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**STAGE**   
**AT THE BORO**



**Bo-Nita**

**by Elizabeth Heffron**

1st Stage  
With generous support from  
The Revada Foundation  
and Eileen Mandell  
Presents

# BO-NITA

WRITTEN BY  
**ELIZABETH  
HEFFRON**

DIRECTED BY  
**SUMMER  
WALLACE**

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## FEATURING

**TERRI WEAGANT\***  
Bo-Nita

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## PRODUCTION & DESIGN

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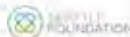
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**DEIDRA LAWAN STARNES**

TECHNICAL CREW  
**JOSEPH BROWN MILLER  
ASH JEFFERS**

**BO-NITA** was first performed in a co-premiere between Portland Center Stage, Portland Oregon and Seattle Repertory Company, Seattle Washington.

**Taking photos or videos during the production is strictly prohibited.  
Thank you for your understanding.**

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\* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, appearing under a Special Appearance Contract.

# Meet the Artists

**Elizabeth Heffron** is a Seattle-based playwright. Her full-length play, *Bo-Nita*, received a 2014 Edgerton New Play Award from TCG and premiere productions at Seattle Repertory Theatre and Portland Center Stage; where it was developed at the JAW Festival of New Plays. Her most recent work, *Portugal*, received a 2016 Holland New Voices Playwright Award and a MainStage reading at the Great Plains Theatre Conference. The play has been developed through the Hedgebrook Women Playwrights Festival, ACT Theatre Playwrights Circle, and the Seattle Rep Writers Group Showcase of New Work. Her play, *The Weatherman Project* (with Kit Bakke), was part of the Seattle Rep's inaugural New Play Festival in February 2013, and the Hollins Playwrights Festival in Roanoke, Virginia the following July. Other full-length plays include *New Patagonia*, produced by Seattle Repertory Theatre, and *Mitzi's Abortion: A Saint's Guide to Late-Term Politics and Medicine in America*, which received ACT Theatre's New Play Award and a world premiere production at ACT Theatre in 2006. Since then, the play has been produced across the country, published by Original Works Publishing, and included in the anthology *MANIFESTO v.3: Here's to a Theater of Defiance*, edited by Naomi Iizuka. She has written work for 14/48: The World's Quickest Theater Festival, Annex Theatre, One Reel Productions, and New City Theatre, among others. She is a Staff Writer for Sandbox Radio Live, and her radio plays can be heard by downloading them from iTunes or Stitcher. Elizabeth has received grants from the Seattle Arts Commission, and a fellowship from Artists Trust/Washington State Arts Commission. She currently teaches at ACT Young Playwrights Program, and at Freehold Theatre/Lab, where she has spent 6 seasons working with the women of the Washington Correctional Center for Women on inmate-generated performance pieces. She is an alumna of the Seattle Rep Writers Group, a member of the Sandbox Artists Collective, and the Dramatists Guild. She holds an MFA in Playwriting from the Hollins Playwrights Lab.



**Summer Wallace** is an actor, director, producer, teaching artist based in Sarasota, FL. Regional credits include: Asolo Repertory Theatre, Mad Cow Theatre, Dog Day's Theatre, Cumberland County Playhouse, Stage Door Theatre, Lagniappe Theatre, Theatre Lab, Theatre Odyssey, Players Theatre, FSU/ Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training, New College of Florida amongst others. As Co-Artistic Director of Urbanite Theatre, Summer has directed the regional premieres of *Scorch*, *Northside Hollow* (Winner 2018 Handy Award for Best Direction of a Play), *Dry Land*, *Sam & Lizzie*, and is the producing director for Urbanite's Modern Works Festivals; a festival celebrating female identifying theatre makers. As a founding member of Two Chicks Productions,

Summer has produced *Bo-nita* as part of the UnitedSolo Festival (Winner 2019 Best Story Telling Award) and was part of the producing team on the film *Fear of Rain*. She is a frequent Guest Teaching Artist with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory and a proud member of AEA and SAG--AFTRA. [summerdawnwallace.com](http://summerdawnwallace.com)



**Terri Weagant** is an award-winning actor, writer, director producer and dialect coach based in Brooklyn, NY. She performed *Bo-Nita* as part of the United Solo Festival on Theatre Row in NYC (the world's largest solo performance festival) where she was awarded Best Storytelling Show for her work. In NYC, she was also seen in the Play On Shakespeare Festival with Classic Stage Company and Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Terri received a Handy Award for her portrayal of Norma McCorvey (aka ROE) in Asolo Repertory Theatre's production of *ROE*. She has performed in the US, Canada, Australia and the Czech Republic. Regionally, she has worked with such companies as Asolo Repertory Theatre, Urbanite Theatre, Denizen Theatre, Seattle Shakespeare Company, Wooden O,

Annex Theatre, ACT Theatre, Book-It Repertory Theatre, Theater Schmeater, CHAC, Empty Space, Balagan Theatre, Centerstage, Hypnagogia and Consolidated Works. She is also a cabaret performer and created Balagan Theatre's late-night cabaret SCHMORGASBORG. On screen she was seen in the Amazon show *Mozart in the Jungle*; and the films *A Jazzman's Jazzman* and *How to Get Laid*. Terri is a producer of the documentary film *Above the Bamboo Room*, which premiered in 2020. She holds a BFA from Cornish College of the Arts (Seattle, WA), where she also served on the faculty for 6 years. She has also taught with Brooklyn College and NYU's The Playwrights Horizons Theatre School. More information available at [www.terriweagant.com](http://www.terriweagant.com).

# UPCOMING at 1ST STAGE

## THE BOOK OF MAMAW

Written and Performed by Eugene Wolf

Directed by Susanne Boulle

October 7-17, 2021

The one-man-show chronicles Wolf's life growing up with his devout Church of Christ grandmother who recognized his love of performing when he was just two years old. Wolf has turned many of the stories of his childhood into a musical production featuring folk music and Appalachian vibes. 1st Stage is bringing the production last seen at Flying Anvil Theatre in Knoxville, Tennessee to Virginia to be a part of the festival.

"The Book of Mamaw is storytelling at its best." – The Bristol Herald Courier

## SECRET THINGS

Written by Elaine Romero

November 18 - December 19, 2021

When Delia, an ambitious journalist, receives anonymous articles about Mexican-Americans claiming to have hidden Jewish roots, she is intrigued ... even if it means returning to her native town in New Mexico to investigate. She's on the outs with her editor/ex-boyfriend, and he wants her to say the story is a myth to save her job. But her estranged family, her mysterious dreams, and an alluring Crypto-Jew keep pointing her inward to a surprising truth. Will Delia be able to finish her story -- not just the one she was sent to write, but her own?

## THE PHLEBOTOMIST

Written by Ella Road

Directed by Alex Levy

February 17 - March 13, 2022

1st Stage will bring the regional premiere of the hit show from London. In a sci-fi-inspired world where genomics is the norm, every person gets assigned a "rating" at birth based on their genetic map. Bea, a phlebotomist, finds herself being pulled deeper and deeper into the dark side of the genetic testing underworld even as she falls in love with Aaron, a man she met by accident who has a near-perfect rating that far exceeds her own. The play was nominated for a Laurence Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement and had a sold-out run at the UK's Hampstead Theater. "...a racy dystopian thriller that is part Black Mirror and part Brave New World." – The Guardian.

## THE MAMALOGUES

Written by Lisa B. Thompson

April 14 - May 8, 2022

In this satirical comedy about Black motherhood, three women share the joys and challenges of being middle class single mothers in predominately white suburbs. It is a celebration of motherhood and community. "...the impact and import of The Mamalogues ... may be in the moments between the laughs, in the silences where we feel the weight borne by these brave mothers." - The Austin Chronicle

## UNDER THE SEA WITH DREDGIE MCGEE

Written and Directed by Matthew Aldin McGee

June 2 - 26, 2022

This vibrant and unique theatrical event is designed for families, and features pirates, ghosts, laughter, and deep, immersive storytelling. This visually arresting, off-beat, and ambitious piece of theatre depicts a nearly-dead pirate being carried around by a deep-sea diver, spouting clever quips and snarky rejoinders as he crafts an underwater variety show designed to help him pass the time until he can find his own path to redemption and rediscovery.

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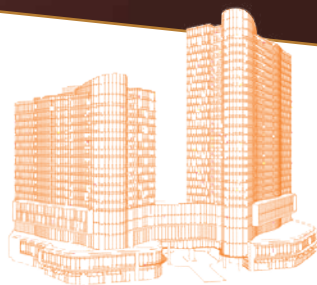


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## 1st STAGE ■ 2021-2022 Season

### The Logan Festival of Solo Performance

*Making Opera Soup* by Lori Brown Mirabal  
August 21 - 29, 2021

*Bo-Nita* by Elizabeth Heffron  
September 16 - 26, 2021

*The Book of Mamaw* by Eugene Wolf  
October 7 - 17, 2021

### Secret Things

By Elaine Romero  
November 18 - December 19, 2021

### The Phlebotomist

By Ella Road  
February 17 - March 13, 2022

### The Mamalogues

By Lisa B. Thompson  
April 14 - May 8, 2022

### Under the Sea with

### Dredgie McGee

By Matthew McGee  
June 2 - 26, 2022

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Jacob Yeh - Actor

## 1st STAGE FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Mark Krikstan

## 1st STAGE FOUNDING ARTISTS

Lucas Beck

Deb Cerie

Jane Margulies Kalbfeld

Nathaniel Krause

Alex Mandell

Peter Van Valkenburgh

David Winkler

Cheryl Patton Wu

## SPECIAL THANKS FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE WITH THIS PRODUCTION

The Boro

WhyHotel

The Meridian Group

NextStop Theatre Company

## STAFF

### Artistic/Managing Director

Alex Levy

### Associate Producer

Emily Wall

### Director of Engagement

Heidi Fortune Picker

### Associate Artistic Director

Deidra LaWan Starnes

### Director of Community Relations

Eileen Mandell

### Casting Director

Jane Margulies Kalbfeld

### Web and Media Director

Robin Harris, Harris Design Inc.

### Marketing and Communications Associate

Arielle Seidman-Joria

### Seidel Fellow

Rashaud Matthews

## PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

Chris Banks, designer

Emily Wall, writer

## 1st STAGE THEATRE

### Architects

Butz-Wilbern, Ltd.

### General Contractor

M. Raina Associates

**1st**  
STAGE 

**1st Stage**

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