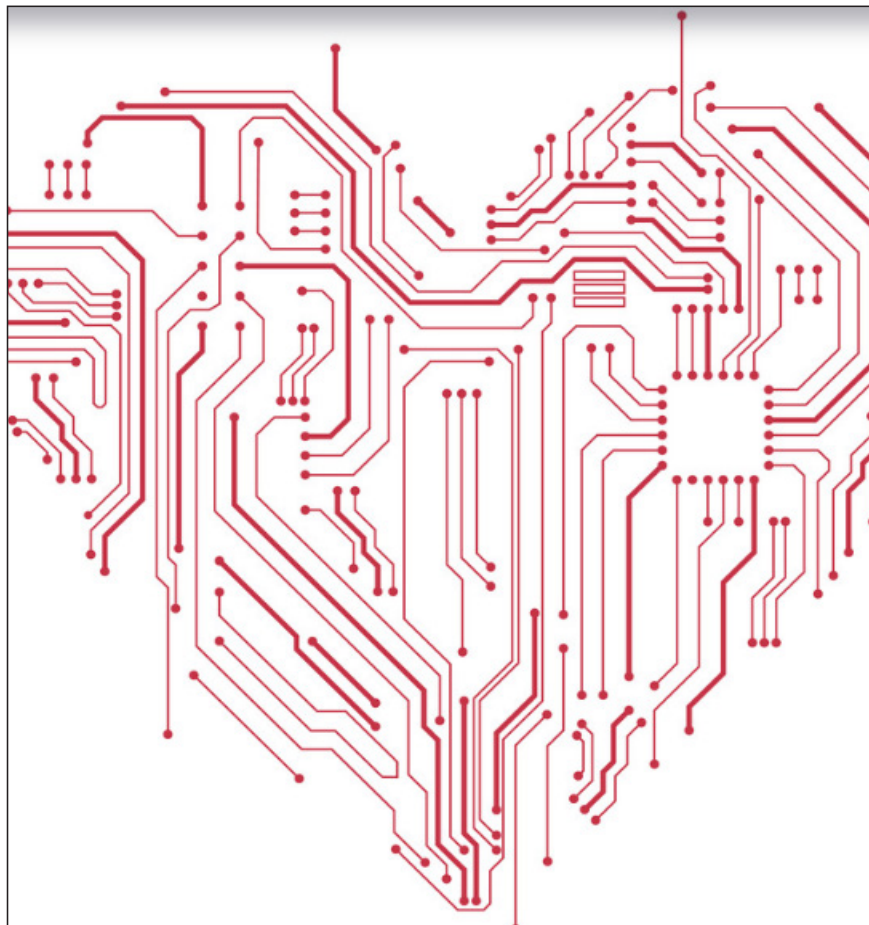


THE GRINNELL COLLEGE DEPARTMENT
OF THEATRE & DANCE PRESENTS

Love and Information

by Caryl Churchill
Directed by Lesley Delmenico



Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 15-17, 7:30 P.M.

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2:00 P.M.

Bucksbaum Center for the Arts
Flanagan Studio Theatre



Grinnell College

The performance runs one hour and
fifteen minutes without intermission.

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.
No texting or photography permitted during performance.

THE GRINNELL COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE
PRESENTS

Love and Information

Directed by Lesley Delmenico

Scenic Artist	Michelle Lilly
Lighting Designer	Jessica Neill
Costume Designer	Erin Howell-Gritsch
Sound Designer	Nolan Schoenle '19
Technical Director	Erik Sanning '89
Assistant Technical Director	Kate Baumgartner '15
Production Manager	Justin Thomas
Stage Manager	Keli Vitiaoli '19



Obuchi Adikema '21

Ashton Aveling '22

McKenna Deaton '22

Emma Gaydos '22

Charlotte Jones '22

Addison Marsh '22

Mayo Sueta '20

Coleman Thompson '21

Josh Turner '22

Youtong Wang '20

Danyang Yang '21

Amelia Zoernig '21

SPECIAL THANKS

THD 115 Theatrical Design and Technology Class



For the past three years, I've been fascinated by the increasing possibilities for and fragmentation of communication in contemporary life, including the idea of infinite iterations of ourselves and our actions in the multiverse and the proliferation of viral images and their uses on the internet. I've experimented with textual forms, adapting an existing play to have each character played by four actors (*Constellations*). In last spring's Image of an *Unknown Young Woman*, single actors played multiple roles, from children to torturers.

However, British playwright Caryl Churchill's script for *Love and Information* presented a new field of challenges and possibilities. For the past several weeks, we've worked with expanding the possibilities in her script and to open up staging and narrative opportunities beyond the original 2012 proscenium-staged London production. Churchill is generous with directors, providing in this award-winning play not only critical space to interpret her text, but also permission to move lines and scenes and to add random lines from the play's glossary. (She also doesn't assign her fragmented lines to characters and provides almost no punctuation!)

Churchill, who is now eighty, challenges and entertains, remaining cutting-edge in the inventiveness of her dramatic forms, use of language, and range of topics. Since her first production as an Oxford student, she has written collaboratively with theatre collectives, has penned radio plays, screenplays, musicals, opera libretti, and translations, as well as several now-canonical feminist plays. *Cloud Nine* (1979), is a farce about colonialism and sexual politics. *Top Girls* (1982) counts the historical and contemporary costs of success for women. Churchill continues to innovate in *Love and Information*.



Since some conversations in this play are like the fragments of conversation that we might overhear in a public space, set designer Michelle Lilly has created a site for in-betweenness and made/missed connections. Lighting designer Jessica Neill has built on feelings of isolation and connection and sound designer Nolan Schoenle has provided the “drive” of movement between thoughts and spaces.

Love and Information is complex and seemingly random, but Churchill's scenes connect to create a mosaic. The play explores the information with which we're bombarded, our need to reach out for intimacy, and how what we know (and don't) affects us. It's themes are love and human connection, and this seems like a good time to stage a play that reaches out for both.

CAST

Obuchi Adikema '21 (Cast) is an intended computer science and theatre and dance double major. In the past, she has served as the assistant stage manger for *The First Time I Walked on the Moon* and choreographed and performed a solo dance piece for the Movement for the Performer showcase. Currently she is extending her work on the Digital Bridges to Dance project and aspires to continue creating spaces where her love for performance and computing can come together. *Love and Information* will be Obuchi's debut acting experience at Grinnell and she is very excited to share it with all of you.



Ashton Aveling '22 (Cast) is from California and is interested in political science, physics, math and statistics, theatre, and philosophy. Ashton has been doing various forms of performance since age six, from working as a 17th century historical reenactor to performing pantomime theatre for Spanish-speaking children in Honduras. *Love and Information* is his first show at Grinnell and he's excited to see audience reactions to such a unique production. He looks forward to much more theatrical involvement.

McKenna Deaton '22 (Cast) is an intended biology major with a concentration in statistics. In high school, she was involved in many productions. Most recently, she performed in *Play On* and *The End of Summer*. She also competed in IHSSA and NSDA speech events, becoming an All-State performer and earning a state championship in prose speaking. She is thrilled to be a part of *Love and Information* and cannot wait for more opportunities in theatre.

Emma Gaydos '22 (Cast) is a member of the Grinnell tennis team and leader of campus activist organization, Citizens' Climate Lobby. She plays piano, drums, violin, and sings. She is an intended biology and anthropology major, and this is her first mainstage production at Grinnell.

Charlotte Jones '22 (Cast) is an intended computer science major from New York City and is thrilled to be a part of this amazing ensemble. She has been doing professional theatre since she was eight years old as Bo in *Off the Map* at The Depot Theatre, and has performed regionally in New York, as well as on Nickelodeon. Some of her favorite roles have been Puck (*Midsummer*), Mimi (*The Things That Don't Translate*), Kendra (*Talk Radio*), and the Witch (*Into the Woods*). She has studied theatre and dance in Dublin and Rwanda. *Love and*



Information has been one of her favorite plays since seeing it for the first time five years ago in Vermont and she is very excited to be a part of this adaptation. A huge thanks to Mom, Dad, Lesley, Audrey, Keli and the entire cast and crew.

Addison Marsh '22 (Cast) is an intended theatre and dance major from Los Angeles, California. He has been doing plays and musicals since ninth grade. In his senior year of high school he was in *The Madwoman Of Chailiot* and *Chicago*. This is his first Grinnell show, and he is very excited to be part of the lovely theatre community. He plans on doing many more shows in his time here.

Mayo Sueta '20 (Cast) is an English major from Tokyo, Japan. She has been an assistant stage manager for Dance Ensemble, run crew for *Nice Fish*, and light board operator for *Next to Normal*. She has taken Introduction to Acting and is currently taking Directing. She is the news editor for the *Scarlet and Black*. This is her first time acting in a mainstage production.

Coleman Thompson '21 (Cast) grew up in Falcon Heights, Minnesota, and attended St. Paul Academy and Summit School for grades nine to twelve. He has played piano for fourteen years and has participated in his high school orchestra as well as other chamber groups through the St. Paul Conservatory of Music, becoming a featured performer with Trio Tesoro in the Minnesota Varsity competition for high school musicians. In high school he participated heavily in debate for four years, and is currently a captain for Grinnell's team. He is an intended physics, political science, and theatre and dance major. St. Paul Academy theatre program: Mr. Thénardier in *Les Misérables*; Corin and Oliver in *As You Like It*; Director for *The Actor's Nightmare*; and Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls*.



Josh Turner '22 (Cast) fell in love with theatre after discovering it in his junior year of high school. Since his first role as Paul Sycamore in *You Can't Take It With You*, he has appeared in *Beauty and the Beast* (Ensemble), *The Sound of Music* (Franz), *The Marriage of Figaro* (Chorus), and *The Diviners* (Ferris Layman), with the last being his absolute favorite role. He is ecstatic to be performing in *Love and Information*, as the themes of the contemporary information diet, the need to always be distracted, and the destructive interpersonal and mental consequences of the last two are very important to him. He would like to thank his incredible fellow cast members for bringing out the best in him with their wonderful performances at each and every rehearsal, the crew and costume designer for their tireless efforts in bringing this show to life, director Lesley Delmenico for her marvelous vision and understanding of characters, and his parents, Betsy and Jonathan, and girlfriend, Alysa, for supporting him through the transition into college.

Youtong Wang '20 (Cast) is a math major. She discovered her passion for acting and started doing theatre this semester. Interested in reading classics and modern acting, she wants to further explore her possibilities in acting as a main focus in further education.

Danyang (Gemma) Yang '21 (Cast) is an intended chemistry major. She had not had theatre experience before coming here to Grinnell, but found her passion for it after taking Introduction to Acting with the director of this show, Lesley. Since then, she had final performances for the two theatre classes she took, and took part in One Act Festival 2017 in one of the shows directed by Molly Stone ('20). She is very excited to be in the cast of her very first mainstage production, and the process of creating and working together with the wonderful cast has been rewarding.



Amelia Zoernig '21 (Cast) is a sociology major on a pre-med track. Amelia is from northern New Mexico and has performed with the Highlands University Singers in *Into the Woods*, with her local theatre collective in the absurdist play *Rhinoceros*, as well as with Missoula Children's Theatre for the past eleven years. This is her first production at Grinnell and she is excited to be interacting with Churchill's work.

CREW

Audrey Boyle '21 (Assistant Director) is an English and theatre and dance double major from Honolulu, Hawaii. At Grinnell, she has assistant directed *Nice Fish*, acted in the One Act Festival, and directed *Ideation*. Currently, she is directing *Defusion* for this year's One-Act Festival.

Jamie Friedman '20 (Costume Crew Co-Chief) is a political science and computer science major from Weston, Connecticut. She has previously performed in Grinnell's Dance Ensemble and is excited to be working on costumes this year.

Nai'ya Willis Hogan '20 (Assistant Stage Manager) is a Posse student from Washington, DC. She majors in theatre and dance with a concentration in peace and conflict studies. This is her first time assistant stage managing, and third mainstage Grinnell production, following performances in *Image of an Unknown Young Woman* and *The Laramie Project*, and she's excited for a return to the stage!



Shudi Pan '19 (Costume Crew Co-Chief) is a biology major from China. She has been working in the costume shop since *Elephant's Graveyard* in spring 2017. She is currently stressed with graduate school applications and has found stitching costumes to be a good way to destress.

Anh Thu Pham '19 (Costume Crew Co-Chief) is a computer science major from Shakopee, Minnesota (originally from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam). She has worked costume for and performed in various shows in the theatre and dance department. She is also a member of Almost Always Improv Troupe, and is excited to be involved in another department production.

Joseph Robertson '19 (Projections Operator) is a philosophy and theatre and dance major from Denver, Colorado. It warms his heart to see so many first and second year students taking the stage. The future is now.

Paul Chan Htoo Sang '21 (Costume Crew) is an international student from Myanmar. He worked at a documentary film production company as a production assistant for a year before migrating to the cornfields. For this show, he's looking forward to making sure that everyone has a good costume for a good time.

Nolan Schoenle '19 (Sound Designer) is a theatre and dance and computer science double major from St. Louis, Missouri. He has sound designed for *Translations*, *Constellations*, and *Image of an Unknown Young Woman*. Nolan has also served as the soundboard operator for *Playboy of the Western World*, projections operator for *The Tempest*, and co-lighting designer for *The Royale*.



Robbie Shore '19 (Light Board Operator) is from Grinnell, Iowa. This is his second show at the College, after run crew for *Soft Lights for Sleepless Nights* earlier this semester.

Sam Stein-De Turck '22 (Assistant Stage Manager) is an intended theatre and dance major from Santa Monica, California. They have been involved in technical theatre since seventh grade and have stage managed productions such as *Peter and the Star Catcher* and *The Crucible*, and have been the light board operator, stage manager, run crew, and helped out with many other shows throughout high school. They are very excited to be a part of *Love and Information* and cannot wait to see what Grinnell theatre has to offer in the future!

Anna Warm '19 (Sound Board Operator) is a chemistry major from Boulder, Colorado. *Love and Information* is her fourth show at Grinnell, and her first as a sound board operator. In lieu of flowers, please don't ask her about her post-grad plans.



Kate Baumgartner '15 (Assistant Technical Director) has been building, designing, and tech directing with various performance groups in the Grinnell area since 2005.

Lesley Delmenico (Director) is an associate professor of theatre and performance studies. Her teaching, directing, and research focuses on theatre's political roles in contemporary society, particularly the intersections of performance with urban spaces, the natural environment, immigration, law and gender. Geographically, her research began on the northern edge of Australia with indigenous and immigrant women, and recently has concentrated on postcolonial migrants to the London metropolis. She works with British immigrant and feminist women's NGOs to create theatre pieces. *Pursuing Justice*, her documentary play based on a landmark 1995 rape case, was performed in 2015 and will be remounted in 2019, responding to the rise of the #metoo movement. She has directed more than twenty collegiate, community and professional productions in Grinnell, London, and Mumbai, including several U.S. premieres of contemporary British plays. Publishing in theatre and sociology journals, she has made many conference presentations on community, site-specific, and political performance. An article, "Performing Public Presence: African Migrant Women Create Uncomfortable Conversations in London," is forthcoming in 2018 in *Theatre Research International*. A former Chicago actor and architectural designer, Lesley's M.A. and Ph.D. are in Theatre and Performance Studies from Northwestern University.

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.

Michelle Lilly (Scenic Design) is a Chicago-based designer who recently finished coursework for her MFA in stage design at Northwestern University. Michelle has designed for Milwaukee Repertory, New Leaf Theatre, TUTA, Emerald City Theatre, Lifeline Theatre, A Red Orchid (Youth Ensemble), the side project, Theatre Seven, Profiles, Northwestern University, Wheaton College, The Springfield Muni, and Springfield Theatre Center. Michelle is a co-founder of Brass Ink Design Studio, and co-founder of Rabbit Hole, a Chicago-based immersive game design company.
www.michellelillydesigns.com www.brassinkstudio.com

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.

Justin Thomas (Production Manager) is an Associate Professor of Theatre and Design here at Grinnell College, where he has the ability to focus upon his two great passions: teaching and making theatre. Justin's courses run the gamut of theatrical design and technology, theatre history, and literature. He particularly enjoys teaching his first-year tutorial, "Staging



Revolution,” which uses dramatic texts as a way to examine human rights abuses in world history. Justin’s professional scenic and lighting designs have been featured throughout India, Bangladesh, Russia, France, and across the United States in venues both large and small. Justin designs for a variety of performance styles from modern dance and ballet, to Shakespearean tragedy, children’s theatre, and contemporary musical theatre. Such collaborations have offered Justin varied and exciting experiences that enrich the teaching and mentoring of his students.

Jessica Neill (Lighting Designer) is a Chicago-based lighting designer. Her work can most recently be seen at *Master Class* with TimeLine Theatre Company. As a lighting designer, Jessica’s goal is to create art through the manipulation of light and shadow to tell compelling stories. She is inspired by music, movement, and everyday magic. Her dream job would fuse her love of literature, history, politics, and the arts to make an impact. Jessica recently received her MFA in lighting and costume design from Northwestern University. At Northwestern, she designed *Crime and Punishment*, Danceworks 2016 (*Skin*), Danceworks 2018 (*On the Eve Of...*), *Stickfly*, *Twelfth Night*, and the world premier of *Ever in the Glades*, which transferred to the Kennedy Center as part of their Performances for Young Audiences series in June. Prior to graduate school, Jessica designed and stage managed in the greater Nashville area, as well as worked for Mankin Media Systems providing lighting design and drafting support. Originally from Bowling Green, Kentucky, she earned her BFA in Theatre from Western Kentucky University. In her spare time, Jessica loves to read, visit museums, binge Netflix, and nap on the couch with her two cats. Learn more about her work at jessicaneill.com



Keli Vitaioli '19 (Stage Manager) is a political science major and global development studies concentrator from Wheeling, Illinois. This is her third time stage managing a mainstage production at Grinnell, and she has previously worked with Lesley on *Constellations*. She is the features section editor for the *Scarlet & Black* and a proud big sister in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Grinnell program. She is so grateful for all the support the theatre and dance department has given her over her time at Grinnell, with a special thank you to Erik Sanning, Justin Thomas, and of course Lesley Delmenico.



Stage Manager	Keli Vitiaoli '19
Assistant Stage Managers	Nai'ya Willis Hogan '20 Sam Stein-De Turck '22
Sound Board Operator	Anna Warm '22
Light Board Operator	Robbie Shore '22
Costume Crew Co-Chiefs	Jamie Friedman '20 Shudi Pan '19 Anh Thu Pham '19
Costume Crew	Paul Chan Htoo Sang '21
Poster & Program Design	Joyce Bergan



ADMINISTRATION

Production Stage Manager	Anjali Jain '21
Front of House Manager	Kira Duff '20
Archivist	Nolan Boggess '19
Props Manager	Joseph Robertson '19

FRONT OF HOUSE

Front of House Staff

Obuchi Adikema '21	Ilana Luther '20
Audrey Boyle '21	Marnie Monogue '21
Kira Duff '19	Jacob Leder '20
Ahon Goptu '21	Shudi Pan '19
Shiraz Johnson '22	David Taylor '20
Charlotte Jones '22	Bailey VandeKamp '20
Katherine Kopp '21	Millicent Wakeman '19

COSTUME STUDIO

Costume Storage Coordinator	Anh Thu Pham '19
Stitchers	Jamie Friedman '20
	Shudi Pan '19
	Anh Thu Pham '19
	Olga Shevelkina '22

SCENE SHOP

Scene Shop Staff	Ashley Alto '19	Ethan Pannell '21
	Anjali Jain '21	Leila Payer '21
	Jacob Leder '21	Nolan Schoenle '19
	Sarina Lincoln '21	Judith Tong '20
	Emily Mamrak '19	Carlos Ventura '20
		Anna Warm '19



Dance Ensemble/ACTivate Fall 2018

Artistic Director: Celeste Miller

Flanagan Studio Theatre

Friday-Saturday, December 7-8, 7:00 P.M.

One Act Festival

The Wall Theatre

December 7-8, 8:00 P.M.

December 9, 2:00 P.M.

Introduction to Performance

Scene Showcase

The Wall Theatre

December 12, 4:30 P.M.

MAP Performance: Spring Awakening

Director: Nolan Boggess '19

Roberts Theatre

December 14-15, 7:30 P.M.

December 16, 2:00 P.M.