



**Scriptwriters Houston
2023 Museum Plays**

Playwrights & Play Titles

Leslie A. Barrera	White Smoke
Tyreece Hardwick	The Witching Hour
Charles Harvey	Aunt Mae Shroud
Donna Latham	Memento Mori
Mindy Roll	The Funeral of Milly James

National Museum
of Funeral History

Oct. 7th



SCRIPTWRITERS HOUSTON

**MUSEUM PLAY FESTIVAL
OCT. 7 TH**

FOR MORE INFO:

**SCRIPTWRITERS.HOUSTON@GMAIL.COM
SCRIPTWRITERS-HOUSTON.ORG**

**Supporting & providing resources and
professional development to scriptwriters
since 1985.**



**MONTHLY
MEETINGS:**

**3RD
MONDAY
OF EACH
MONTH**

Location:

**401
BRANARD,
77006
THE
MONTROSE
CENTER**

ROOM 111



SCRIPTWRITERS HOUSTON

**10 X 10 PLAY FESTIVAL
2023**

2023 10 X 10 PLAY FESTIVAL



EVENT FLOW

INTRO

7:30 PM WELCOME
Barbara Starkes, Board President,
Scriptwriters Houston

INTRODUCTION
Scriptwriters Houston, Board Members:
Barbara Starkes
Leslie A. Barrera
Regina Locke

ACT 1

THE FORTUNE TELLER
by: Mike LaGrone Directed by: Leslie A. Barrera
WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE
by: Kelvin Douglas Directed by: Jonathan Gonzalez
WHAT THE RADIO TOLD ME
by: Bob Inger Directed by: Ardencie Hall-Karambe
CURSUM PERFICIO
by: Stephen Stewart Directed by: Crystal Mata
SPEED DATING 75
by: Jean Ciampi Directed by: Ashley Shaunte

15 MIN. INTERMISSION

ACT 2

THE IMPORTANT THINGS
by: William Kerr Directed by: Jeff Wax
STAYIN' ALIVE
by: Donna Latham Directed by: Abigail Faith Langlais
OVERTIME
by: Walt Bronson Directed by: Alric Davis
MEET CUTE: FROM THE INSIDE OUT
by: Priscilla Anderson Directed by: Keri Szeklinski
COME IN FROM THE RAIN
by: Fernando Dovalina Directed by: Kelvin Douglas

Playwrights



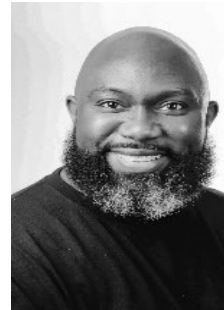
Priscilla Anderson
Meet Cute: From the Inside Out



Fernando Dovalina
Come In From the Rain



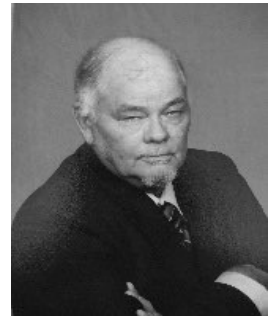
Jean Ciampi
Speed Dating 75



Kelvin Douglas
Weight Loss Challenge



Bob Inger
What the Radio Told Me



Mike LaGrone
The Fortune Teller



Donna Latham
Stayin' Alive



Stephen Stewart
Cursum Perficio

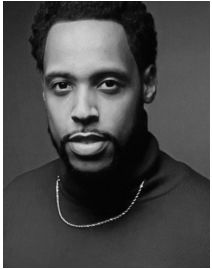
Walt Bronson
Overtime

William Kerr
The Important Things

The Fortune Teller



Leslie A. Barrera (Sara Lee) is a playwright, screenwriter, and director with degrees from the University of St. Thomas and Rice University. Recent artistic credits include directing *Keeper* in the Fade to Black Play Festival, *Potato Gumbo* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* at The Pearl Theater and script-reading for The Austin Film Festival.



Devinaire Barnes (Hank) Houston native Devinaire Barnes has been acting on stage since the tender age of one. Though this is his first time acting with Scriptwriters, he has an extensive career in the arts. Directing, producing, writing, and filming he has a passion for the arts he hopes to convey through every project he works on.

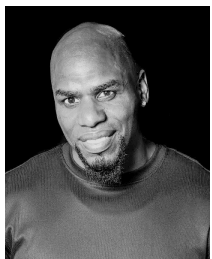
Weight Loss Challenge



Wykesha "Wy Renae" King (Terri) is an actor, singer, songwriter, yoga instructor, and entrepreneur. She has performed in numerous plays, productions, and independent films. Notably, *The house of Patrick* with Vincent Victoria presents and *A Motown Christmas*, with The Ensemble Theater. Connect with her on all social media platforms @wyrenaeking.



Gabriel Mullen (Shane) is an actor from the nowhere town of Alba, Texas. Professional Credits include: *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* (Male Swing, A.D. Players in Association with Carolina Creek), and *White Card* (Wally, Fade to Black Theatre Festival at the Match Theater). Gabriel's collegiate credits include: *Sweeney Todd* (Judge Turpin); *Airness* (Facebender); *Memphis* (Mr. Simmons); *Jump* (Hopkins); *No Exit* (Garcin); and *The Fantasticks* (Henry, The Actor). Gabriel pursues a career in performance, directing, and writing. You can find Gabriel's poetry and photography, and his website, on his Instagram @gabethebabymullen



Justin Walker (Ron T) has appeared in several theater productions in the Houston area, most recently cast as Man in the popular play *Is God Is* by Aleshea Harris. When he's not on stage he enjoys reading, playwriting and spending time with family.

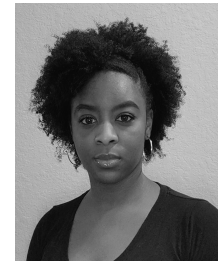
What the Radio Told Me



Damion J. Williams (Nick) loves to entertain and has done so since he was 12 years old. Damion has appeared on TV shows and films such as *Investigation ID*, *Smash*, *Do No Harm* and *Law Abiding Citizen* starring Jamie Foxx and Gerard Butler. In July of 2015 he was cast in an Independent film *Career Opportunities In Organized Crime* which made history for being the first virtual reality/conventional film to be entered into the Sundance Film Festival 2016. He has hopes of conquering more theatre productions and turning his love for performing into a successful Broadway and Hollywood career.



John Bookman (Marty) John graduated from The University of Houston-Downtown with a B.A. in Fine Arts. He has appeared in several stage productions around town, including *Hellcab*, *Stories of Us* and *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind*, all at the UH-Downtown O'Kane Theater. He also was recently cast in *Honeymoon at Graveside Manor*. John is happy to be apart of the 10x10 play festival at Theatre Suburbia.



Chya Woodard (Vickie) Chya Woodard is an up-and-coming actor studying psychology with a minor in theater at Texas Southern University. She has performed in dramatic productions from elementary schools to universities. Performing in the church at the age of 3 with praise dance, Ms. Woodard aspires to become a playwright utilizing theater as a medium to break the shame and stigma of African Americans who need psychology counseling. Ms. Woodard believes that theater has always been therapeutic.

Cursum Perficio



Nadya Mercado (Marilyn) is a Houston based actor and director. She is currently in her last year of college completing a BFA in Theatre with an emphasis on Acting/Directing from Sam Houston State University. Nadya has previously been in performances of *Burn Vote*, *Airness*, *Cry it Out*, and others.

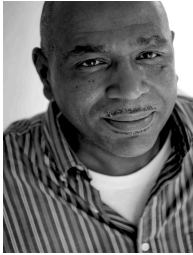


Joshua McMahan (Bobby) Joshua is a recent graduate with a degree in Acting/Directing from Sam Houston State University. Joshua has always loved Houston, and the beautiful art scene that thrives within it. Thank you for witnessing this contribution to local art.



Alice Rhoades (Eunice Murray) is delighted to be returning to the Scriptwriters Houston 10x10s. She was most recently seen in *The Matchmaker* in Theatre Southwest's Festival of Originals and as *Cobweb* in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Shakespeare in the Shade. Recent roles include Trudy Tomaine in *The Glitter Girls* and the Mother in *Incorruptible* at Theatre Suburbia and Gingy in *Love, Loss, and What I Wore* with Company Onstage. She has performed in the Houston area with Boiling Point Players, Playhouse 1960, The Pearl Theater, the Houston Theatre Company, Scriptwriters Houston, Rice Players, and Baker Shakespeare

Speed Dating 75



James West, III (Bill) has been performing for many years in national touring shows, in the Washington, DC area, and here in Texas. He was an original cast member the play *Diary of Blackmen* and performed as a member of their national touring cast has appeared in *Seven Guitars*, *The Last Night Of Josephine Baker*, *Code Feet*, *Meet The Mama*, *Color Struck*, *The Wisdom of Eve*, *The Quality of Life*, *Scrooge McBeth*, *Watch on The Rhine*, *POE! POE! POE!*, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Othello*, *A Midsummer's Night's Dream*, *Ms. Evers Boys*, *A Raisin In The Sun* and many more.



Brenda Ratliff (Katie) is delighted to be a part of the Scriptwriters Houston 2023 10 x 10 Play Festival, playing the part of Katie in Jean Ciampi's *Speed Dating 75*. Her most recent performance was at The Pearl Theater in the lead role of Gretchen in Jean Ciampi's *Potato Gumbo*. She is currently pursuing a terminal degree in writing in the hope of turning her avocation into her life's work.

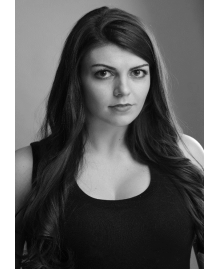


Reyna Janelle (Margot/Phylis/Agnes) is a multi-faceted artist from Houston who fell in love with the performing arts at a young age. She began to pursue acting professionally after the passing of her mother to colon cancer. Since then she has appeared in commercial, film, television, voiceover, and theatrical productions. She also is an educator who loves to dance, sing, and train in stunts and stage combat. Reyna desires a lifetime career dedicated to storytelling and bringing authenticity to humanize every role she undertakes. She is passionate about positively impacting her community and creating narratives that transform souls and transcend time, space, and culture. You can follow her @__iamreyna

The Important Things



Gabriel Mullen (Lee) is an actor from the nowhere town of Alba, Texas. Professional Credits include: *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* (Male Swing, A.D. Players in Association with Carolina Creek), and *White Card* (Wally, Fade to Black Theatre Festival at the Match Theater). Gabriel's collegiate credits include: *Sweeney Todd* (Judge Turpin); *Airness* (Facebender); *Memphis* (Mr. Simmons); *Jump* (Hopkins); *No Exit* (Garcin); and *The Fantasticks* (Henry, The Actor). Gabriel pursues a career in performance, directing, and writing. You can find Gabriel's poetry and photography, and his website, on his Instagram @gabethebabymullen



Lizzie Camp (Ellie) is thrilled to be a part of 10x10 this year! Favorite credits: *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Esmeralda), *The Sound of Music* (Elsa Schraeder), *Proof* (Claire), *Steel Magnolias* (Shelby), *The Taming of the Shrew* (Kate). Offstage, Lizzie is primarily a screen actor/film executive & a competitive compound archer.

Stayin' Alive



Nadya Mercado (Marilyn) is a Houston based actor and director. She is currently in her last year of college completing a BFA in Theatre with an emphasis on Acting/Directing from Sam Houston State University. Nadya has previously been in performances of *Burn Vote*, *Airness*, *Cry it Out*, and others.



Allegra Everson-Edwards (Mama)"aka" Allegra The Actress is a native from Baton Rouge La, who now resides in Houston Texas since 2000. Allegra graced the stage in 2015 with her first co-starring lead role. She has been acting in Productions from The Bridge Players Drama ministry, Black Lockett Productions, D'Lyric Productions, Healing Hearts Productions and Mona Moore Productions. Allegra's appreciation goes to God for the gift of acting, her husband for love and encouragement and family and friends for ongoing support.

Overtime



David Coles (Coach Jimmy) With a BA in Music Education from Central Washington University and teaching experience in instrumental music plus acting experience in college and community theater, David has had starring roles in *The Odd Couple*, *Rocket Man*, and *I Remember Mama*. Recently starred in an independent movie (yet to be released) - *Pigs Are Everywhere*.



John Bookman (Vinnie) John graduated from The University of Houston-Downtown with a B.A. in Fine Arts. He has appeared in several stage productions around town, including *Hellcab*, *Stories of Us* and *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind*, all at the UH-Downtown O'Kane Theater. He also was recently cast in *Honeymoon at Graveside Manor*. John is happy to be apart of the 10x10 play festival at Theatre Suburbia.



Michael L. Benitez (Tony) is a native Houston actor who has been involved in numerous theatrical productions and films over the years. His most recent work would be *Aunt Julia & the Scriptwriter* as a double role Lucho/Francisco at Main Street Theater and *Right Angles* as Zenon at University of St. Thomas and *Hotel Puerto Vallarta* as Barnard "Barba-Coa" an aging flamboyant Drag Queen. You may also see his latest TV work on Hulu's: *How I Caught my Killer* and upcoming film *Kingsmen* as Frank. Also involved in commercials like for Attorney Steve Lee. Michael L. Benitez is grateful for Theatre Suburbia and to be working with Alric Davis for the 3rd time.

Meet Cute: From the Inside Out



Julie Gersib (Nurse) has been active in theatre for nearly thirty years in various locations around the globe. She has enjoyed the opportunity to once again participate in a Scriptwriters Houston Festival.



Alex Salah (Henry) is a recent graduate of the University of Houston, where he studied Middle Eastern Studies and Political Science. Recent credits include Ransom in *Panto Snow White* (Stages) and Mr. Mushnik in the *Little Shop of Horrors* (University of Houston). Enjoy the show!



Carolyn Richards (Kristin) is a native Houstonian and recent graduate of the University of Houston's acting program, is thrilled to be performing in her first show post-college! Recent work includes *Nurse in Shakespeare in Love* (UH), *Fanchette in The Marriage of Figaro* (Classical Theatre Company) and *Ocean Chorus in PearlDamour's Ocean Filibuster* (UH). Immense gratitude to her family and friends for their unwavering support.

Come In From the Rain



Priscilla Anderson (Rosemary) Priscilla has worked her way across Houston's community theatre stages since relocating here in 2020. Favorite past roles include *Abby Brewster*, *Lady Bracknell*, *Queen Elizabeth II*, and other crazy old ladies. Priscilla lives in Friendswood with her very patient husband, Seamus.

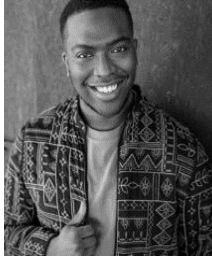


Anaya Judson (Traneesha) is no stranger to the performing arts. A recent graduate from the Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, she is currently pursuing a degree in Drama at the University of St. Thomas. Anaya has performance credits that include TUTS and The Alley Theatre.

Directors



Leslie A. Barrera (The Fortune Teller) is currently directing the season-opener, *A Doll's House, Part 2* at Theatre Southwest, which runs Sept. 15-30. Leslie is an advocate for diverse and inclusive theatre and has directed in The National Women's Theatre Festival. Committed to the advancement of writers in the arts, Leslie proudly serves as Vice President of Scriptwriters Houston and on the committee for the upcoming *Pearl Theater Shortflix Film Festival* in January.



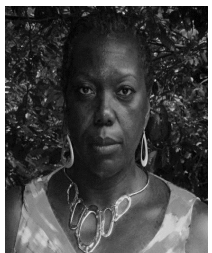
Alric Davis (Overtime) holds a B.F.A. from Howard University in Musical Theatre and Playwriting. Since 2013, he has served as the Founding Artistic Director of the theatre org The Sankofa Collective. Directing credits include *Bashful and the Noize*, *Twelfth Night*, *Burden of Proof*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Next to Normal*, *Miss Evers Boys* and *The Wiz*. As a playwright, his work *Different, Damaged, Damned* won the Alley Theatre's H.Y.P.E. in 2013 and appeared at the 2016 D.C. Capitol Fringe Festival & his work *Queen Peaches*, won the Black Box Theatre Festival at The Tank in New York. His commissioned work *Reap The Reparations* appeared in 2020 for Theatre Alliance and his one act play *Bashful and the Noize* won the Kennedy Center's 2021 Page to Stage Festival. IG: @GodisGodandlamNot



Kelvin Douglas (Come In From the Rain) is a writer, producer, director and actor of theater and film with credits that span over three decades. He is a proud graduate of Texas Southern University. His recent credits include appearances on and with the Drew Barrymore show and the Black History 365/Black is Eternal film project. This is Kelvin's 9th year directing with Scriptwriters Houston and his first time as a finalist in the festival.



Jonathan Gonzalez (Weight Loss Challenge) is a New Mexico native and California transplant to Houston. He has worked as a professional director, actor, and teaching artist for over thirty years, beginning with assisting on the world premiere of *Two Rooms* at La Jolla Playhouse, serving as Amanda Plummer's assistant. Favorite Houston directing projects include: *My Wonderful Day* (Main Street Theater), *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Ring Around the Moon*, *True West* (University of Houston School of Theater and Dance). *All in the Timing* (Rice University), *The Curt Miller Magic and Comedy Show*, *The Miracle Worker* (Country Playhouse), *Henry V*, and *Pinocchio Commedia* (Company OnStage), to name a few. In the day, he serves as the Director of Education and Youth Engagement at Main Street Theater.



Ardencie Hall-Karambe (What the Radio Told Me) Directing—Philadelphia: Eastern University: *Still Here!*. Community College of Philadelphia: *Much Ado About Nothing*. Kaleidoscope Cultural Arts Collective: *SPUNK*. Kaleidoscope Cultural Arts Collective: #ALLLIVESDONTMATTER. New York/Off-Broadway: Theatre for the New City: *Ain't Nobody...A Civil Rights Musical*. NYC Solo Fringe Art Festival: The Art of I Am. Playwriting—Philadelphia: Kaleidoscope Cultural Arts Collective: *Lysistrata*, *Cross Your Legs Sister!*. Community College of Philadelphia: *Antigone Remixed*. New York/Off-Off Broadway: Knitting Factory: Four Points of the Sun. Theatre for the New City: *Ain't Nobody...A Civil Rights Musical*. Houston: Stages: *cullud wattah*. BFA/MA: Texas State University. Ph. D.: New York University—Tisch School of the Arts. Ardencie lives in Houston with her son, Salif.



Abigail Faith Langlais (Stayin' Alive) is a recent 2023 BFA Acting & Directing graduate from Sam Houston State University. During her time at Sam Houston, her directing credits include *Fade* and was a selected nominee at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region 6 Student Directing Initiative for *Sanctuary City*. She has many goals for herself for her directing journey, but an important one is to make sure every project she takes on incorporates the color pink!



Crystal E. Mata (Cursum Perficio) is a native Houstonian who studied music and performance at HSPVA and Berklee College of Music. She has worked with several local theatre companies including Young Audiences, Brave Little Theatre, COM, and several community theatres. It has been a privilege to work with Scriptwriters Houston for *Fade to Black*. Special thanks go out to her family for always supporting her and "God for giving me the strength to pull this off."



Ashley Shaunte (Speed Dating 75) is an enthusiastic creative who is always ready to take on the world unless she's sleepy. From working with companies like Main Street Theater, Wordsmyth Theater Company, and more, Ashley Shaunte's favorite adventure is teaching the arts to beginners and established creatives. The writer, director, actor, and production member, from time to time (she has many hats) is thrilled to share stories with the world that transforms, uplift, inspires, and heals.



Keri Szeklinski (Meet Cute: From the Inside Out) is a multidisciplinary theatre artist based in Houston. She graduated from the University of Houston with a BFA in Acting, and is thrilled to be directing *Meet Cute: From the Inside Out*. Her previous directing credits include *Year of the Rooster*, and *Bob: A Life in Five Acts*. During the day she teaches free theatre classes to children across Harris County, and in her free time she loves to cook and bake (ask her about her bread pudding!). She hopes you enjoy the show.



Jeff Wax (The Important Things) is the founder and Artistic Director of Dark Water Theatre Company. As an actor, Jeff has performed throughout the United States and also at Scotland's Edinburgh Festival, The Chekhov Theater Festival in The Ukraine and in London, England. He studied acting at The University of Maine, Indiana University and at Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, Massachusetts. Jeff earned his MFA in Acting and Directing from Virginia Commonwealth University. Jeff has also been a member of the artistic staff of the Luciole International Theatre in Houston, Texas, the Barksdale Theater in Richmond, Virginia, the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival in Louisville, Kentucky, the Hartford Stage in Hartford, Connecticut, and the Asolo Theater in Sarasota.