WE'VE NO CHOICE
BUT TO TRY AND LIVE
BETWEEN THE ECHOES

NAUTILENA

a world premiere play by the agency theater collective
written by brian foster - directed by sommer austin & anna lucero
june 10th - july 16th, 2017 - presented at the den theatre
Nautilina
by Brian Foster*
Directed by Sommer Austin* & Anna Lucero

Assistant Director...........................................Niki Dreistadt
Production Stage Manager..............................Kathryn McNall
Assistant Stage Manager.................................Shannon Lauzier
Dramaturg......................................................Hope Rehak
Scenic Designer..............................................Alec Long
Scenic Painter..................................................Michael Chancellor
Lighting Designer............................................Ellie Humphrys*
Sound Designer...............................................Niki Dreistadt
Costume Designer..........................................Kate Jacobsen*
Media Designer.............................................Zachary Sigelko
Media Designer..............................................Huck Poe*
Technical Director........................................Manny Ortiz
Properties Designer.......................................Taylor Tolleson
Composer......................................................Alex Kliner
Vocalist..........................................................Reeny Hofrichter

*denotes Agency Company Member
CAST

Owen..........................................................Zach Hebert
Cassandra....................................................DeChantel Kosmatka
Piano player: Walter.................................Alex Kliner
The stranger: Eric..............................Logan Hulick
The couple (Woman): Ashley...........Sara Faye Richmond*
The couple (Man): Rod..................Matthew Collins
Bar Patron 2: John.................................Bob Norman
Bartender: Paul and SSG Cooper........Armando Reyes
Bar Patron 1: Robert.........................Manny Ortiz
Simone: Mary............................................Manuela Rentea
Ray..............................................................Meg Elliott
Understudy.................................Kate Gilbert
Understudy...............................Kate Jacobsen*
Understudy........................................Carter Petray
Understudy...............................David Trudeau

*denotes Agency Company Member
THE AGENCY THEATER COLLECTIVE

The Agency Theater Collective is a non-profit theater company whose mission is to produce new and under-produced plays in Chicago. Since 2011, we have produced seven world premieres, including the acclaimed I Wish To Apologize To The People of Illinois and the Jeff nominated Truth in Context. The Agency 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.

COMPANY

Artistic Director
Andrew Gallant

Managing Director
Sommer Austin

Company Manager
Tim Touhy

Literary Manager
Brian D. Foster

Board Member
Kevin Wleklinski

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

Artistic Associates
Ryan Brankin
Patrick Burch
Amanda Raquel Martinez
Greg Seidler

Emeritus Members
Cecilia Falter
Ernie Gonzalez
Molly O'Grady
SPECIAL THANKS

Green Shirt Studio
Sebby Woldt
The Chicago Fringe Festival

The Lincoln Loft
Ellen Wessel
The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation

Andy Polacek
Ashlea Wleklinski
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Cody Lucas
Kevin Wleklinski

Paul Pasulka
Stefan Brundage
The Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation

Jake Engram
Mary Redman
The Polk Brothers Foundation

Robert Littwin
The Amazing Kale Burger
The Chicago Community Trust

All of our Indiegogo donors
All of our fundraiser guests & donors
Everyone who helped us get this production on its feet along the way
BIOS

Brian Foster (Playwright) is happy to have his second play see the stage after his one-act play, *Metropolis Triptych*, premiered at the 2016 Chicago Fringe Festival. Brian is supremely grateful for all the hard work that the directors, designers, and actors have put into bringing his play to the stage.


Anna Lucero (Director) is the other half of the comedy duo, Austero. After several years of directing sketch she is delighted to return to the storefront community. Anna produces a monthly comedy variety show, *The Gogo Show*, at The Lincoln Loft, where she is a resident artist. Many thanks to Sommer & Brian, the cast, & production team for a fulfilling collaboration.
Matthew Collins is thrilled to be working with the Agency Theater Collective again. He also appeared in their Jeff Nominated production of Truth in Context as William Darnell. Recent Chicago credits include: Washburn in The Library (Level 11 Productions), SPILL (TimeLine Theatre), Danny Casolaro in Danny Casolaro Died For You (TimeLine Theatre). He also appeared on NBC's Chicago Med. Film credits include Revelation Trail (Living End Productions). He received his B.S. from Murray State University. His favorite roles there were Dracula, Doctor Faustus, Three Sisters, and Picasso at the Lapin Agile. For more information on Matthew check out his website at www.collinsmatthew.com.

Meg Elliott is originally from Schoharie, New York. Chicago credits include Steel Magnolias, Top Girls, The Merry Wives of Windsor (Arc Theatre); Christina, The Girl King (Cor Theatre); Romeo and Juliet (Muse of Fire); Hello Failure, Request Concert (The Side Project); Speaking in Tongues (Interrobang); Wrong Mountain (Rare Terra); The Sea (Theatre Mir); Quake (Buzz22); Hamlet (Dreamlogic Theatreworks); Much Ado About Nothing (Chicago D'ell Arte); Lecherous Honey, Voyage (Cock and Bull company member). Upcoming: Other People’s Children (web series), Quiver (short film). She holds an MFA in acting from DePaul University and is represented by BMG Talent.
Zach Hebert is overjoyed to be a part of the very talented cast and crew that have brought Nautilina to life. He was recently seen in The Agony and the Ecstasy of Steve Jobs at Triton College and The Right Amount of Tequila at Gorilla Tango Theater. He received his acting training at Green Shirt Studio. Zach also plays drums in two bands whose other members comprise some of his favorite people in the whole of Chicago.

Logan Hulick is excited to be a part of Nautilina with The Agency Theater Collective. He recently played Rick Baldwin in The Irish Curse and Pony in SubUrbia with Level 11 Theatre, where he is an Associate Artistic Director. Logan has enjoyed working with many other great theatre companies in Chicago including the Arc Theatre, Prologue Theatre Company, Interrobang Theatre Project, TUTA Theatre and Trap Door Theatre where he is an Associate Ensemble Member. Logan is a co-founder/producer of Lindsey’s Calling performing every Tuesday at MCL Chicago. He is represented by BMG Talent. Thank you for coming out to support live theater. Enjoy the show!
Alex Kilner is having a great time putting his BA in Acting to use after 7 years working as a music producer and composer. Since 2010, Alex has been a music director at the Second City. Alex has produced music for such clients as Intel, Motorola and Sears. He scored the feature-length independent comedy *It's All Good* which premiered at the Music Box last year. He recently finished the score for *Watch Party*, a television pilot project produced by A&E Networks. Alex is currently a staff writer for the game *Cards Against Humanity* and performs as an improviser for *Cards Against Humanity Live*.

DeChantel Kosmatka has been performing throughout the Midwest for a hot minute. One of her favorite places to work was with Oracle Productions, specifically but not limited to the Jeff winning shows *Circle Machine*, *The Jungle* and *The Mother*. When DeChantel’s not on stage she can be seen in ads for Sprint, Samsung and all the pharmaceutical companies imaginable. DeChantel would like to thank Sommer, Anna, Brian, her boo Brad, and babies Kennedy and Osito. "But there is more than one way to change the world. To secure their freedom, the polyglot American colonists had to come together, and stick together, in the face of enormous adversity. To live in a new way, they first had to think and feel in a new way." JMC - Hamilton: The Revolution
Manuela Rentea is very excited to be working with The Agency and this fantastic team and crew. She was born and raised in Romania and has been living in Chicago for the last 12 years where she studied the Meisner approach at Green Shirt Studio and got certified from True Acting Institute. But like most other people she spends her days waiting tables in a really awesome place and loves teaching her mom bad words in English. She wants to thank all her friends for everything, her partner George for his love and support, and her mom for being the cutest baby in this world.

Bob Norman is a relative newcomer to the theatrical scene, with a background in the Biological Sciences. His children have been his inspiration to follow through on his dream of acting. All three are involved in music and theater. Bob has also enjoyed the benefit of working with some knowledgeable and personable actors, directors, and stage crews. He has been encouraged by fellow actors and audience members who believed he should continue acting and honing his craft. It is with the utmost humility, that he is pleased to be a part of this production.
Manuel Ortiz is thrilled to be making his Agency Theater debut with such an amazing cast and crew! He is originally from Chicago where he received his BFA in acting at DePaul University’s Theater School. Currently, Manny is the house Technical Director for Pride Film and Plays and the founder of the Sonnet Projects; working with Shakespeare’s sonnets in new and ensemble based work/workshops. Current roles include Jayden in Raggedy And (Pride and film plays), Benvolio in Romeo and Juliet (Teatro Vista), Arvin in Zanna Don’t!, Ralph in Reefer Madness (Cult Camp) and Sister Robert Ann in Nunsense (James Downing).

Armando Reyes is thrilled to be working with the talented cast and the wonderful people at The Agency Theater Collective! Armando most recently understudied and performed in Apartment 3A for Windy City Playhouse. Other credits include Adoration of the Old Woman for Urban Theatre Company, Romeo and Juliet for Teatro Vista, Yellow Eyes for Vision Latino, At The Center for The Agency Theater Collective, and El Incas produced by Colectivo El Pozo. He has also appeared in the independent films Nowhere Mind, Wind, and The Origins of Wit and Humor. Armando is represented by Gray Talent Group.
Sara Faye Richmond is from Los Angeles, California and moved to Chicago to explore performing arts in this great city. In her three years with The Agency, Sara has worn many hats (production, design, and performance) and really loves making art with these folks. Sara trained at Green Shirt Studio, iO Theater and with the Neo-futurists. She has written two shows for the Chicago Fringe Festival and is currently writing a sort of funny/sort of sad full length play. By day, she folds butter into dough in thin sheets and holds a B.A. in Sociology from Western Washington University.

Kate Gilbert is excited to be in her first production in Chicago. A Louisiana native, Kate moved to Chicago to pursue more acting opportunities. She is so excited to be involved in this project and so thankful for the opportunity. She would like to thank the Agency Theater Collective for giving her this opportunity. She would also like to thank her parents who helped her get here and give her constant love and support. Kate is thrilled to be living in Chicago, she loves the CTA, and most of all, being a world champ. Go Cubs!
Kate Jacobsen has been assisting the Agency Theater Collective in costume for the last few years, as well as the Mammals, Oracle Theater, and Triton College. Shows include Waiting for Godot, Out of Tune Confessional, Paradise Lost, I Wish to Apologize to the People of Illinois, At the Center, Three Girl Frankenstein, This House Believes the American Dream was at the Expense of the American Negro, Truth in Context, Big Love, The Spirit of ’76, and Chagrin Falls. Kate is also on the team for 9 TV episodes of The Exorcist this fall. In performances, she was onstage for Out of Tune Confessional, The Spirit of ’76, and Daddy’s Little Question Mark.

Carter Petray is an actor from Chicagoland who has worked with the Agency and their ensemble several times, including their production of The Spirit of ’76. He’d like to thank his friends and family for support, and Captain Beefheart for his music.
David Trudeau is excited to be working with the Agency! He is a native of Denver where he was a founding ensemble member of the Visionbox Ensemble. There, he trained and devised new work with an immensely talented group of artists. David is also a lighting designer and technician who is privileged to work all over the city. Some of his favorite companies include Chicago Shakespeare, Lookingglass, Babes With Blades, and E.D.G.E. He is also the Master Electrician for both the Chicago Fringe Festival and Pride Arts Center. David would like to thank you, dear theatre-goer, for supporting the arts.

Michael Chancellor (Scenic Painter) is excited to be working with The Agency Theater Collective on this production. He’d like to thank Sommer, Anna, and Brian for the opportunity.

Niki Dreisdadt (Assistant Director, Sound Designer) is a Sound Designer and Director. Most recently she has made puppets for Rough House’s Ubu the King and stage managed SLAB with Square Product Theatre. Other recent Chicago credits include The Tempest at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, The Projects and Kill Floor at American Theater Company and Chagrin Falls at The Agency Collective. Catch her every third Saturday at Township where she produces Chicago’s only late night talk show in outer space: The Ghost Planet!
Kathryn McNall (Production Stage Manager) is thrilled to be working with The Agency once again, for her fourth Chicago production. Kat is a Boston native and has spent most of her first year in Chicago roaming the streets and working with The Agency, most recently Stage Managing the Jeff-Nominated Chagrin Falls and Production Managing Skin for Skin. Favorite credits include An Innocent Kind of Love (Director) at the Greenfield Fringe Festival, 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 and to Jake Engram for all the love and support a girl could ask for.

Shannon Lauzier (Assistant Stage Manager) Shannon is excited to be working with The Agency Theater Collective for the first time on Nautilina. She has been active as a Stage Manager for 7 years in Orlando and Chicago, now calling Chicago home. Most recently, Shannon worked with Triton College in River Grove as their Production Stage Manager for their first annual Play Festival, Tritonysia.

Alec Long (Scenic Designer) has previously worked on A Room (A Red Orchid Theatre), The Bardy Bunch (The Mercury Theatre), Comedy of Errors (The Commission Theatre), UltraAmerican (Silk Road Rising), Dutchman and TRANSit (American Blues Theater), Thee Trinity (Polemic Theatre), The Grapes of Wrath (The Gift Theatre), Even Longer and Farther Away (The New Colony), Mosque Alert (Silk Road Rising), Dreams of the Penny God’s (Halcyon Theatre), and The Things We Keep (The Arc Theatre).

Ellie Humphrys (Lighting Designer) graduated in 2012 with a BFA in Lighting Design from DePaul University and has been working the storefront theatre scene ever since. This is her 6th production with The Agency, where she is also a proud company member. Some of her favorite past designs include Chagrin Falls, At The Center, and Truth in Context with The Agency as well as Belfast Girls with Artemesia Theatre, Faces of Eurydice with CUBE Ensemble, and The Agony and the Ecstasy of Steve Jobs at Triton College. www.ellielightstheatre.com

Huck Poe (Media 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 ’76 or the Coming Woman; a Prophetic Drama.
**Hope Rehak** (Dramaturg) was born and raised in Chicago and learned sketch and improv at The Second City Training Center and iO as a teenager. She studied playwriting at Steppenwolf Theatre and interned with the Neo-Futurists, National Geographic, and Strange Tree Group. Hope began doing stand-up as a senior at Oberlin College, where she majored in English and Creative Writing. Since then, she has lived, worked, and performed in Copenhagen, Los Angeles, and Chicago. She currently resides less than a mile from where she grew up, and regularly performs around town. She is also an M.F.A. candidate in Writing for the Stage and Screen at Northwestern University.

**Zachary Sigelko** (Media Designer) is a director, DP and producer who got his start in the circus. He produced the interactive documentary *Battle Flag* and has a particular interest in political work and online media. He's a founder of ADPT, a graduate of USC's film school, a musician and a puppeteer. More of his work can be found at zigelko.com

**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 certificate in dance, trained and certified in unarmed, knife, and single sword stage combat, and practiced technical theatre. Soon after graduating, she moved to Chicago to pursue her career in all things theatre. Now in the city, she’s worked on two children's shows with Gorilla Tango Theatre, stage managing *Super Jane!* and the current production *Crash Landing on Planet Gork Dork*, and with The Agency on their production of *Skin for Skin* designing props. She is so excited to be working with The Agency again on this collaborative, and eye opening piece.