

UNCSA

**FEFU & HER FRIENDS
ORIGINALLY PRODUCED
BY THE NEW YORK
THEATER STRATEGY**

**Sept. 26 - Oct. 3 at 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 29 at 2 p.m.**

PATRONS THEATRE

María Irene Fornés
PLAYWRIGHT

Darah Barenholtz
DIRECTOR

PRESENTED BY
UNCSA

Brian Cole
CHANCELLOR

John Langs
SCHOOL OF DRAMA, DEAN

Michael J. Kelley
SCHOOL OF DESIGN & PRODUCTION, DEAN

DIRECTORS NOTE

In 1975 Laura Mulvey published an essay entitled “Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema” in which she coined the term “The Male Gaze.” Its original context was within the film industry, pointing out how cinematic conventions reinforced a patriarchal fantasy. Two years later Fornés published *Fefu and Her Friends*, which offers that the Male Gaze wasn’t exclusive to performances on the silver screen, but rather encompass the performances we put on in our everyday lives. The play being set in 1935 suggests that women have had to bend to male standards long before the term was ever coined, and working on it in 2024 reminds me that we still do. This is not about beauty standards exclusively, but rather how we alter our behavior to appeal to the male perception. Undoing systemic conditioning is hard, but the autonomy we risk as women by being passive about where we receive our validation is critical.

Thank you for coming out to support the arts.

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FEFU & HER FRIENDS

is produced by special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc, NYC

www.broadwayplaypublishing.com

FEFU & HER FRIENDS

Playwright: **María Irene Fornés**

Director: **Darah Barenholtz**

Assistant Director: **Gianna Marullo**

Voice and Accent Coach: **Sara Becker**

SETTING

New England, Spring 1935

CAST

Fefu Miranda Faria
Cecilia Wa Brown
Paula Leina Alejo
Sue Romina Duran
Cindy Grace Woosley
Julia Mary Brigham
Christina Cameron Flurry
Emma Emma Fagin

Production Stage Manager: **Sam Albritton**

Stage Manager: **Arden Jakubovic**

Assistant Stage Manager: **Jordan Flint**

Production Assistant: **Audrey Shepherd**

ACT I (PARTS I & II)

ACT II (PART III)

PRODUCTION STAFF

Scene Designers Ava E. Downs, Liam Klingberg
Costume Designer Teddy McMahon
Lighting Designer Lexi Roth
Sound Designer Riece Endicott
Wig and Makeup Designer Abby Gragg
Production Manager Anna Garman
Technical Director Brian Alexander Alcantara
Charge Scenic Artist Gamma Lister

FEFU & HER FRIENDS

Paint Shop Manager.....	Ollie Payne
Properties Director	Madison Carpenter
Properties Shop Manager	Emma Gold Anderson
Costume Shop Manager	Catlin “Cat” Dean
Wardrobe Supervisor	Sara Grace Walker
Production Electrician.....	Christopher Mendell
Head Sound Engineer (A1).....	Jesslynn Hurtado
Wig and Makeup Shop Manager.....	Victoria Ashmore
Director of Production	Carson R. Rainey
Assistant Scene Designers.....	Nathan Bowden, Isabella Colón Rebollo
.....	Jennifer Kroon-Nelson
Assistant Costume Designer	Sara Grace Walker
Assistant Lighting Designer	Alexander Marshall
Assistant Wig and Makeup Designer.....	Logan Esco
Assistant Wig and Makeup Shop Manager.....	Vernon Fabricio
Lead Carpenter	Lancelot Halliday
Lead Scenic Artist	Beth Dietze
Assistant Properties Director	August Fern Le-Hoang
Lead Artisan	Willow MacIvor, Rose Whitman
Carpenters/Build Crew	Ki Agrawal, Evelyn Cipriano, Mel Davis
.....	Gabby Delgado, Kylie Glassgold, James Goodson
.....	Christopher Hackett, Kailani Hoenig, Jesslynn Hurtado
.....	Sam Keller, Alexander Marshall, Simon Martin
.....	Ella Nagengast, Katherine Elizabeth Pearsall-Finch-Washlaski
.....	Brooke Santiago, Makaylah Scobee
.....	Tatiana Solano, Brianne (Bri) Swanson
Scenic Artists.....	Serenity Briles, Delia Chavez, Jami Michelle Duncan
.....	Avery Fields, Max Grenadier, Brylin Latorre
.....	Adrian Merson, Eden “Leo” Neuhiemer, Ollie Payne, Suzette
Properties Artisans	Isabella Barr, Annika Drury, Lydia Eldredge
.....	Maxie Galloway, Molly Gray, Max Humphrey
.....	Willow MacIvor, Julia Nelson,
.....	Matthew Rudman, Patrick Zeigler
Run Crew.....	Jaden Alejo, Julian Gonzalez, Mia Meadows
.....	Matthew Rudman, Sidney Scholl
Drapers	Eliana Askren, Iris Barger, Arianna Baird
First Hands	Lorelei Conte, Gavin Brayden Flory, Natalie Juran
Stitchers.....	Zenora Collier, Jasmine Cook, Jack Cope

FEFU & HER FRIENDS

..... Sienna Alorah Fletcher, Tj Foldy, Claire Gibbons
..... Ginny Hankins, Stella Inskip, Addie Reedy
..... Lisse Renteria Cisneros, Sidney Scholl
Costume Crafts Head Audrey Pugh
Costume Crafts Artisans..... Elliott Hunter, Avery McLintock Smith
Wardrobe Crew Jackson Brown, Brylin Latorre
..... Kiersten Sico, Liam Smith
Head Electrician Makaylah Scobee
Programmer..... Rocco Turano
Electricians Jade Caric, Aidan Piontak, Sarai Powers, Cameron Toler
..... Arthur Adcock-Vidouria, Alexander Marshall, Logan Whitten
..... Theo Brock, Landry Dale, Anastasia Dillman, Joe Good
..... Jaidyn Keller, Bridge Macphille, Gerald "Fitz" Morrissey
..... Ki Agrawal, Wesley Arbon, Avery Fields
..... Zach Markland, Mazie O'Keefe, Camper Pillifant
..... Violet Saynuk, Lexi Schubert
Assistant Sound Engineer..... Brooke Santiago
Deck Sound Engineer (A2) Joshua Givens
Wig and Makeup Build Crew Bex Blitz, Bex Dawn, Logan Esco
..... Scout Jones, Mace Marley, Georgie Schall
..... Tez Weddle, Marina Zealy
Wig and Makeup Run Crew..... Bex Dawn, Logan Esco, Scout Jones
..... Mace Marley, Georgie Schall, Tez Weddle
..... Marina Zealy

BIOGRAPHIES

MARÍA IRENE FORNÉS (PLAYWRIGHT)

María Irene Fornés, was an influential and award-winning playwright, director, and teacher. Born in Havana, Cuba, Fornés, the youngest of six children, immigrated to the United States in 1945. Fornés wrote and directed more than fifty plays that were produced throughout the United States and internationally including in Cuba, Peru, England, France, Germany, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Russia, and India. *Tango Palace* (1963) was her first produced play and *Letters from Cuba* (2000) was her final play. She won an unprecedented nine Obie Awards and her play, *What Of The Night?* (1990) was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Drama. Fornés eschewed identity politics yet her work has been described as feminist, Latinx, lesbian, and avant-gardist. She was also an influential educator, teaching playwriting across the US, and especially through her founding of the Hispanic Playwrights in Residence Lab (HPRL 1981-1992), at International Arts Relations (INTAR), a New York City theatre committed to producing works by Latinx writers, where she trained many celebrated Latinx playwrights of the late twentieth century. During her final years, Fornés suffered from Alzheimer's disease, and was cared for by family, friends, former students, and colleagues, while she resided at the Amsterdam House in New York City, where she died in 2018. Her later years are poignantly captured in the award-winning documentary film, *The Rest I Make Up* (2018), directed by Michelle Memran.

DARAH BARENHOLTZ (DIRECTOR)

Darah Barenholtz strives to explore the complexities of human behavior by uplifting unique stories. Growing up in the creative mecca New York City is home to, allowed Darah to engage with storytelling during her formative years. Through tumultuous times in her life, she found that storytelling was her greatest processing tool. Working through interpersonal dynamics was much easier when she could observe them outside of her own circumstances. This is how she found her calling to work that activates empathy, healing and growth—for herself, her collaborators, and her audiences. Darah is a director, choreographer, writer and producer, with a flare for hyper theatricality. She does her best to always lead with love and laughter.

UNCSA MISSION

The University of North Carolina School of the Arts provides gifted emerging artists with the experience, knowledge, and skills needed to excel in their disciplines and in their lives, and it serves and enriches the cultural and economic prosperity of the people of North Carolina and the nation. UNCSA is the state's unique professional school for the performing, visual, and moving image arts, training students at the high school, undergraduate, and master's levels for professional careers in the arts. (Approved by the UNC Board of Governors 2/2014)

THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA

Ranked among the best drama schools in the world, the School of Drama is an immersive experience that prepares talented young artists for successful careers on stage, online, and in film and television. Conservatory training grounded in classical values adds technical skills practice to shape creatively inspired, versatile actors who are in-demand today. Students perform constantly in both small workshops and major productions across the theatrical repertory. An outstanding resident faculty gives personalized attention to their students' growth.

THE SCHOOL OF DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Unlike other schools that incorporate design and production within theatre studies programs, the School of Design and Production is a highly regarded, independent conservatory. The school is ranked #3 in the nation. Employing a resident faculty of experienced professionals, the school offers a comprehensive curriculum in every aspect of modern stagecraft, from scene design to stage management. Students gain practical experience working on a variety of productions inside theaters of all styles and sizes, and within 100,000 square feet of production space. Graduates have careers in theater, film, television, dance, opera, live and themed entertainment, and more.

THE ASSOCIATES

The Associates, UNCSA's volunteer organization, invites you to join them. For more information about the organization and volunteer opportunities, visit www.uncsa.edu/associates or email them at UNCSAassociatesportal@uncsa.edu.

DEAN'S CIRCLE

The Dean's Circles support each of the five arts schools at UNCSA — Dance, Design & Production, Drama, Filmmaking and Music. Dean's Circle members support the school of their choosing with an annual gift of \$5,000 or more in support of discretionary funds, scholarships or other fundraising priorities. Members enjoy special events and opportunities to interact with the school's dean, faculty and students. If you are interested in joining one or more UNCSA Dean's Circles, please contact Shannon Wright, Director of Development for Leadership Annual & Family Giving, at wrights@uncsa.edu or 336-770-1427.

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Ms. Tamara Michael

Mr. Thomas David and Mary Scott Neill

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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Slade

Dr. Christine Vidouria

Mr. and Mrs. William R. Watson

UNCSA Fall Chamber Music Festival

Oct. 12-19 at 7:30 p.m.

WATSON HALL

UNCSA's annual Chamber Music Festival returns for three lovely evenings of glorious music as students, faculty and renowned guest artists come together to practice this intimate art form.

For the fall concerts, hornist Stefan Jezierski, an alum of UNCSCA and longtime member of the esteemed Berlin Philharmonic under Herbert von Karajan, is featured in Brahms' rhapsodic Horn Trio. Violinist Dmitri Berlinsky, winner of the International Tchaikovsky Competition, and pianist Orion Weiss also will perform in Brahms' Piano Quintet in F minor, the most frequently played of his chamber masterworks, showing him at the zenith of his compositional powers. The Washington Times has declared that Berlinsky "held the audience in the palm of his hand," while the Herald Tribune said Weiss was "simply breathtaking."

Fairview

Oct. 24-Nov. 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 27 at 2 p.m.

CATAWBA THEATRE

Before you think you know what this play will be about, just give it a few minutes. It's not a sitcom. No, because you're about to see a production that turns expectations upside down — and not in particularly comfortable ways. It's the 2018 Pulitzer Prize-winning "Fairview" by Jackie Sibblies Drury, directed by guest director Jackie Alexander, artistic director of the North Carolina Black Repertory Company. Be prepared for a mind-bending twist as we witness — under careful scrutiny — the middle-class Frasier's getting ready to celebrate Grandma's birthday in a whole new way.

FRASIER