DONATE TO OUR INDIEGOGO

The Agency Theatre Collective is a non-profit theater company whose mission is to produce new and under-produced plays in Chicago. Skin for Skin is our sixth world premiere since 2011, including the acclaimed I Wish To Apologize To The People of Illinois and the Jeff nominated Truth in Context. Our most recent production of Chagrin Falls by Mia McCullough was called “intelligent, probing and compassionate” by Kerry Reid of the Chicago Tribune. Producing a play of any size is a major undertaking and your contribution will help in offsetting those costs. To donate towards our $5,000 goal, please scan the QR Code below or visit wearetheagency.org.

the agency theater collective presents

SKIN FOR SKIN
A WORLD PREMIERE PLAY BY PAUL PASULKA
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL MENENDIAN
FEB 28th – APR 2nd
Rivendell Theatre (5779 N. Ridge Ave.)
wearetheagency.org

wearetheagency.org  ft  tw  Ig
MISSION

The Agency Theater Collective creates immersive, interactive theatrical experiences, inviting the audience to embrace their collective agency in the process. We hold these principles sacred: revelation, paradox, humor, mischief, and collaboration. The Agency is greater than the sum of its parts. We are The Agency and so are you.

ENSEMBLE

Artistic Director
Andrew Gallant

Managing Director
Sommer Austin

Company Manager
Tim Touhy

Literary Manager
Brian D. Foster

Board Member
Kevin Wleklnski

Company Members
Billy Baraw
Ellie Humphrys
Kate Jacobsen
Cody Lucas
Janet Magnuson
Huck Poe
Sara Faye Richmond
Jack Schultz
Ethan Walkes

Artistic Associates
Ryan Bankin
Patrick Burch
Amanda Raquel Martinez
Greg Seidler

Emeritus Members
Cecilia Falter
Ernie Gonzalez
Molly O'Grady

COMING UP

Nautilina
written by Brian D. Foster
Summer 2017

A series of small scenes and monologues which look into each other like puzzle pieces and create a larger narrative, Nautilina is an examination of what makes people tick, what makes them behave the way they do.

Hellcab
written by Will Kern
Winter 2017

A Chicago classic is returning to the stage. Hellcab is the story of a Chicago cab driver who has a strange and terrible day on the job during Christmas in the Windy City.

NO Shame Theatre
Every Saturday Night
10:30pm

No Shame Theatre is a theatrical “open mic” event that focuses on immediacy, originality and brevity. Whether you’re coming to perform, watch or both, together we’ll create a show that has never been seen before and will never be seen again.

SPECIAL THANKS


The Agency is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit.
Shariba Rivers (Dr. O'Brien) has been an actor in Chicago for the past 8 years. Among other theater companies, she has worked with Broken Nose, First Floor, Mary-Archie, Raven, and Red Tape. She is excited to add The Agency Theater Collective to the list and to be working with such a remarkable group of people. Shariba is also affiliated with 200%, MPAACT, (re)discover, The New Colony, and Waltzing Mechnies. After Skin for Skin, Shariba moves on to MPAACT (Never the Milk and Honey) and Pegasus Theater (Daughters of the Moon). Keep up with her at www.sharibatheactor.com.

Steve Silver (Ayyub) debuts in his first production at the Agency Theater Collective. Recent credits include Mosque Alert (Silk Road Rising); Vices and Virtues and The Other Place (Profiles Theatre); 1984 (Steppenwolf, u/s); Guys and Dolls (Light Opera Works); All Shook Up (Theatre at the Center); and A Crime in the Neighborhood (City Lit Theater). Film/TV credits include Chicago Fire as well as several independent films.

Tony St. Clair (Col. Lewis) couldn't be happier working with such a talented cast and crew in this Agency production. Tony's last appearance at Rivendell was in Akvavit's production of The Orchestra, where he played the addled Halla. Previously, he has collaborated with Steep, Awkward Pause, trip, Wildclaw, Collaboration, and other Chicago theaters. Tony has also performed sketch comedy in the Chicago Sketch Fest with The Third Floor and Dark Eyed Strangers groups, and he was a touring stand-up comic for several years. You may have also seen him in commercials for Danner Boots, Suzuki motorcycles, and others. His favorite past theatre roles include Macbeth, Leslie in Seascape, and Oliver in As You Like It.

Hannah Tarr (Sgt. Lindsey) is ecstatic to make her Agency Theater Collective debut! She graduated from AMDA Los Angeles and New York with an Acting Certificate. She has lived in Chicago since 2012 where she has performed at Second City, Strawdog Theatre, and with Pride Films and Plays. She wants to thank her friends and family for helping her get her spark back, and to everyone involved in the production. Check out her website! HannahTarr.org

Joseph Zaki (U/S Ayyub) is a technology professional by trade with deep passion for acting. Joseph's acting career started in 1987, participating in a number of amateur theater productions.

SKIN FOR SKIN
by Paul Pasulka
directed by Michael Menendian

Cast

AYYUB..................................................Steve Silver
ABDUL WALLI.........................................Sunny Anam
COL. LEWIS.........................................Tony St. Clair
DR. O'BRIEN.........................................Shariba Rivers
LT. MILO.............................................Robert Hardaway
PVT. MICHAELS......................................David Goodloe
SGT. LINDSEY.......................................Hannah Tarr
Undertudies: Marcellus Burt (PVT. MICAELS), Tyler Esselman (LT. MILO), Audrey Gladson (SGT. LINDSEY), Denise Hoeflich (DR. O'BRIEN), Talia Langman (ABDUL WALLI), Andrew McClellan (COL. LEWIS), Joseph Zaki (AYYUB)

Crew

Assistant Director/Associate Producer...........Jack Schultz*
Production Manager..............................Kathryn McNall
Production Stage Manager.......................Bailey Howard
Assistant Stage Manager.........................Evan Hay
Box Office Manager..............................Justin Case
Choreographer.....................................Ellyabeth Adler
Choreographer.....................................Scott Dare
Costume Designer...............................Cristian Esparza
Dramaturg..........................................Alexandra Garfinkle
Lighting Designer...............................Michael Rathburn
Projection Designer..............................Huck Poe*
Properties Designer..............................Taylor Tolleson
Scenic Designer....................................Ray Toler
Script Consultant...............................Foud Teymour
Asst. Technical Director/Scenic Painter.......Jake Engram
Sound Designer....................................Sebby Wolft
Technical Director...............................Manny Ortiz

Please Turn Off Your Cell Phones
The show will run 90 minutes with no intermission.

* denotes Agency Company Member
Robert "GentlemanSoul" Hardaway (Lt. Milo) is proud to be making his debut with The Agency Theater Collective. He holds an MFA in acting from California State University, Fullerton and a BA from ISU. He is a 2013 Black Theatre Alliance recipient of the Ossie Davis Award for featured actor in a drama or comedy. Recent theatre credits include: As You Like It (Citadel Theatre), To Kill a Mockingbird (Oak Park Festival Theatre), Mud, River, Stone (Eclipse Theatre), Bodies (MPAACT), Ceremonies in Dark Old Men, The Amen Corner, and The Legend of Buster Neal (eta). Robert thanks the Most High for his artistic gifts and the opportunity to give those gifts back to the world. He is proudly represented by Paonessa Talent Agency.

Denise Hoeflich (U/S Dr. O'Brien) is thrilled to be returning to The Agency Theater Collective. She was last seen with The Agency as Irene in the Jeff Recommended production of Chagrin Falls. Other recent Chicago theatre credits include Dreams of the Penny Gods (Kitty-Halcyon Theatre), War Zone Is My Bed (Ellen-Halcyon Theatre), The Seedbed (Hanna U/S Performing-RedTwist Theatre). Denise is a graduate of The Academy At Blackbox Acting and a company member at Halcyon Theatre. Thanks to The Agency for including her in this moving world premiere. Thanks to her husband Adam for his continued love and support.

Talia Langman (U/S Abdul Walli) is delighted to be making her Chicago theatre debut with The Agency Theater Collective. Originally from Seattle, Talia received her BA from Brandeis University and an MFA in Theatre from Sarah Lawrence College. Chicago training includes Green Shirt Studio, the Green Room Studio, and the Black Box Studio.

Andrew McClelland (U/S Col. Lewis) is thrilled to understudy as Col. Lewis for The Agency’s Skin for Skin. Andrew’s Chicago credits include Vanyechka in Zoyka’s Apartment (Bluebird Arts), Seyton in Macbeth (Midsommer Flight Theatre Company), Banquo in Something Wicked: Macbeth Re-Envisioned (Transcendent Ensemble Theatre Company), and the Duke of Buckingham in Richard III (The Empty Theatre Company). Regional theatre credits include Looking for Normal, August: Osage County (Actors’ Theatre Grand Rapids), Cymbeline (Pigeon Creek Theatre Ensemble), Hamlet, Twelfth Night, Henry IV part I (Hampshire Shakespeare Company). Andrew would like to thank Sommer Austin and Andrew Gallant at Green Shirt Studio for helping him become a more truthful actor. He’d also like to thank his amazing and supportive wife, Hannah. (I love you.)

Paul Pasulka (Playwright) is a Chicago playwright and a clinical psychologist in private practice and on faculty at Northwestern University School of Medicine. His plays have been produced and read throughout Chicago and in New York. La Maestra, the story of Renaissance painter Artemisia Gentileschi, received a staged reading with dance, movement and song at Chicago DanzTheatre Ensemble in June 2016 and is scheduled for production in its 2017-18 season. Gruoch, or Lady Macbeth was produced by Death and Pretzels in 2015. When the Levee Breaks was produced as part of The Best of the 10’s at Chicago Dramatists and Second City Theatre and was selected as a finalist and for publication at Secret Theatre in New York. Dark Angels was performed at the American Theatre Company (ATC) and Roberto Clemente High School in ATC’s Bridge Program. He has worked with Adventure Stage Theatre in assisting middle school students in writing plays for Young Playwrights for Change. He presented "Neuropsychology, Creativity, and Storytelling" at the Steel Pen Creative Writers’ Conference in 2015. He has presented autobiographical stories throughout Chicago, including at Rhinofest and with the GenNarrations Project of The Goodman Theatre, and was invited to read at The International Storytelling Festival in San Miguel Allende, Mexico in 2014.

Michael Menendian (Director) is a founding member and the producing artistic director of Raven Theatre, where he has directed and designed sets for many productions, earning numerous Joseph Jefferson and After Dark awards. Along with JoAnn Montemurro, Menendian received a 2007/2008 Jeff Award for Outstanding Contribution to Chicago Theatre and he recently received a 2016 Jeff nomination for his direction of Raven's Direct From Death Row the Scottsboro Boys, which earned a Jeff Award for Outstanding Ensemble. Other local directing credits include productions at Victory Gardens, Chicago Dramatists and Lake Forest College.
Evan Hay (Assistant Stage Manager) is a recent graduate of Grand View University in Des Moines, Iowa. New to Chicago, Evan is excited to be involved in her first production in the city with The Agency Theater Collective. She spent the last year touring the northwest and Canada with Missoula Children’s Theatre as a tour actor director and most recently stage managed The Music Man at Summer Place Theatre in Naperville. Recent acting credits include: Maddie in Making God Laugh, Mary Lou in The Loan Star Love Potion, and Strawberry in Strawberry Freckleface the Musical.

Bailey Howard (Production Stage Manager) is a recent Chicago transplant excited for her first show with The Agency. Other local productions include Scooby Don’t and Rip Nelson's Holiday Spectacular with Hell in a Handbag Productions. Prior to Chicago she worked with B Street Theatre in Sacramento, California.

Kat McNall (Production Manager) is thrilled to be working with The Agency once again for her third Chicago production. Kat is a Boston native and has spent most of her first six months in Chicago roaming the streets and working with The Agency, most recently on the Jeff-Nominated Chagrín Falls. Favorite credits include: next to normal (Director), An Innocent Kind of Love (Director), Turn of the Screw (Stage Manager) with Silverthorne Theater Company, and the 2016 season Production Manager at the Hampshire Shakespeare Company. Special thanks to Sommer and Andrew for the opportunity to work and grow in this wonderful city.

Manny Ortiz (Technical Director) is a Chicago native actor, designer and photographer. He received his BFA in Acting at DePaul University and is currently one of the founding members and technical director for Cult Camp Productions. He is the founder of The Sonnet Projects and is currently designing/adapting Shakespeare’s sonnets into new ensemble based shows. When he is not producing and performing theater you can find him at home joyfully playing with all 18 of his animal friends.

Huck Poe (Projection Designer) is a company member with The Agency Theater Collective. He runs the company’s weekly theatrical open mic, No Shame Theatre. He has previously done video projections for The Agency’s I Wish to Apologize to the People of Illinois, wrote and performed various parts in Out of Tune Confessional, and wrote The Spirit of Seventy-Six or the Coming Woman; a Prophetic Drama.

Michael Rathbun (Lighting Designer) is a Chicago-based lighting designer who works extensively in the U.S. & abroad. His designs have graced stages in Chicago, Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh City, New Orleans, and New York. Some of his favorite credits include: Rajiv Joseph’s Gruesome Playground Injuries (Southeast Asia Premiere), Jez Butterworth’s Jerusalem (Midwest Premiere), Neil LaBute’s I’m Going to Stop Pretending I Didn’t Break your Heart (World Premiere), Migdalia Cruz’s Lolita de Lores (Urban Theatre Company) and Andrej Viský’s reworking of Chekov’s 3 Sisters (Theatre Y). He is excited to be working with The Agency.

Jack Schultz (Assistant Director/Associate Producer) is a proud company member of The Agency Theater Collective where he was last seen in The Spirit of ’76. Assistant director credits include: Sweet Chariot (The Agency) and Metropolis Triptych (Loft Productions).

Ray Toler (Scenic Designer) is a Jeff-winner and has received multiple Jeff nominations. Some memorable sets include: Vieux Carré, Bus Stop, The House of Blue Leaves, Red Velvet, and Direct From Death Row The Scottsboro Boys at Raven Theatre, and Frankensteins, The Seven-Per-Cent Solution and Psmith Journalist at City Lit Theatre. As an actor, Ray has appeared in supporting roles in the movies Home Alone, A League of Their Own, Straight Talk, Chicago Overcoat, and US Marshals, as well as appearances on many TV shows. Ray graduated from Florida State University in 1977 with an MFA in Stage Directing.

Taylor Tolleson (Properties Designer) is a recent graduate from Texas A&M University Corpus Christi with a BA in Theatre. While studying acting and directing, she also acquired a graduate in dance, trained and certified in unarmored, knife, and single sword stage combat, and practiced technical theatre. Born and raised in Austin, Texas, she returned to her hometown for six months after graduating to work backstage at Hyde Park Theatre on the shows Hand to God and Trevor and with EVN Productions on their production of Any Night. Soon after, she moved to Chicago to pursue her career in all things theatre. Now in the city, she continues to learn and expand her theatre knowledge in any way she can.

Sebby Woldt (Sound Designer) is proud to work with the great cast and crew on Skin For Skin. He graduated from DePaul with a BFA in Theater Sound Design. Other credits include: The Resistible Rise of Herr Helmut Drumph (trump show) (The Conspirators), Joe Turner’s Come and Gone (DePaul University), Circle Mirror Transformation (DePaul University), and The Phantom Tollbooth (DePaul University), along with many others. He will be an audio engineer at the Bristol Renaissance Faire this summer. He is an avid Youtube Musician/Composer with over 7.5 million total views under the channel “The Eternal Dreamers”. For more info, visit www.Sebby-Woldt-Sound-Design.com
Sunny Anam (Abdul Walli) is grateful to be a part of The Agency Theater Collective's production of Skin for Skin. Originally from Ann Arbor, Sunny began his theatre training at the Purple Rose Theatre. Sunny relocated to Chicago in 2016 and was seen most recently onstage as Stromberg in Burn at Gorilla Tango Theatre. Other Chicago credits include: Multitudes (Rasaka and Vitalist Theatres), the Jeff Recommended Human Terrain (Broken Nose Theatre), and A Widow of No Importance (Rasaka Theatre). He would like to thank the entire cast and crew of this wonderful production.

Marcellus Burt (U/S Pvt. Michaels) is extremely excited to be making his debut at with The Agency Theater Collective in his first professional show. He is currently a third-year B.A. student at Northwestern, studying theatre, music theatre, and performance & activism. His previous performance credits include Fabulation, or the Re-Education of Undine; You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown; Boomer's Story, The Secret Garden, The Great Gatsby, and Little Shop of Horrors. This summer, he will be playing in the Harlem Male Ensemble of Ragtime at the Den Theatre.

Tyler Esselman (U/S Lt. Milo) is a native of St. Louis, Missouri and a graduate of The Theatre School at DePaul University. Chicago credits include: Three Little Kittens at Emerald City Theatre, much ado at Gorilla Tango Theatre, Homo Andronicus with The Anitdote, and understudying Pirandello's Henry IV at Remy Bumppo Theatre. Tyler is represented by Lily's Talent Agency.

Audrey Gladson (U/S Sgt. Lindsay) is a graduate of the B.F.A acting program at The Theatre School at DePaul University. She hails from Saint Petersburg, Florida and has been living and working in the Chicago community for over 5 years now. Audrey is very happy to be working on her very first production with The Agency. Special thanks to Andrew, Sommer, and Jack.

David Goodloe (Pvt. Michaels) is excited to be working with The Agency on this world premier! A Chicago native, David has been acting professionally since 2006. David reignited his love of performing at the University of Chicago and, after a stint in the Peace Corps, has pursued work in film in theater. Credits include for my brothers...whenever i may find them (Step Up Productions), An Improv Play (InFusion Theatre), A Fool Such As I (eta Creative Arts), The Last Saint on Sugar Hill (MpaAct Theatre), and Between Legs & Open Ears (Black Ensemble Theater). His on-camera IMDB credits include Chicago PD (NBC Studios LLC), D.I.N.K's (Sole Productions), Thanks Mom (Breakwall Pictures LLC), and Perceptions and Morning After (Aceswift Productions). For more information on his work, please go to www.davidgoodloe.com.

Ellyzabeth Adler (Choreographer) is the Executive Director and founder of Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble, a 16 year old multidisciplinary performing arts ensemble dedicated to creating social justice theatre and working with 5,000 students a year. Adler has devised, adapted and written 10 original works for the stage including The Wasteland, The Yellow Wallpaper, and Bindis and Bruises. She is thankful to be working on Skin for Skin and giving the voiceless a voice! CDE's latest work CONSUMED runs March 10-25. Enter "artist" for a $5 ticket: www.danztheatre.org

Scott Dare (Choreographer) is so grateful for this opportunity to work with The Agency and to be a part of the Skin for Skin team. He is a physical theatre and circus artist with a passion for movement. Scott works as a director, deviser, choreographer, and educator. Outside of Chicago his works have been seen in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and London. Locally he has worked with The Actors Gymnasium, Theater Unspeakable, Filament Theater, Mudlark Theater, Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble, and Imagine Ensemble. He holds a Master's degree from Royal Holloway, University of London and a Black Belt in traditional martial arts from the ISKA.

Cristian Esparza (Costume Designer) is a Latinx Costume Designer/Technician who loves sushi burritos and thinking about Prom, and what could have been. They hope to find success in their skills as a leatherworker and become the 90's inspired R&B singer they were always destined to be.

Jake Engram (Assistant Technical Director/Scenic Painter) is honored to be working with The Agency for his second Chigagoland production. Jake has been working in theater for ten years as a Technical Director, Stage Manager, as well as a Sound and Light Designer. His most notable works include; The Fabulous Lipitones (Sound Design), Chagrin Falls (Assistant Technical Director), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Light Design), as well as Technical Director for the Hampshire Shakespeare Company. Jake would like to thank Sommer Austin and Kathryn McNall for making it possible to for him to follow his dream and create theatrical art in this amazing city.

Alexandra Garfinkle (Dramaturg) is thrilled to be working with The Agency for the first time! Recent credits include assistant directing and dramaturgy work on Broadway In Chicago's Unspeakable, A Christmas Carol at the Goodman Theatre, and Side Show at Porchlight Music Theatre. She is a graduate of the University of Chicago.