



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**  
***UTNT (UT NEW THEATRE), Part One***

**November 5-20, 2020**

**PRESENTED VIRTUALLY**

**FEATURING NEW WORKS FROM RISING PLAYWRIGHTS**

**PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR KJ SANCHEZ**

**ASSOCIATE PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR ALEXANDRA BASSIAKOU SHAW**

**ASSOCIATE PRODUCER, KRISTEN OSBORN**

The University of Texas Department of Theatre and Dance at Austin presents ***UTNT (UT New Theatre)***, November 5-20, 2020 in a series of unique virtual performances. Established in 2007 by nationally renowned playwright Steven Dietz, *UTNT (UT New Theatre)* is an annual showcase of newly developed works for the American stage from playwrights of the Department of Theatre and Dance's master of fine arts program and Michener Center for Writers. Now in its thirteenth year, *UTNT* brings to the stage compelling works by ascending playwrights. This season, *UTNT (UT New Theatre)* will take place twice, presenting a variety of all new works in the fall (Part One) and spring semesters (Part Two). Performance titles for *UTNT (UT New Theatre, Part Two)* will be announced later this fall.

“We knew we wanted to work with these artists at UT, that’s why we admitted them to the program,” shares Co-Artistic Producer Alexandra Bassiakou Shaw. “ They are groundbreakers who challenge themselves and who set higher bars for all. In the face of this pandemic, these artists have unlocked new realms of invention and creativity, playfulness and presence. We are so excited to share their work with you.”

The university’s Department of Theatre and Dance and Michener Center for Writers have been heralded nationally as incubators for new work (*American Theatre*). Notable alumni of these programs include Lisa D’Amour (2011 Pulitzer Prize Finalist, *Detroit*), Abe Koogler (*Fulfillment Center*, Manhattan Theatre Club, 2017), Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig (2011 Wasserstein Award Recipient), George Brant (2008 Keene Prize for Literature, *Elephant’s Graveyard*), Kimber Lee (2013-2014 Lark Fellow) and Kirk Lynn (2011 USA Fellow in Theatre Arts).

The 2020 *UTNT (UT New Theatre), Part One* plays include:

***poolboy00***

**By Sam Mayer**

**Directed by Mike Steel**

**November 5-7, 2020 at 8:30 p.m.**

Presented primarily on Twitch, *poolboy00* is part reality show, part livestream. Come watch poolboy00 hang with his friends, work out, write in his journal, talk to strangers and try to make his life into art (it’s hard because life is mostly really boring so please chat with poolboy00 and help something interesting happen. Because something has to happen. Right?) The chat is open, the water is nice, so hop on in and be a part of the show!

Connect with poolboy00 live on Twitch here: <https://www.twitch.tv/poolboy00>

*poolboy00 contains mature language, content and themes. Viewer discretion is advised.*

***Wyeth Airlines Flight Thirteen***

**By Lena Barnard**

**Directed by Andrea L. Hart**

**November 19-20, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.**

This coming-of-age story follows a group of middle-schoolers who lose the ability to play. At the start of seventh grade, Harlequin, Shoebill, Cygnet and Finch are as close as can be. United by a shared fantasy life and bird nicknames, they’re positive they know everything about their world. None of them are prepared for the moment when their games stop being real, overshadowed by the new monsters of illness, grades, and crushes. As one by one, they lose the safety of their imagined space, their tight-knit group fractures under the pressure to fit in, find love, and group up.

*Contains mature content. Viewer discretion advised.*

For more information on *UTNT (UT New Theatre)*, please visit [JoinTheDrama.org](http://JoinTheDrama.org)

*All titles, dates and venues are subject to change.*

### **CALENDAR LISTING**

**November 5-20, 2020 – The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance presents *(Re)current Unrest* – details available at [JoinTheDrama.org](http://JoinTheDrama.org).**

Performance times for *poolboy00* are November 5, 6 and 7 at 8:30 p.m.; performance times for *Wyeth Airlines Flight Thirteen* are November 19 and 20 at 7:30 p.m. All ticketing for the 2020/2021 Season will be available at pay-what-you-can pricing. Details about how to stream performances will be made available at: [theatredance.utexas.edu/season-tickets/subscription-series](http://theatredance.utexas.edu/season-tickets/subscription-series). More information about ticketing is available at: [theatredance.utexas.edu/ticketing](http://theatredance.utexas.edu/ticketing)

Texas Theatre and Dance is committed to the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff and audiences. Due to the uncertain nature of our current times, all titles, dates, times and presentation details may be subject to change.

### **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**

***La Ruta***  
**By Isaac Gómez**

October 23-24, 2020

***In the Ether***  
**By Erica Gionfriddo**

December 2-6, 2020

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