo in “I LOVE LUCY” Live on Stage in LA, Chicago, and the 1st national tour.

Dora Zulin, Stage Manager

Dora has previously stage-managed productions “UNTIL HE WASNT” at Theatre 68 in North Hollywood, “FRIENDS WITH GUNS” and “POLAROID STORIES” at The Complex Hollywood Theatre. She also played “Joan” in David Mamet’s “SEXUAL PERVERSITY IN CHICAGO” at The Arena Stage theatre in Hollywood, directed by Paul Wagar.

THEATRE & ARTS

HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Welcome to Theatre of Arts. We are the longest-running and most storied drama conservatory in Los Angeles – in continuous operation since 1927. We offer a rigorous training to prepare acting students for careers in theatre, film, TV and media. In small, intensive classes, our world-class faculty of working Hollywood professionals guide students through a process of professional and personal development to render highly skilled performers who contribute original, creative and effective voices to the entertainment industry. Learn more @ toa.edu

WORKSHOPS NOW ENROLLING!



ACTOR WORKSHOPS



**SESSIONS
ENROLLING
@ TOA.EDU**

**IMPROV
VOICEOVER**

STANDUP COMEDY

ACCENT REDUCTION

TV & FILM SCENE STUDY