



**WRITERS**THEATRE<sup>of</sup>NJ

## Press Release

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## **SOUNDINGS Readings Return to Madison**

Madison, NJ — This January, Writers Theatre of New Jersey kicks off its season with the return of the popular SOUNDINGS Reading Series to Madison. SOUNDINGS combines new plays from some of the best playwrights in the country with professional actors and directors, allowing audiences to experience powerful new dramas and smart, vibrant comedies close to home. Every reading is followed by an audience discussion with the playwright, director, and Artistic Director, John Pietrowski, giving attendees a chance to be a part of the artistic process and help shape the work through their feedback and shared insights.

This year's crop of plays features a number of New Jersey playwrights, including Lia Romeo's "The Grand Tour," David Lee White's "The Festial Quartet," and Ben V. Marshall's "Incident at Willow Creek." The series will also include Kevin Caruso's "The Shook Ones," a screenplay, and Henry Meyerson's *The Activist*. Both Mr. Caruso and Mr. Meyerson are recipients of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts' 2015 Literary Artist Fellowship in Playwriting.

"We are very much looking forward to this set of plays," said Writers Theatre Artistic Director, John Pietrowski. "The writers are hard at work on revisions, and we are eager to get audience feedback. It's a perfect way to spend a Winter evening, listening to new work and engaging in a community discussion of compelling ideas. Audiences can go to our website to see synopsis, biographies, and interviews with the writers. You can also get directions and a campus map."

Soundings will take place at the Dreyfuss Theatre on Fairleigh Dickinson University's Madison Campus. Parking is free and adjacent to the building. The theatre and restrooms are ADA Accessible.

Performances will occur on the following days in January:

<b>Play</b>	<b>Playwright</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>
For She Who Waits	Robert Clyman (Montclair)	James Glossman	1/4/2017	Wed	7 PM
The Shook Ones	Kevin Caruso (Spotswood)	Rodney Gilbert	1/5/2017	Thu	7 PM
Vagabonds	Molly Kirschner (Montvale)	Jane Mandel	1/6/2017	Fri	7 PM
Miss Tennessee	Joe Sutton (West Orange)	John Pietrowski	1/7/2017	Sat	7 PM
The Incident at Willow Creek	Ben V. Marshall (Plainfield)	James Glossman	1/8/2017	Sun	7 PM
The Grand Tour	Lia Romeo (Hoboken)	James Glossman	1/11/2017	Wed	7 PM
The Sinless	Judah Skoff (Teaneck)	John Pietrowski	1/12/2017	Thu	7 PM
The Rising Class	Jim Knable	Michelle Tattenbaum	1/13/2017	Fri	7 PM
The Activist	Henry Meyerson (New Brunswick)	James Glossman	1/14/2017	Sat	7 PM
The Festial Quartet	David Lee White (Bordentown)	Nick Anselmo	1/15/2017	Sun	7 PM

Readings are free of charge, with a \$10.00 recommended donation (or donate what you can). A Donation of \$25 gets you a Soundings Pass, good for all of the readings.

The Writers Theatre homepage ([www.wtnj.org](http://www.wtnj.org)) contains additional information, including directions and a campus map.

For more information on any of Writers Theatre's programs, please visit [www.wtnj.org](http://www.wtnj.org), or contact Playwrights Theatre at P.O. Box 1295, Madison, NJ, 07940, 973-514-1787 x20 or [info@wtmj.org](mailto:info@wtmj.org).

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About Writers Theatre of New Jersey:

Writers Theatre is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit, professional (Actors' Equity) theatre and a community of professional playwrights, theatre artists, and arts educators that provides opportunities for writers to develop their works in a nurturing environment and connect with new audiences. Our New Play Development Program is a multi-step process through which playwrights, theatre artists, and audiences collaborate to bring selected texts from rough draft to finished production.

Our Education Programs introduce students of all ages and backgrounds to the possibilities inherent in thinking and communicating creatively. Writers Theatre's New Jersey Writers Project provides hands-on workshops led by professional writers-in-residence to students in schools and community centers throughout the state. We place an equal emphasis on Development and Educational activities, and encourage our community and audiences to participate fully in both.

We are honored that, every year since 2003, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA) has designated Writers Theatre as a Major Arts Institution. This means that the Council considers Writers Theatre to be "an anchor institution that contributes vitally to the quality of life in New Jersey."

Funding for our activities comes from: the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the F.M. Kirby Foundation, Inc., Dramatist Guild Fund, Horizon Foundation of New Jersey, The Shubert Foundation, The Victoria Foundation, and many corporations, foundations and individuals.