

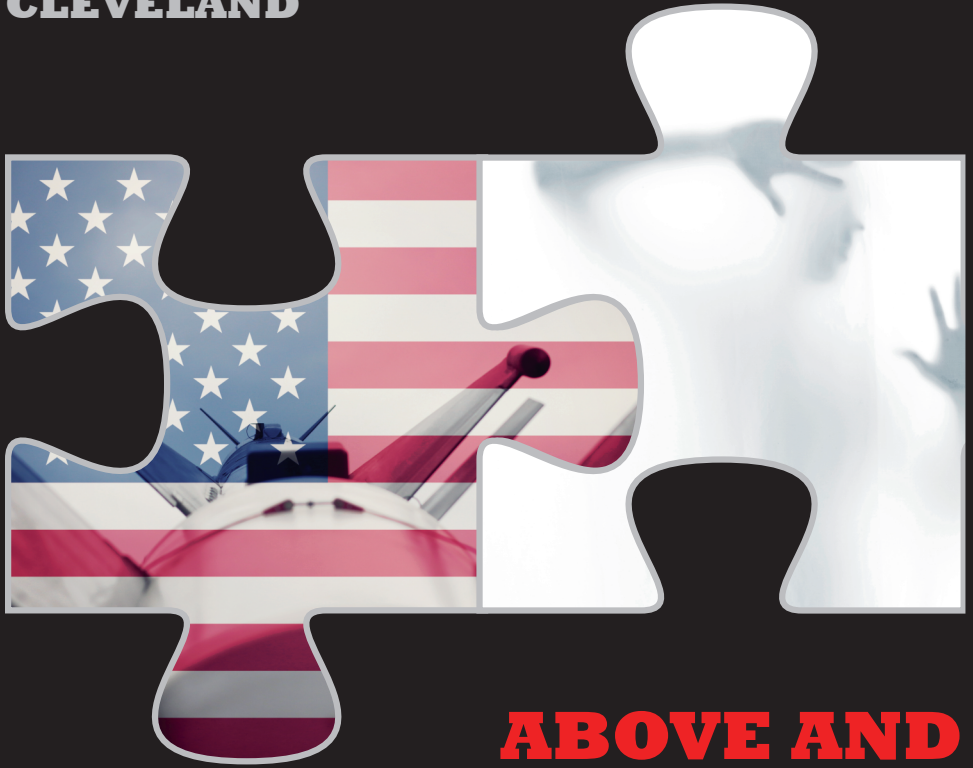
Playwrights Local Presents

# 2 1-ACT PLAYS

NOVEMBER 2 - 18, 2018

WATERLOO ARTS

CLEVELAND



**ABOVE AND  
BEYOND**

**by Faye Sholiton**

**THE SILENCE OF  
DR & MRS CALIGARI**

**by Robert Hawkes**

Playwrights Local Presents  
A World Premiere Double-Bill

## **ABOVE AND BEYOND**

**Written by Faye Sholiton**  
**Directed by Craig Joseph**

### **CAST**

Nicholas Chokan -- Marc Garfinkle  
James Alexander Rankin -- Darren Whitley

## **THE SILENCE OF DR & MRS CALIGARI**

**Written by Robert Hawkes**  
**Directed by Susan Soltis**

### **CAST**

Ray Caspio -- Cesare  
Robert Hawkes -- Dr Caligari  
Anne McEvoy -- Mrs Caligari

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### **CREATIVE TEAM**

Inda Blatch-Geib -- Costume Designer  
Walter C Boswell -- Set Designer  
JC Cifranic -- Stage Manager (*The Silence of Dr and Mrs Caligari*)  
Marcus Dana -- Lighting Designer  
Tom Hayes -- Carpenter  
Beau Reinker -- Sound Designer  
Megan Slabach -- Stage Manager (*Above and Beyond*)  
Lisa L Wiley -- Prop Designer

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**November 2 - 18, 2018**  
**Creative Space at Waterloo Arts**

### **NOTES**

*Above and Beyond* runs 40 minutes and *The Silence of Dr and Mrs Caligari* runs one hour. There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.  
Video/audio recording of this performance by any means is prohibited.

## ABOUT ABOVE AND BEYOND

### *Setting:*

An endless October morning – 1973. Launch Control Center, 60 feet underground.

### *Playwright's Note:*

This play and its characters are fictional, but the following events all occurred in the same week in October 1973:

- Spiro Agnew had recently resigned.
- The World Series was ending.
- Egypt and Syria had just invaded Israel.
- Russia and the U.S. took opposing sides in the Middle East conflict, with Soviet leader Brezhnev threatening nuclear attack.
- And the U.S. Military went to DEFCON III (Heightened Alert status)\* for the first time since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

\*DEFCON (“Defense Condition”) Alert Levels:

- DEFCON V: Normal peacetime readiness
  - DEFCON IV: Normal, increased intelligence and strengthened security measures
  - DEFCON III: Increase in force readiness, above normal readiness
  - DEFCON II: Further increase in force readiness, but less than maximum readiness
  - DEFCON I: Maximum force readiness
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## ABOUT THE SILENCE OF DR AND MRS CALIGARI

### *Setting:*

A morning in a half-remembered past. Dr Caligari is between the tours of freak shows at which he displays his son, The Somnambulist. Father and Mother and Son are at home.

### *Playwright's Note:*

*The Silence of Dr & Mrs Caligari* is inspired by the central image of Robert Wiene’s 1920 film, *The Cabinet of Dr Caligari*: that of a fairground charlatan who exhibits a freak he calls “The Somnambulist”. Beyond that image, however, the play draws hardly at all on the actual plot; so if you’ve never seen the film, you will not be much in the dark. The play is a self-contained mechanism. This is a play about exploitation of the “abnormal”, about bankrupt family relations, about the elusiveness of meaning, and about the potentially redemptive power of music.

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## ABOUT PLAYWRIGHTS LOCAL

Playwrights Local is dedicated to supporting the dramatists of Northeast Ohio. As a playwrights’ development and production center, we foster diverse talents and present locally written works. We strive to increase the impact of original theater on the community and to raise the profile of area playwrights both within Greater Cleveland and beyond. *Special Thanks:* Waterloo Arts; the playwrights, directors, casts, and creative team; and all of our patrons and supporters.

# PLAYWRIGHTS

**Faye Sholiton (*Above and Beyond*)** has developed her work at Cleveland Play House (1996-2011) and, since 2009, at Dobama Theatre. Her full-length plays have been performed more than 50 times throughout the U.S., and in London, receiving four Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence grants and dozens of regional and national awards. Sholiton writes extensively about theater and teaches playwriting, most memorably to passengers on world cruises. She is proud to have served seven years as Ohio's Regional Representative to the Dramatists Guild. In 2011, she founded Interplay Jewish Theatre to revive a century-old cultural tradition in Cleveland. [www.fayesplays.com](http://www.fayesplays.com); [www.interplaycleveland.com](http://www.interplaycleveland.com). *Special Thanks:* To Donald Zimmerman for inspiring and guiding the whole crew through *Above and Beyond*.

**Robert Hawkes (*The Silence of Dr and Mrs Caligari*)** has appeared previously for Playwrights Local as Wallace Stevens in David Todd's *Things As They Are*. He is the author of four produced plays: *The Importance of Waiting for the Eagle* (Cleveland Public Theatre Big [BOX], 2014), *Give Me the Map* (convergence-continuum Tweener series, 2016), *The Casual Tree Ward* (convergence-continuum, 2018), and this evening's play. He is a member of the acting company at convergence-continuum, where he has appeared in more than a dozen plays.

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## DIRECTORS

**Craig Joseph (*Above and Beyond*)** is excited to return to Playwrights Local after previously directing staged readings of *Last Chances* and *Make House*. A local theater maker, Craig's most recent projects include roles in *Alabama Story* and *Angels in America* (Ensemble Theatre) and directing responsibilities on *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (Weathervane), *Doubt* (The Players Guild), *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (ResonanceWorks), and *Trouble in Tahiti* (The Canton Symphony). Craig is the Artistic Director of Seat of the Pants Productions, whose next show, *Molly Sweeney*, opens next weekend. ([seatofthepants.org](http://seatofthepants.org)) Thanks so much for your support of live theater in Northeast Ohio. *Special Thanks:* Don Zimmerman.

**Susan Soltis (*The Silence of Dr and Mrs Caligari*)** is best-known for her work directing Tweeners at convergence-continuum – including *An Apology for the Course and Outcome of Certain Events Delivered by Doctor John Faustus on This His Final Evening*, *Give Me The Map*, and last summer's *Counting The Ways*. She is delighted to be working for Playwrights Local and collaborating with her three favorite actors on an exciting new play.

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## CAST ABOVE AND BEYOND



**Nicholas Chokan (Marc Garfinkle)** is elated to be making his stage debut at Playwrights Local. Previous roles include: Robbie in *Bloomsday* at None Too Fragile, Gilad in *On The Grill* and Walter in *Marjorie Prime* at Dobama Theatre, Warren in *This Is Our Youth* at Ensemble Theatre, and Hal in *Proof* at Clague Playhouse. He is a proud graduate of Cleveland State University's Department of Theatre and Dance. He wishes to thank and extend his gratitude to Faye, Craig, James, and everyone at Playwrights Local for this incredible opportunity. For Don & Elmer and to all those that have served and who are serving, we thank you.



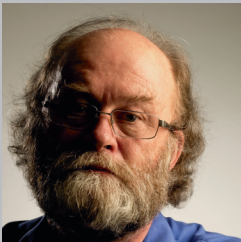
**James Alexander Rankin (Darren Whitley)** has worked with various theaters around town including Cleveland Public Theater, Ensemble Theatre, Dobama Theatre, and Great Lakes Theater. He has worked in productions such as *The Great Gatsby*, *Beyond The Horizon*, *Akarui*, and *The Great Globe Itself*. James received his training at Cuyahoga Community College.

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## CAST THE SILENCE OF DR & MRS CALIGARI



**Ray Caspio (Cesare)** is a performer-creator and teaching artist. He created the immersive pieces *Uncle Toots' Parlor* and *Sunday Dinner with Toots*. His work has been seen at Playhouse Square, Dobama Theatre, Theater Ninjas, Cleveland Public Theatre, convergence-continuum, Talespinner Children's Theatre, and Cleveland Museum of Art. This is his third performance in a play by Robert Hawkes directed by Susan Soltis. Ray has taught for Playhouse Square, Cleveland Play House, MetroHealth Arts in Medicine, and Cleveland Museum of Art. He also teaches Personal Storytelling workshops and Michael Chekhov Technique. Caspio received a 2016 Creative Workforce Fellowship. [raycaspio.com](http://raycaspio.com)



**Robert Hawkes (Dr Caligari)** has appeared previously for Playwrights Local as Wallace Stevens in David Todd's *Things As They Are*. He is the author of four produced plays: *The Importance of Waiting for the Eagle* (Cleveland Public Theatre Big [BOX], 2014), *Give Me the Map* (convergence-continuum Tweener series, 2016), *The Casual Tree Ward* (convergence-continuum, 2018), and this evening's play. He is a member of the acting company at convergence-continuum, where he has appeared in more than a dozen plays.



**Anne McEvoy (Mrs Caligari):** After having had the honor of directing a couple readings here for accomplished playwrights Greg Smith and John Busser, Anne's happy to be making her debut on stage at Playwrights Local and to have had this opportunity to work with Susan, Robert, and Ray. Elsewhere, Anne's been lucky enough to perform at Beck Center, Cleveland Playhouse, CPT, Clague, Cleve Shakes, Dobama, Ensemble, Great Lakes Theatre, Karamu, Lakeland, None Too Fragile, Ohio

Shakespeare, and convergence-continuum where she'll be appearing next month in *Rapture*, *Blister*, *Burn*.

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Inda Blatch-Geib (Costume Designer):** Inda's work as a costume and production designer for over 1,000 theatrical, commercial, and film releases has spanned 30 years and crossed 4 continents. Set styling, costume, and puppet designs include the Broadway special production of *Kris Kringle The Musical*. Current collaborations include set design for Machine Gun Kelly's European Tour, Wolstein Arena Show, and EST Fest. Current commercial work includes Costume Design for The Cleveland Cavaliers' 1970's and 80's themed videos, national spots for the team, and design for on-court halftime shows. Print designs include set styling for *Harper's Bazaar UK's* Scarlett Johansson cover and spread and set styling for Foundations and Kilgore Trout. Ms. Blatch-Geib's designs include exhibits at The Smithsonian Institute as well as national commercials including Microsoft, McDonald's, Under Armour, and TroyBuilt. Recent film projects include Production and Costume Design for an upcoming Netflix original series and Ohio Art Direction for *The Signal* starring Laurence Fishburne. Music Video Production and Costume Design includes Machine Gun Kelly's "Alpha Omega" and "Let You Go" releases.

**Walter C Boswell (Set Designer)** is pleased to be doing his second show with Playwrights Local, having designed *Down By Contact* earlier this season. He has served as the principal designer for Ensemble Theatre for the last two years. His designs have also been seen at Karamu House, Theatre in the Circle, Baldwin Wallace College, and Lorain County Community College. He also spent 18 years as the scenic and lighting designer for Middlebury College's summer program. Walter received the Cleveland Critics Circle Award for Scenic Design of *The Adding Machine* at LCCC in 1984 and *The Hairy Ape* at Ensemble Theatre in 2017.

**JC Cifranic (Stage Manager, *The Silence of Dr and Mrs Caligari*)** has stage managed many shows in the past five years, including *Devil Boys from Beyond!*, *Sordid Lives*, *MilkMilkLemonade*, and *Tear It Off*. Throughout the Cleveland area, she's worked as a stage manager, playwright, and actor, and in 2017 she was awarded a MFA in Playwriting through the NEOMFA program at Cleveland State. She's excited to be working with Susan, Robert, Ray, and Anne on such a beautiful piece. When she's not working on, in, or around the stage, she's writing for it. Thank you for supporting live theatre.

**Marcus Dana (Lighting Designer)** is delighted to be working with Playwrights Local

lighting *Above And Beyond* and *The Silence of Dr. & Mrs. Caligari*. Currently, this is his sixth year as Resident Lighting Designer at Dobama Theatre. Marcus is also on his second year as lighting designer at None Too Fragile. Previous and current lighting includes: LD at Near West Theatre, Canton Players Guild, Verlezza Dance, Beck Center, Karamu House, Tri-C JazzFest, Rabbit Run, Cleveland City Ballet, and Nightingale Opera.

**Tom Hayes (Carpenter)** is an award-winning playwright who received his MFA from Cleveland State University and the NEOMFA program. His play *Lord of the Burgeoning Lumber* was staged at convergence-continuum and was awarded "Best Original Script by a Local Playwright — 2008" by *Rave and Pan*. Tom's play *Patterns* was staged at Cleveland Public Theatre in 2011. Other plays have appeared at the Manhattan Project — Cleveland Lab and Playwrights Local. He is the Managing Director of Playwrights Local.

**Beau Reinker (Sound Designer)** is a Cleveland- based theatre artist and is happy to be working with Playwrights Local. You may have recently heard his work at convergence-continuum in *The Casual Tree Ward*, *And All the Dead Lie Down*, *In the Blood*, and *The Oldest Profession*. You may also have seen him as the Officer in Cleveland Public Theatre's production of *Br'er Cotton*. Beau has also performed with Theater Ninjas, Caesar's Forum, Cleveland Shakespeare Festival, Ensemble Theatre, and the Ohio Shakespeare Festival.

**Megan Slabach (Stage Manager, *Above and Beyond*)** is thrilled to be working on her first production with Playwrights Local and returning for her third production with Craig Joseph. Her favorite previous productions include: *Avenue Q*, *Assassins*, *Chesapeake*, and *Cabaret*. Specializing in audio design, she studied at Metalworks Institute's Show Production & Live Event Management program in Toronto, ON. When she is not at the theatre, she is working as an Audio-Visual Specialist at Case Western Reserve and on other freelance audio projects in the Cleveland area. Thank you for supporting local art in Cleveland and enjoy the show!

**Lisa L Wiley (Prop Designer)** is a working actor and voice over artist. She holds a bachelor's degree in Theatre from Ashland University. She also has years of experience stage managing, designing, and directing. Lisa is passionate about the arts and considers it an honor to help bring new works to life.

## **PLAYWRIGHTS LOCAL ANNUAL OPEN CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

**Accepting new works from  
all playwrights in Northeast Ohio**

**No reading fee**

**Opening January 1, 2019**

**[www.playwrightslocal.org/submissions](http://www.playwrightslocal.org/submissions)**

## SUPPORT FOR PLAYWRIGHTS LOCAL

### \$5000 +

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The Cleveland Foundation  
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Lerner-Ley • Amelia Logan • Claire Robinson May • Anne McEvoy • Christina Mcvay • Ella  
Medicus • Erica Merritt • Patrick Murray • Krysia Orlowski • Mattie Perry • Erica Peterson •  
Jennifer Pierce • Chuck Piscitello • Ronald Pitts • Susan Prince • Brian Rice • Jinnifer Roach •  
Pandora Robertson • Jason Ross • Amy Schwabauer • James Smith • Katherine Smith • Laura  
Smith • Michelle Smith • Amy Spencer • Jessie Sun • Jeremy Taylor • Catherine Thomey •  
Danielle Uva • Jaclyn Vogel • Colleen Walsh • Jim Warden • Elizabeth Wilkes • John Williams •  
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