

Brandeis Department of Theater Arts

Susan Dibble
Chair

Robert Walsh
Artistic Director

presents

Fefu and Her Friends

by María Irene Fornés

Directed by Adrienne Krstansky

Scenic Design by Cameron Anderson

Costume Design by Mary Hurd

Lighting Design by Jeff Adelberg

Sound Design and Original Music by Dewey Dellay

Stage Managed by Hannah Uher

**FEFU AND HER FRIENDS (SINGLE STAGE VERSION) is produced
by special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc, NYC**

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Directors' Notes

Fefu and Her Friends has been a project of discovery. Through countless hours of rehearsals and workshops, we as a cast unearthed hidden gems placed on Earth by María Irene Fornés. It was the celebration of diverse women and the ordinary that drove me to the play. And it was Fornes' free spirit and natural curiosity that kept me entangled in Fefu's world. As a collective we uncovered questions and thoughts that were previously deeply embedded in my unconsciousness; facing these thoughts together made me realize a lot about navigating the world around me. Please enjoy a moment of realness with Fefu and her friends. Allow yourself see a world, a light, a guardian—in everything.

Joelle Robinson, Assistant Director

Fornés' gift with *Fefu* is that, in creating a piece which revels in being about so little (a group of women gathering to rehearse for a fundraiser) she has built a vehicle that encompasses nuances of truths which manage to dually seem to be both unearthed and self-imposed. In our scuffling with the text, it seems to have snowballed through contemporary social and political ideologies, festooning itself in the garb of exactly what we need to see right now on our campus. The unsupposing genius of Fornes is that her attention to deceptively insignificant details allows her work to take on hugely impactful commentary. While it seems to be our constant job as theatre artists to defend why our work is pertinent right now, because of Fornés' ability to nestle her plays deep within the shadows of the human experience, we have not had that challenge with *Fefu*.

Andrew Child, Assistant Director

Cast of
Fefu and Her Friends
in order of appearance

Fefu.....Rebecca Myers
Cindy.....Keturah Walker
Christina.....Roopa Boodhun
Julia.....Sara Kenney
Emma.....Haia Bchiri
PaulaRemony Perlman
Sue.....Emily Bisno
Cecilia.....Alex Wu

Location: New England, Spring 1935
Part 1-Noon.
Part 2-Afternoon
Part 3-Evening

Who's Who in the Cast and Crew...

Haia Bchiri, *Emma, Hair and Makeup* , ASL

Haia Bchiri is a sophomore majoring in Theater Arts and Education. She's been involved in theatre for the past twelve years, most recently working with Black Box Studios in New Jersey in various capacities on and off stage. At Brandeis, she was in *Big Love*, *Taking Ages*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Peter and Wendy*, *She Kills Monsters*, and more. This fall she is also working on *Woyzeck*, *Hamlet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Blithe Spirit*. Haia feels so blessed to be a part of this production and work with this amazing team. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Emily Bisno, *Sue*

Emily is a junior from Los Angeles double majoring in Theater Arts and Anthropology. This is her first time acting with the Department of Theater Arts, having assistant directed *Leveling Up* under Professor Robert Walsh this past spring. Emily has been seen in various plays and musicals through the Undergraduate Theater Collective in her time at Brandeis. She is very excited to be acting in the Department and hopes you enjoy the show!

Roopa Boodhun, *Christina*

Roopa is a senior majoring in Business with minors in Theater Arts and Economics. She is a Wien Scholar from Mauritius Island. Her first time on stage was in "Dance On" as part of After Orlando. She also play eight roles in Wayward, an adaptation of Macbeth for the Leonard Bernstein Festival of the Arts. Ultimately, she hopes to start her own theater in Mauritius.

Sara Kenney, *Julia*

Sara Kenney is a senior majoring in Theater Arts with a minor in Medieval & Renaissance Studies. Recent credits include *Taking Ages*, *A Friend to All* in *Shoes On, Shoes Off*, *Marley/Disciple* in *The Contractual Death of Jonathan G. Faustus* (Brandeis Department

of Theater Arts), *Peter and Wendy* (Leonard Bernstein Festival of the Creative Arts), Banquo in *Macbeth* (Ovalhouse Theater), and Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Brandeis Hold Thy Peace). She has also studied at the British American Drama Academy.

Rebecca Myers, *Fefu*

Rebecca is a senior at Brandeis University. Some of her favorite performances include: *Blessing of a Broken Heart*, *Witches of Lublin*, *A Christmas Carol* with San Diego Repertory Theatre; *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* with Broadway San Diego; *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *Twelfth Night* with Old Globe Theatre; *The Magic Fire* (Best Ensemble Patté Award) with Moonlight AVO Playhouse; *Turandot*, *Wozzeck*, *Carmen*, *Boris Godunov*, *Tosca*, *Caballeria Rusticana/Pagliacci* with San Diego Opera. Rebecca has also worked with San Diego Symphony, La Jolla Stage Company, 6th@Penn, Spreckles Organ Society, and San Diego Shakespeare Society.

Remony Perlman, *Paula*

Remony is a junior majoring in Psychology and Theater and minoring in Creativity, the Arts and Social Transformation. Selected past Brandeis credits include, *Hold Thy Peace's As You Like It* (Duke Fredrick and Duke Senior), and the Undergraduate Theater Collective's *Dog Sees God* (Marcy) and *Twelve Angry Jurors* (Juror 3). Remony has performed in various community theatre and local productions including the Waltham Steampunk Festival. She has been on the executive board of Brandeis's *Hold Thy Peace* since her freshman year and is currently President and Secretary of the group.

Keturah Walker, *Cindy*

Keturah Walker is a sophomore who desires to create her own major of Communications with a focus in TV and Radio and doubling

that with Theater Arts. She has previously performed in several Brandeis plays such as *Death of the Last Black Man in the Entire World*, *Ruined*, *Love of the Nightingale* and *The Vagina Monologues*.

YiQian (Alex) Wu, Cecilia

YiQian (Alex) Wu is a sophomore at Brandeis University majoring in Theater Arts. She was most recently seen as Harvey Kelekian, M.D. in *Selections from "W;t"*, part of the 2016 Senior Festival.

Adrianne Krstansky, Director

Boston area credits include *A Doll's House*, *Come Back, Little Sheba* directed by David Cromer (Huntington Theatre Company - Eliot Norton, IRNE Award); *Paradise Lost*, *Britannicus* and *Ubu Rock* (American Repertory Theater); *Tribes*, *Body Awareness*, and *Snakebit* (SpeakEasy Stage Company); *Blackberry Winter*, *Imagining Madoff*, *On the Verge*, *Holiday Memories*, *Three Viewings*, *2.5 Minute Ride* (New Repertory Theatre); *New Electric Ballroom* (Gloucester Stage); and *Gary* and *Legally Dead* (Boston Playwrights' Theatre). She has appeared regionally at the Steppenwolf Theater and La Jolla Playhouse. Feature film credits include: *Burning Woman*, *Olive Kitteridge* (HBO) and *The Company Men*. Upcoming performances include: *Every Brilliant Thing* at SpeakEasy Stage Company. She is an Associate Professor of Theater Arts at Brandeis University.

Mary Hurd, Costume Designer

Mary is excited to be designing at Brandeis for the first time. She has designed productions for several fringe companies in Boston including the Elliot Norton award winning production of *Spinning into Butter* at the Theater Cooperative. In addition to design, Mary has worked as a cutter, first-hand, stitcher, alterations tailor, dresser, design assistant, assistant costume shop manager and costume shop manager for costume shops in Boston: Huntington Theater Company, Boston Ballet, American Repertory Theater, Costume Works, Boston Conservatory, and in New York: Barbara Matera's and Tricorne. While at ART, Mary

was the costume shop manager for the Cambridge run of *The Glass Menagerie*, and helped take the production to Broadway as the Assistant Costume Designer.

Dewey Dellay, Sound Designer

Dewey Dellay's Off-Broadway credits include: *Duet* (Greenwich Street Theatre) and London's West End: *The Countess* (Criterion). Dewey received an Elliot Norton award for Outstanding Design for his music and sound design on *The Women* (Speakeasy Stage Company) *9 Parts of Desire*, and *Miss Witherspoon* (Lyric Stage Company), and an IRNE for best sound design of *Five by Tenn* (SpeakEasy Stage Company). Dewey recently wrote music for Underground Railroad's *Constellations*. Television credits include: compositions for numerous national commercials, numerous National Geographic shows including Emmy nominated *China's Mystery Mummies*. He has completed 5 seasons of *Our America* with Lisa Ling on the Oprah Winfrey Network, and is now contributing to the television show *This is Life, with Lisa Ling* on CNN.

Jeff Adelberg, Lighting Designer

Also for Brandeis Theatre Co: *Shoes On / Shoes Off*, *Two Dance Stories*, *A View from The Bridge*, *Heaven+Hell/Light+Dark*. Other recent work: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *Hand To God*, *Dogfight*, *Mothers and Sons*, *Necessary Monsters* (Speakeasy Stage Co.); *The Owl Answers* (Harvard TDM); *Edward II*, *God's Ear*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *As You Like It*, *Middletown* (Actors' Shakespeare Project); *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Arcadia* and *The Children's Hour* (Gamm Theatre); *Constellations*, *When January Feels Like Summer* and *mr. G* (Underground Railway Theatre); *Rhinoceros* (Playwrights' Theatre); *Julius Caesar* (Commonwealth Shakespeare Co.); *Blasted* (Off The Grid Theatre); *Dusk Rings a Bell*, *Equally Divided* (Merrimack Repertory Theatre); *Mary's Wedding* (Playmakers Repertory Theatre); *Altar Boyz*, *Mame*, *Lobster Girl*, *Sorry* (Stoneham Theatre); *Regular Singing* (New Repertory

Theatre); *Side Show*, *The Nightmare Box*, *Red Noses*, *Le Nozze di Figaro* (The Boston Conservatory); Boston's Christmas Revels since 2010. A graduate of the University of Connecticut, Jeff teaches at Boston College, Brandeis University, and MIT. Member of United Scenic Artists 829. www.LDJeff.com

Cameron Anderson, Scenic Designer

Cameron Anderson is an internationally acclaimed scenic and projection designer, and has designed extensively at the world's leading theater and opera companies. She recently designed *West Side Story* for Norway's Kilden Performing Arts Center and for The Vancouver Opera, and Simon Boccanegra for Argentina's Teatro Colon. Selected Off-Broadway credits include: The Roundabout Theatre Company, Playwrights Horizons, New Georges, LAByrnth Theater Company, Naked Angels, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and Les Freres Corbusier. Regional Theater credits include: The Huntington Theatre Company, Two River Theater Company, South Coast Repertory, and Shakespeare & Company. Selected opera credits include: The Glimmerglass Opera, Central City Opera, Minnesota Opera, Opera Theater of St. Louis, Wolf Trap Opera, USC Thornton School of Music, Seattle Opera, Manhattan School of Music, Gotham Chamber Opera, Opera Boston, Pittsburgh Opera, The San Francisco Opera, and The New England Conservatory. Upcoming projects include designing the entire three production season for Opera Saratoga in 2018, *Into The Breeches* at Trinity Rep, *Brazen*, directed by Melia Bensussen at Emerson Stage, and *Clorilli*, a world premiere, at NYU's Florence, Italy campus. Cameron joined the Theatre Arts faculty in 2012. www.cameronanderson.net

Hannah Uher, Stage Manager

Hannah is a senior double majoring in Theater Arts and History. Past stage management credits include *Urinetown* and *24 Hour: Seussical* (Undergraduate Theater Collective); *No Exit* (Senior Thesis Festival 2015); and *The Rosenbergs* Concert Performance (Department of Theater Arts).

Past assistant stage management credits include *Leveling Up*, *Intimate Apparel*, and *Macbeth* (Department of Theater Arts); *Lost Girls*, *24 Hour: High School Musical*, and *Quickies* 2014 and 2016 (Undergraduate Theater Collective); and the 2016 Senior Thesis Festival.

Production Staff

Assistant Directors.....	Andrew Child, Joelle Robinson
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Delaney Palma, Emily Politi
Prop Master.....	Maggie Cooper
Scenic Charge.....	Holly Diaz
Shop Supervisor.....	Thomas Farrell
Carpenters.....	Sivan Ertel, Luis Flores, Molly Rocca
Run Crew.....	Emily Hancock, Melody Wilkenfeld
Electricians.....	Kaeda Morales, Steven Reilly, Jacob Margolis, Anthony Fimmano, Zachary Kolar, Megan McClory, Noah Mark
Lighting Programmer.....	Megan McClory
Sound Board Operator.....	Zain Walker
Open Caption Designer.....	Andrew Child
Open Caption Operator.....	Isabella Stork
First Hand.....	Sally Perry
Costume Construction.....	Marisol Abreu, Haia Bchiri, Ellie McKnight, Remony Perlman
Dressers.....	Riely Allen, Kate Kesselman
House Manager.....	Katie Sumi
Head Ushers.....	Tamara Garcia, Brenda Shen
Front of House.....	Ben Astrachan, Jessica Lam, Anna Sherman, Jared Snyder, Alina Sipp-Alpers, Gabe Walker, Arya Vanetsky
Box Office.....	Brittany Duncan, Lily Feinson, Tafara Gava, Melina Gross, Emma Gutman, Emma Hanselman, Jamie Jason, Candice Jiang, Emily Kaplan, Carmen Lopez-Landaverde

Every time I listen to Fornes, or read or see one
of her plays, I feel this: she breathes, has always
breathed, a finer, purer, sharper air.”

Tony Kushner

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as of September 2017

The Brandeis Department of Theater Arts extends heartfelt thanks to those who have generously contributed to support theater at Brandeis.

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James A. True
Sarai Chava Warsoff



We were so fortunate to have documentary filmmaker Michelle Memran and award winning theater director join us for rehearsals. Michelle has spent the last couple of years making a film about the life and work for Maria Irene Fornes entitled 'The Rest I Make Up'. For more information, please go to therestimakeup.com.

The 2017-18 Brandeis Department of Theater Arts season is made possible through generous support from the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust; the Laurie Foundation; the Robin, Barbara and Malcolm L. Sherman Endowment for the Performing Arts; the Brandeis Arts Council; the Herbert and Kim Marie Beigel New Play Fund; and the Poses Fund.