



The University of Texas at Austin
Theatre and Dance
College of Fine Arts

For immediate release:

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE
PRESENTS
ENRON
BY LUCY PREBBLE
FEBRUARY 21-MARCH 4, 2018
AT THE OSCAR G. BROCKETT THEATRE

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance presents a true story of false profits, *ENRON* directed by Hannah Wolf, February 21-March 4, 2018 at the Oscar G. Brockett Theatre. Written by Lucy Prebble, *ENRON* follows the astounding rise and fall of the Houston-based energy company. Presented as an epic myth, featuring a cast of all women and non-binary actors, *ENRON* takes us through the twists and turns of capitalism, the glamour of greed and the toxic adrenaline of success. Witness the depth of deceit that led to one of the largest financial scandals in history.

Combining tragedy and comedy, the play follows the company's leaders: Jeffrey Skilling, president and chief operating officer; Kenneth Lay, founder and chief executive officer; and Skilling's protégé Andy Fastow, chief financial officer. "This production asks us to question the limits of 'too good to be true' and examine the choices that these real men and women made. Are they pawns of a success driven culture, or villains who took as much as they

could? With our non-traditional cast we're pushing the stereotypes of toxic masculinity to the extremes and examining the hyper rigid performance of gender in the big business," Hannah Wolf, the production's director shares.

"To present *ENRON* today is to look at the mythology of the company collapse and the chilling realization that the lessons of fraud and backroom secrets in big business haven't been learned. This is a world where appearance has little to do with reality and the dollar drives these characters to towards impossible feats. In the drive to be the best, to make the most money, to be the most innovative and the most sexy, Enron goes broke."

Hannah Wolf is a director, dramaturg, teacher and producer originally from Juneau, Alaska. She makes new work for the stage and explores new ways of making work in the rehearsal room. She's also been known to consult in screenplay development, has written about performance for culturebot and curates the blog [Ask A Director](#). Recent projects include: *TITLE LOADING* (Fusebox Festival/Cohen New Works Festival), *The Bigot* (UT Austin), *Dry Land* and *The Sky Game* (Peppercorn Theatre). She's developed new plays with Perseverance Theatre, Superhero Clubhouse, The Civilians, Conni's Avant Garde Restaurant, Colt Coeur, TerraNOVA Collective, Columbia University and NYU. She attended Western Washington University, trained with the SITI Company and is the former literary resident at The Vineyard Theatre. Wolf is pursuing her M.F.A. in Directing at The University of Texas at Austin.

ENRON features an all-star cast of University of Texas at Austin students, including Annemarie Alaniz (Jeffrey Skilling), Caroline Beagles (Andy Fastow), Kayla Johnson (Ken Lay), Bella Medina (Claudia Roe) and ensemble members, Natasha Cosme Batista, Adrian Collins, Lea Donenberg, Manuela Guerra, Jade Jackson, Brooke Loye, Sarah Maggard, Carleigh Newland, Ariana Pleasure, Francis Rodriguez, Brisa Shaw, Christina Thomas, Megan Todd, Juleane Villarreal, Lauren Weik and Jill Young.

The production's creative team includes Hannah Wolf (Director), Aaron Curry (Lighting Designer), Cait Graham (Costume Designer), Christine Gwillim (Dramaturg), Dack Justiz (Stage Manager), Sam Lipman (Composer), Robert Mallin (Projection Designer), Kara Mavers (Dramaturg), Adam Miller-Batteau (Fight Choreographer), Roxy Mojica (Scenic Designer), Reed Dryden Neal (Technical Director), Oluwaseun S. Olayiwola (Choreographer), Jess O'Rear (Artistic Engagement Strategist), Bex Orton (Community Engagement Coordinator) and Malysa Quiles (Sound Designer).

For more information on *ENRON*, please visit JoinTheDrama.org

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Post-Performance Talkbacks

Where is Toxic Masculinity in *ENRON* and Our Everyday Lives?

February 23, following the 7:30 p.m. performance in the Oscar G. Brockett Theatre

Audience members are invited to join the production team and invited guests from Voices Against Violence's project MasculinUT, an initiative that promotes healthy masculinities, in a discussion on toxic masculinity in *ENRON* and where toxic masculinity may be encountered in our everyday lives.

Continuing Conversations from “Enron, Late Capitalism and Toxic Masculinities: A Symposium on Power, Gender and Performativity”

March 2, following the 7:30 p.m. performance in the Oscar G. Brockett Theatre

Audience members and attendees of the symposium are invited to join the production team to continue conversation on topics covered in the March 2 symposium sessions.

Casting *ENRON* and Why the Storytellers Matter

March 3, following the 7:30 p.m. performance in the Oscar G. Brockett Theatre

Audience members are invited to join the production team and invited guest speakers to discuss the casting of *ENRON* and the significance of the actors' identities in telling the story of *ENRON*.

Symposium

Enron, Late Capitalism and Toxic Masculinities: A Symposium on Power, Gender and Performativity

March 2, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

All events are at the [F. Loren Winship Drama Building](#), unless indicated otherwise. The events are free and open to the public.

10:00 a.m.: Enron, Power, Gender and Industry at UT and Beyond

Distinguished panelists from UT Austin discuss masculinity, the culture of Enron and how gender, class and sexuality are addressed in different disciplines and industries.

11:00 a.m.: Performing Controversy: True Events, Corporate Funding and Performing Identity

Panelists from UT Austin's Women's and Gender Studies and LGBTQ Studies, Voices Against Violence and Houston's Alley Theatre discuss the true events portrayed in *ENRON*, funding of the arts and the performance of identity on stage.

1:30 p.m.: A Workshop on Performing Gender

Join Austin-based artists for an interactive and engaging workshop on gender and performance.

2:00 p.m.: Gender, Performance and Art: A custom gallery experience at the Blanton Museum of Art

ENRON dramaturgs Christine Gwillim and Kara Mavers provide a guided tour of art in the Blanton Museum of Art focusing on representations of gender. This event takes place at the [Blanton Museum of Art](#).

4:00 p.m.: Reflecting and Brainstorming: Inclusive Practices and Strategies for Theatre and Dance

Invited guest speakers and UT Austin Theatre and Dance community members have a round table discussion on practices and strategies for inclusion in theatre and dance.

CALENDAR LISTING

February 21-March 4, 2018 – The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance presents *ENRON* at Oscar G. Brockett Theatre (300 E. 23rd St.), located in the F. Loren Winship Drama Building. A map of the campus: theatredance.utexas.edu/about/location-directions-parking

Performance times are February 21 at 7:30 p.m. (Preview); February 22-25, 27 and March 1-3 at 7:30 p.m. and February 24-25 and March 4 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets for performances on February 24-25 and March 4 at 2:00 p.m. (\$26 adult, \$21 UT faculty and staff, \$15 student) are on sale at authorized ticket outlets, which include the Bass Concert Hall Box Office and all Texas Box Office outlets, online JoinTheDrama.org, or by calling (512) 477-6060 or (800) 982-BEVO. Tickets for the preview performance on February 21 (\$10 adult, \$5 student) are available at the Bass Concert Hall Box Office and F. Loren Winship Building Box Office. Box Office locations and hours: theatredance.utexas.edu/ticketing

ABOUT TEXAS THEATRE AND DANCE

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance is a world-class educational environment that serves as the ultimate creative incubator for the next generation of artists, thinkers and leaders in theatre and performance.

ALSO THIS SEASON

Anon(ymous)

By Naomi Iizuka

October 4-15, 2017

Dance Repertory Theatre presents

Fall For Dance

November 7-12, 2017

The Crucible

By Arthur Miller

November 8-19, 2017

The Drowsy Chaperone

Music and Lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison Book by Bob Martin and Don McKellar

December 6-10, 2017

Dance Repertory Theatre presents
Transcendence
March 28-April 8, 2018

UTNT (UT New Theatre)
April 12-22, 2018

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