

Virtual Show Program

Saginaw Valley State University Department of Theatre

No.

6

By TJ Young



Saginaw Valley State University Department of Theatre

PRESENTS

“No. 6”

By T.J. Young

With

Glecia Tatum
Jared Kaufman

Trinity Caldwell
Briellé Myles-Williams

Jahari Essex
Ayrion Abraham

Stage Manager
Holly Houck

Scenic Designer
Jerry Dennis

Lighting Designer
Peggy Mead-Finizio

Hair/Makeup Designer
Chloe Velez

Sound Designer
Lucas Inman

Costume Designer
Dani Durst

Props Designer
Alyssa Yankee

Dramaturg
Rhiannon Hall

Production Assistant
Lexie Schultz

Directed by
Tommy Wedge

SVSU does not discriminate based on race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, physical impairment, disability or veteran status in the provision of education, employment, and other services.

“No.6” is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

CAST

Ella

Glecia Tatum

Felicia

Trinity Caldwell

Felix

Jahari Essex

Kelly

Jared Kaufman*

Reporter/Ella Understudy

Briellé Myles-Williams

DJ

Ayrion Abraham

Setting

April 11, 2001. Cincinnati, Ohio

The Anderson family's second story apartment above Starlight Cleaners, their family-owned business.

Production Team

Director

Tommy Wedge

Assistant Director/Camera A Operator

Jake Fultz

Assistant Director/Camera C Operator

Abbey Kuhns*

Stage Manager

Holly Houck*

Assistant Stage Manager

Briellé Myles Williams

Production Assistant

Lexie Schultz

Dramaturg/ Logo Designer

Rhiannon Hall*

Department Secretary

Kelly Helmreich

Scenic Designer/Technical Director

Jerry Dennis

Scene Shop Assistant/ Electrician

Conner Wieland*

Lighting Designer/Board Op 1

Peggy Mead-Finizio

Master Electrician/ Camera B Operator

Jenna Glazier*

Electrician

Jaden O'Berry*

Sound Designer

Lucas Inman*

Assistant to the Sound Designer

Abby Middlebrook

Costume Designer/Costume Shop Coordinator

Dani Durst

Assistant to the Costume Designer

Olivia Greanias

Costume Crew/ Board Op 2

Adam Coggins

Costume Crew

Becca Dubs

Hair and Make-Up Designer

Chloe Velez*

Prop Designer

Alyssa Yankee*

Assistant Prop Designer

Kylee Monahan*

Prop Run Crew

Abigail Welch

Stagehand

Katie Wu

Production Team

Publicity

Jared Kaufman*

Editor

Andy Sharrow

Storyboard Artist

Lane Birchmeier

Mentor to Designers and Crew

Peggy Mead-Finizio

Mentor to Student Theatre Management

Tommy Wedge

All rehearsals and recordings were conducted in strict adherence to [SVSU's NEST guidelines](#) for safety and success during the COVID-19 pandemic.

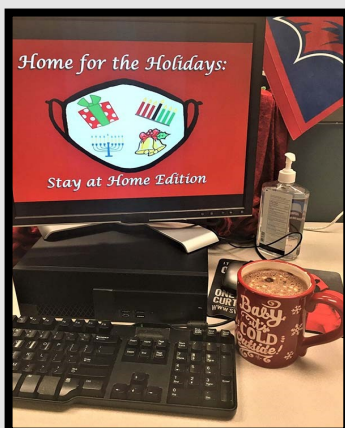
Upcoming Fall Productions:



Unraveling Magicians

November 20-21 @ 7:30 PM

After discovering a book of spells, the royal family of Gwynedd dives headfirst into a world of magic. When they trigger a terrible curse, Gwydion, the family recluse, is forced home to spearhead the cleanup. To return to his beloved isolation, he must break the curse or risk permanent entanglement in his family's magical mishaps. Adapted from the *Mabinogion*, a collection of medieval Welsh folktales, *Unraveling Magicians* will celebrate its debut performance at SVSU as a pre-recorded audio drama. Without visual elements, the story will be told purely through the use of dialogue, music, sound effects, and various audio recording techniques.



Home for the Holidays: Stay at Home Edition

December 2-5 @ 7:30 PM and Dec. 6 at 3 PM

A heartwarming, family friendly show highlighting the historical, traditional, and true meaning of our holidays. Come celebrate and learn from our traditions together, while we are apart.

Director's Note

“There isn’t any hope in my theory [of extinction No. 6] because that’s not what it needs. It needs change...Doom comes when we don’t change” -Felicia Anderson, No. 6

America awoke to a police killing of an unarmed Black person.
Protests erupted; outraged Americans watched.
A person was buried; an officer was acquitted.
We prayed for peace; we hoped for healing.
The reporters left; the cameras stopped.
Families mourned; businesses rebuilt.
America went back to “normal.”

This is the story of 19-year old Timothy Thomas in Cincinnati in 2001, the back-drop of TJ Young’s No. 6. It’s also the story of 7-year old Aiyana Jones in Detroit in 2010. And of 12-year old Tamir Rice in Cleveland in 2014.
And of Eric Garner and Michael Brown Jr.
And Freddie Gray and Philando Castile.
And George Floyd.
And Breonna Taylor.
And dozens more in 2020 alone, [some of whom are named here](#).

Right now, at this moment, America is awake again.

Will we change? Will we break the cycle? We can only hope.

Or wait.

Is that all we can do? Is that all we *should* do?

If “doom comes when we don’t change,” then let’s change. Let’s not go back to sleep.

Let’s Speak up and Speak out. Let’s get to work.

Lives depend on it.

-Tommy Wedge

Notes from the Dramaturg

"Doom comes when we don't change." -Felicia; *No. 6*

On April 7, 2001, white Cincinnati Police Officer Stephen Roach, who was off duty at the time, shot and killed Timothy Thomas, an unarmed 19-year-old Black man, while attempting to arrest him for traffic violations and other nonviolent warrants. Roach chased after Timothy Thomas with his finger on the trigger of his gun, deviating from professional/acceptable protocol, but was nonetheless acquitted on both charges against him (negligent homicide and obstructing official business). Judge Winkler of Hamilton County Municipal Court considered Roach's actions to be "reasonable", in a "split-second reaction to a very dangerous situation created by Timothy Thomas," because Timothy Thomas was fleeing the ten policemen who were chasing after him down a dark alley in a "dangerous neighborhood". Roach was cleared without a jury, and the case wasn't arbitrated until nearly 5 months after riots broke out in the Over the Rhine neighborhood in Cincinnati, Ohio. Later, an independent police review reported "...that Roach lied on an official report, failed to follow firearms protocol, and had not given Thomas enough time to respond to his verbal commands" (Oxford AASC).

The protests demanding an explanation for Timothy Thomas's death began on April 9th and continued until the 13th. The first night consisted of Angela Leisure (Timothy's mother) and over 200 other protestors trapping city council members in City Hall for three hours while demanding a response to the ongoing investigation. Several hundred protestors then flooded the police department, confronted policemen, and rehung the flag to the department upside down. On April 10th, a protest of around 50 young Black men turned into a riot resulting in looting and vandalism of nearby businesses and neighborhoods. By April 11th, businesses resumed with hopes that they would be safe to operate as usual; however, the riots continued and became stronger than before. By April 13th, Mayor Luken issued a city-wide curfew from 8pm to 6 am and declared a state of emergency. This resulted in over 800 curfew arrests, and peaceful marches late into the night. There were no reported deaths during the riots.

TJ Young's *No. 6* gives the audience insight into the household of the Andersons, a Black single mother and her twins, Felix and Felicia, who are trapped in their apartment above their dry-cleaning business during those riots. The cries they hear outside of their apartment, "No justice, no peace," are painfully still relevant today as Americans mourn the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, among the loss of countless other Black lives. With the current conversations on ending police brutality, defunding the police, and becoming actively anti-racist, *No. 6* echoes the sentiment that this cycle is just that- an unnecessary repetition of tragic, avoidable deaths.

In response to the acquittal of George Zimmerman after he shot and killed Trayvon Martin in 2013, the Black Lives Matter movement was founded with the following mission:

To eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes. By combating and countering acts of violence, creating space for Black imagination and innovation, and centering Black joy, [they] are winning immediate improvements in [their] lives. (Black Lives Matter)

To donate to the [Black Lives Matter Movement](#), and for more information on how to work to be actively anti-racist, please see the [digital dramaturgical display](#).

- Rhiannon Hall

Acknowledgements

Saginaw Valley State University Department of Theatre

Full-Time Faculty

Karla Kash, MFA
Peggy Mead-Finizio, MFA
David Rzeszutek, MFA
Tommy Wedge, MFA

Adjunct Faculty

Dan Gerics, MA
Caleb Knutson, MA
Dakotah Myers, MA

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Dean College of Arts & Behavioral Sciences

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Departments of RPW & Theatre
Administrative Secretary Kelly J. Helmreich

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The Kennedy Center

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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 college-level 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 1,500 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.