

House of Desires

By Sor Juana Inéz de la Cruz, translated by Catherine Boyle

Directed by Karie Miller

Presented by special arrangement with Methuen Drama Company

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Nun	Jules Covitz
Nun	Samantha Falduto
Ana	Emma Haddock
Celia	Beatrice Crist
Leonor	Irish Stoll
Don Carlos	Noelle Buehrer
Castaño	Jade Vadillo
Don Juan	Alyssa Argent
Don Rodrigo	Sun Yuvachitti
Hernando	Samantha Falduto
Don Pedro	Jasper Gray

GRINNELL JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Frannie Crego, voice
Lucie Greene, clarinet*
Jacob Heinrich, tenor saxophone*
Abigail Davison, trumpet
Shabab Kabir, Bassoon
Bethany Willig, guitar
Jasper Grey, keyboards
Minh Nguyen, keyboards
Jonah Tillman, keyboards
Quinn Bausch, guitar and bass
Kaitlin Michaels, bass*
Sira Nassoko, bass
Phukao Prommolmard, drums and electronics
Nic Grofsorean, drums*
McAfee Chandler, voice

Mark Laver, director

*indicates member of Small Band (responsible for interstitial music).

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Karie Miller
Costume Designer	Erin Howell-Gritsch
Lighting Designer	Gabrielle Strong
Scenic, Projection, and Props Designer	Jackie Fox
Technical Director	Erik Sanning
Assistant Technical Director	Kate Baumgartner
Musical Director / Clarinet / Scenic Charge Artist	Lucie Green
Assistant Director	McAfee Chandler
Assistant Lighting Designer	Tim Murphy
Stage Manager	Rumesa Qalbani
Assistant Stage Manager	Reese Hill Parris Levine
Light Board Operator	Ava Rast
Projection Operator	Graham Sundström
Wardrobe Crew	Evaan Ahmed Em Huss-Lederman A Lim
Program and Dramaturgy Design	Karie Miller

CAST (in order of appearance)

Jules Covitz (Nun Ofyourbusiness / Cloaked Man) is a third year with an ever-changing major. They are the mischief nun, sign holder, and captain of tomfoolery in *House of Desires*. Outside of performance, they are an active member of the student union and work at the college garden. They have puppets in their room whom they make discuss political theory.

Samantha Falduto (HerNUNdo/Hernando) is a first year interested in sociology and linguistics. She is excited to take to the stage as Hernando in her first play with Grinnell College. She has been involved in theatre since 4th grade and continues to love it. When not acting she enjoys reading, playing the guitar, and skateboarding. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Emma Haddock (Doña Ana) is a first year from Bow, New Hampshire interested in Political Science and Anthropology. She's been acting since middle school and considers herself a serious actor. When she's not on stage or in class, she enjoys spending time with her dog, traveling, and swimming. Emma would like to thank the cast, creative team, and the Roberts bat for always keeping rehearsals interesting.

Beatrice Crist (Celia) is a second-year student from Durham, North Carolina intending to double-major in English and theatre. She was very active in local theatre during high school. This is her second main-stage production at Grinnell. Previously, she's worked with Studio A Acting Company, American Shakespeare Center, Burning Coal Theatre, and The Neighborhood Playhouse. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Irish Stoll (Doña Leonor) has been doing theatre in their hometown, Cedar Rapids, their entire life, and is super excited to play Leonor in their first experience with college theatre. Irish is thankful for the Grinnell College theatre department for giving them a chance to perform. They'd also like to thank the cast of *House of Desires* for making this such a welcoming and fun experience.

Noelle Buehrer (Don Carlos de Olmedo) is a first year from Saint Cloud, Minnesota. They have done theatre since sixth grade, and this is their first Grinnell production. They plan on declaring majors in English and Theatre. Outside of theatre, they enjoy reading, writing, painting, making music, and dogs.

Jade Vadillo (Castaño) is a first year from Guatemala and plays the production's flirtiest man servant, Castaño. They have been into theater since coerced into it by their friends in sixth grade and have loved it since. While not on stage you can find them enabling the creation of chaos at the makerspace, or melting over physics problem sets in front of a random white board. They are also an enjoyer of Dungeoning some Dragons, and playing factorio for unhealthy amounts of time. They hope the show is better than whatever other thing you would be doing in this period of time.

Alyssa Argent (Don Juan) is a second-year anthropology major from Chicago and this is her third show at Grinnell College; first in Arcadia then performing in the 2021 one act festival and most recently, *Rabbit Hole*. At William Howard Taft High School she has performed in *Elephants Graveyard*, *We Will Rock You*, *A Game of Catch*, *Watermelon Boats*, *Little shop of Horrors*, *Failure-a Love Story*, *the Wolves*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Trojan Women*. She has also performed with Windy City Theater in *Grease* and *Legally Blonde*. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Jasper Gray (Don Pedro) is a third-year computer science major who has adored theater ever since he was just a young tot. When not on stage you may find him studying or playing EPIC games like Dungeons and Dragons or Valorant. They love food and philosophical debates and parties. They are very friendly and will not bite if approached, probably.

Sun Yuvachitti (Don Rodrigo) is a third-year history major from Bangkok, Thailand. He was previously seen in *Arcadia* last fall. When not in rehearsals, he participates in a lot of culinary exchange through Grinnell's Global Kitchen. Ask him to make you some chai sometime!

BAND

Kaitlin Michaels (Bass) is a fourth-year majoring in Medical Humanities. Though Kaitlin has been involved in music at Grinnell since her first year as a member of the Grinnell College Jazz and Latin American ensembles, and a number of student music groups, such as Disco Band/Microgenius, Badphayak (a funk band), and Write in Candidate, this is her first time playing in a Grinnell Theatre production. In addition to playing electric bass, Kaitlin also enjoys playing upright bass, guitar, cello, composing and recording music, including a piece she composed for Jazz Ensemble the previous semester. When she is not playing music, Kaitlin can be found in the HSSC researching for her upcoming senior thesis on the role of simulation in training EMS personnel, watching spooky movies with her friends, at the fire station working as an EMT, or petting dogs around campus.

Mark Laver (Saxophonist and ethnomusicologist) is an Associate Professor of Music at Grinnell College, where he directs the jazz band and teaches classes on jazz and popular music. As a performer, Dr. Laver has shared the stage with such leading jazz and improvising artists as Lee Konitz, William Parker, Dong-Won Kim, Seamus Blake, NEXUS, Kurt Elling, Eddie Prévost, Nicole Mitchell, Anat Cohen, Antonio Sanchez, Ellen Fullman, and Phil Nimmons. He has also been a featured soloist with the Kingston Symphony Orchestra, the Guelph Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Conservatory Orchestra, and the Central Iowa Symphony. Dr. Laver's current research is a biography of iconic Canadian clarinetist, composer, and educator Phil Nimmons. His first book, *Jazz Sells: Music, Marketing, and Meaning* (Routledge 2015), explores the use of jazz music in advertising, marketing, and branding. His second book project was a collection of essays, co-edited with Dr. Ajay Heble, called *Improvisation and Music Education: Beyond the Classroom* (Routledge 2016). His academic articles have appeared in *Jazz Perspectives*, *Black Music Research Journal*, *Popular Music and Society*, *Popular Music*, and *Critical Studies in Improvisation*. His work has been featured or profiled in *The Washington Post*, *The Des Moines Register*, *Salon*, *Fortune*, *Times for Higher Education*, TEDx Grinnell, USA Today College, BBC Radio 3, and CNN.com. Dr. Laver is a Research Associate with the International Institute for Critical Studies in Improvisation. He completed his PhD in Ethnomusicology at the University of Toronto in 2011.

Lucie Greene (Music Director / Clarinet / Scenic Charge Artist) is a 4th year majoring in Theatre, Dance in Performance Studies. Though Lucie has played in pit orchestras, this is her first time music directing. She is usually working on the visual side of theater and is excited to try something new. Outside of Grinnell, Lucie has done scenic painting for Theatre Cedar Rapids, Revival Theatre Company, and Riverside Theatre. She is currently working on a scenic design for *A Doll's House* and *A Doll's House, Part 2* at Theatre Cedar Rapids. Lucie would like to thank Karie Miller, Mark Laver, her bandmates, Erik Sanning, and Kate Baumgartner (and, really, everyone involved with this show) for bringing music to *House of Desires*.

That (Phukao) Prommolmard is a third-year psychology & CS major from Chiang Mai, Thailand. He plays the drums for the jazz ensemble but do all kinds of music on campus including keyboard for the funk band Badphayak, bass for a punk band, and manages Freesound. If you somehow see him outside of Noyce or Bucksbaum, he's probably up to no good (cooking and managing Smash Tournaments on campus).

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM

Evaan Ahmed (Wardrobe Crew) is a fourth-year TDPS and Computer Science major from India. Evaan loves cars and driving.

Kate Baumgartner '15 (Assistant Technical Director) is a graduate of Grinnell College. She worked two seasons as a master carpenter with the Colorado Shakespeare Festival and two years for the Grinnell Area Arts Council as a program and facility coordinator. Kate returned to Grinnell College as the ATD in 2016. She has also served as technical director and scenic designer for numerous Grinnell Community Theatre and Grinnell High School productions, as well as tech challenge coordinator for the Iowa Thespian Chapter of the EdTA.

McAfee Chandler (Assistant Director) is a fourth-year TDPS and Sociology double major, concentrating in Science, Medicine, & Society. Their passions include hitting their friends with foam swords in DAG (Duels and Games), singing ABBA at the top of their lungs, and cuddling their cat whenever they get the chance to visit their home in North Carolina. They extend their gratitude to their Mom and their Cheryl for their encouragement and love throughout everything they do.

Sor Juana Inéz de la Cruz (playwright), given name Juana de Asbaje, was born on Nov. 12, 1651(?), San Miguel Nepantla, Viceroyalty of New Spain [now in Mexico] was a playwright, poet, and nun, one of the most important writers of the Latin American colonial period and of the Hispanic Baroque.

Jackie Fox (Scenic, Projection, and Props Designer) is a Chicago/New York based artist and designer interested in, above all else, telling stories that explore the vulnerability of the human condition and human behavior in the face of conflict. She believes that the best art is disruptive, subversive, and pushes us to examine the most difficult elements of our psyche. Jackie has designed both regionally and internationally. Selected credits include: *Sister Act* (Mercury Theater), *Native Guard* (Northwestern University), *Kiss* (PARA.MAR Dance Theatre), re: *CLICK* (American Music Theatre Project), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Wagon Wheel Theatre), *Hundred Days* (Kokandy Productions). While getting her MFA at Northwestern University, Jackie designed *The Cherry Orchard* (Louis Theatre), *Ascension* (Louis Theatre), *The Flick* (Wallis Theatre), *Machinal* (Louis Theatre), *Legally Blonde* (Barber Theatre), and *Turn of The Screw* (Ryan Center for the Musical Arts). For more information about Jackie's work go to jackiefoxdesigns.com

Reese Hill (Assistant Stage Manager) is a third year and grew up in Iowa City, Iowa, where she was a frequent participant of high school and local community theatre productions. When not in the theatre, Reese likes to draw and volunteer at the animal shelter. **Grinnell Theatre:** Jason Willette (*Rabbit Hole*), Hannah Jarvis (*Arcadia*), Director (*Furious*). **Community Theatre:** Stage Manager (*Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*); Olive Ostrovsky (*25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*); Marilla Cuthbert (*Anne of Green Gables*).

Erin Howell-Gritsch (Costume Designer) has designed all mainstage costumes at Grinnell College since 1999, where she is the resident costume designer. As a Lecturer for the College, she has taught Costume Design, Costume Construction, and Introduction to Technical Theatre. She was previously an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Cornell College. Other design credits include the University of Iowa (Theatre, Dance, Playwright's Festival, Black Action Theatre), Riverside Theatre, RT Shakespeare Festival, RT Young People's Company, Graffiti Theatre, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, Ballet Iowa, and Hurley Dancers. Erin holds a Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Design from the University of Iowa and a Bachelor of Science from Iowa State University.

Em Huss-Lederman (Wardrobe Crew) is a second semester second year from Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. She is an Anthropology with a potential concentration in Science, Medicine and Society. Previous productions at Grinnell College include Wardrobe Crew for *Rabbit Hole*.

Parris King-Levine (Assistant Stage Manager) is a third-year sociology major from St. Louis. She has previously worked backstage for *Arcadia* and *Rabbit Hole*. Outside of theatre, she enjoys purchasing second-hand clothes, watching a lot of TV shows, and Facetiming her four cats. She is excited for everyone to see the show and thanks the cast and crew for their incredible effort!

A Lim (Wardrobe Crew) is a second year TDPS major focusing on technical theatre. They've done lighting design and board operating, and now they're working backstage on wardrobe crew.

Karie Miller (Director) is a Visiting Assistant Professor and interdisciplinary artist. Karie researches the relationship between spectator and performance through practical experiments like the one you're experiencing *right now*. Their solo, original, and professional work has been seen throughout Chicago and Ohio, ranging from scripted to devised to event-based performance art. They have a dog, Phoebe, who hates bicycles but loves broccoli.

Tim Murphy (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a 3rd-year Political Science and (soon to be) Theater and Dance Major from Bloomington, Illinois. He is passionate about all things theatrical lighting. Tim previously designed lighting for *Knights of the Burning Pestle* and *Blur*. When not doing school work, you can find Tim working out, Boxing, reading, cooking or enjoying a cold Lacroix.

Rumesa Qalbani (Stage Manager) is a second year, majoring in Psychology at Grinnell. She is the stage manager for this show! She's been invested in theatre since she was in middle school, and has managed many shows since then. When she's not involved with theatre, you may find her designing magazine spreads for GOGUE, a student fashion magazine, or at Grinnell Preschool bravely stopping kids from eating glue. She hopes you enjoy the show!"

Ava Rast (Light Board Operator) is a third-year who was last seen in *Knights! And Do You Feel Anger?* This year, she has a dog named B on campus with her who is very tiny and very helpful. Aside from dogs, she also loves theatre.

Erik Sanning '89 (Technical Director) is a graduate of Grinnell College. He spent the first two years after graduation working as the Technical Director/Lighting Designer for Ballet Iowa. In the summer of '91 Erik was able to return to Grinnell as the Technical Director. In addition, he is also one of the founding members of Grinnell Productions, a semi-professional theatre company that was based in Grinnell. Erik has also been a member of IATSE, the professional stagehands union, since 1990.

Gabrielle Strong (Lighting Designer) is a multi-disciplinary queer artist. Her work has included but is not limited to theatre, dance, opera, art installations, generative work, and film. She has designed domestically and internationally. In 2019, she was awarded the John Woodbridge Award from Northwestern University and was a 2020 Hemsley Award Finalist. Gabrielle was awarded her MFA at Northwestern University in 2020. She currently serves as the Adjunct Faculty for Lighting Design at University of Illinois-Chicago. You can view more of her work at www.gabriellestrongartist.com or on instagram @gabriellestrongartist.

Graham Sundström (Projection Operator) *House of Desires* marks Graham's fifth show at Grinnell and he's beyond honored to be part of this production. While he most recently appeared on stage over the summer in a local New Hampshire production of *Rent* (ensemble), he's served backstage at Grinnell for *Do You Feel Anger?*, (run crew, A2), *I Dig You* (page turner, A2), *Rabbit Hole* (SBO, LBO), and most recently *Blur* (ASM). He's always thrilled to devote his time to Lady Theater and always looks forward to the next production. See you at *Spelling Bee* next month! "Here's looking at you, kid." Enjoy the show!

Special Thanks

Jen Shook, Benito Lara, Ricardo Ernesto Rocha, and Jennifer Williams Brown.

MISSION STATEMENT

In the Grinnell College Department of Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies, students develop as artist-scholars who are learning and practicing an integrated and holistic approach to making performance. We value a balance of knowing and doing, collaboration, active pedagogy, invention, multiplicity and diversity, experimentation, humane practices and welcoming EVERY BODY. Productions and performances, as well as scholarship about them, are placed at the center of what we do as a department. Learning in the classroom leads to and informs performances and is informed by what is learned on stage and in the process of production, in a cycle of reciprocal advancement.

Experiment. Analyze. Collaborate. Create. Engage.