



Theatre & Dance

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

We are the Wake

A new play by Ayla Sullivan

2016–17 New Play Festival Winner

Director

Kelsey Kinzer

Dramaturg

Jashodhara Sen

Scenic Coordinator

Kerry Cripe

Costume Coordinator

Erika Daun

Lighting Designer

Wes Halloran

Sound Designer

CeCe Smith

Stage Manager

Madelyn Salvucci

Loft Theatre, University Theatre Building

Feb. 7–10, 7:30 p.m. | Feb. 10 & 11, 2 p.m.

Be engaged. Be inspired. Be here.

Be Boulder.

Cast

Dale

Sean Guderian

Ardella

Marianne Pettis

Jeremiah

Daniel Jimenez

Melinda Cross

Shira Dickler

Avi Goldstein**

Cora Graham

Elena Sayeedi

Dee Graham

Erika Haase

The Dead

Jake Austin

Matthew Rivera

Jessica Sandvik

Jeremy Segelke

Mei Taylor

***The role of Melinda Cross will be played by Avi Goldstein for two performances:
Friday, Feb. 9, at 7:30pm and Saturday, Feb. 10, at 2:00pm*

Director's Notes

To BURY

1. to dispose of by depositing in or as if in the earth
2. to have done with, to conceal in obscurity.

Bodies are universal, but society buries some more than others.

—Kelsey Kinzer

Dramaturg's Notes

The stunningly haunting imageries throughout the play *We Are the Wake* by Ayla Sullivan observes New York's Hart Island: a mass-burial ground situated in the State of New York. Sullivan offers a theatrical space to celebrate minority identities, the people of color, the queers, the incarcerated, the immigrants, and the undocumented bodies, at once capturing the ethical dilemmas and earnest journeys of the characters as the play progresses. The concept of this play is of great relevance considering both the social and political unrest and the worldwide identity crisis we are currently experiencing.

As a dramaturg, for me, the most fascinating as well as challenging aspect was to understand human existence at large. How do we survive as a human community? Is the experience of death strong enough to unite us: people from diverse racial-ethnic-social-economic background? Are we witnessing life through the eyes of the deceased? These are some questions that motivated me to move forward with this play knowing that there are no ideal answers to the questions.

Most of the characters in this play are inspired by real life characters. Although the play is not entirely autobiographical, some of the characters and incidents appear to emerge from the playwright's own life. My job was to ensure that we are representing and establishing the real-life characters on stage sensibly and authentically. In this play, as I perceive, the burial ground comes alive. It's a character in itself.

Throughout the play, along with all the characters, the burial ground experiences the exclusion and violence. The unclaimed bodies take refuge in the ground and the burial ground protects them like a mother. This imagery of the earth protecting the marginalized, the unclaimed, and the unwanted become poignant with regard to the concept of the play. It is my hope that *We Are the Wake* generates love and support despite all the oppositions and complications in the world.

— Jashodhara Sen

Production Team

Assistant Stage Manager

Issy Leustig

Props Master

Sadie Skolnekovich

Light Board Operator

Kate Johnson

Sound Operator

Jason Toennis

Deck Crew

Peter Rock

Scenery & Electrics

Lead Technical Assistants

Nathan Dow, Wesley Halloran, Ian McMorran,
Bailey Trierweiler

Technical Assistants

Maria Aki, Lauren Chen, Eli Davis, Kelsey Gallotte,
Greta Hooston, Jill Ingebritsen, Hannah Male,
Teresa Orosco, Bret Pilkington, Ryan Rouillard,
Maddy Salvucci, Sadie Skolnekovich,
CeCe Smith, Destin Woods

Practicum Students

Ashley Arvola, Val DeGroot, Annie Howell,
David Kocina

Costumes

Costume Shop Employees

Lizzie Brusco, Kara D'Alessandro, Val deGroot,
Erika Daun, Zoe Garrison, Sean Guderian,
Adrianna Hammack, Durango Jenkins,
Andrea Jewell, Ana Langmead,
Christina Longman, Olivia Murrow, Sarah Rand,
Natalie Reutimann, Braden Sturek, Zoe Volpa

Practicum Students

Jonathan Burgart, Katy Folz, Daniel Jimenez,
Joe Kennedy, Katie Lennon, Issy Leustig,
Ian McMorran, Julie Murtha, Reed Otto, Nia Quan,
Elise Rosado, Elena Sayeedi, Rachel Stauffer,
Bailey Trierweiler, Christin Woolley



The Kennedy Center

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in collegelevel theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

Department Staff

**Department Chair &
Director of Dance**
Erika Randall

**Associate Chair &
Director of Theatre**
Markas Henry

Production Coordinator
Connie Lane

**Director of Dance
Production**
Iain Court

Theatre Technical Director
Kerry Cripe

Costume Production Director
Ted Stark

Scene Shop Foreman
Stephen Balgooyen

**Assistant to the
Production Coordinator**
Kelsey Kinzer

**Assistant to the Costume
Production Director**
Amanda Herrera

**Assistant to the Director of
Dance Production**
Keith Haynes

Business Manager
Stacy Witt

Program Coordinator
Sharon Van Boven

Graduate Program Assistant
Patricia Paige

Outreach Coordinator
Peg Posnick

Administrative Assistant
Kammie Slavin

Academic Advisor
Jessica Baron

**Costume Rental/
Stock Manager**
Erika Daun

Costume Tech Lab Assistant
Mary Willingham

Costume Shop Bookkeeper
Sydney Chinowsky

Costume Shop Buyer
Sarah Halpern

**Wardrobe/Costume
Run Crew Advisor**
Mary Willingham

Dance Costume Coordinator
Ayla Sullivan

Dance Events Coordinator
Marla Schulz

Front of House Manager
Samm Wesler

House Managers
Shira Dickler
Roxxy Leiser
Olivia Sander
Jessica Sandvik
Hannah Schneebeck
Leah Woods



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ING ARTS**
theatre

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Adapted by Nelson Bond
Directed by Jakob Rasmussen**

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Directed by William Lewis**

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University Theatre
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