

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2021

**NYSUMMERFEST PRESENTS
LAURA ANTHONY'S "EFFIGY" FROM
08/24/2021 IN THE HUDSON GUILD THEATRE**



Pictured: Mark Simmons

"Effigy," directed by L.A. Mars, provides an unflinching look through the lenses of race, revolution, and queerness at three eras of unrest in the United States: the American Revolution, the Civil War, and the Black Lives Matter movement. Playwright Laura Anthony's natural, overlapping dialogue shifts seamlessly through the stories of a forgotten revolutionary, a wounded Union soldier, and a university classroom overshadowed by the American legacy of racism. With an ensemble of seven actors, Anthony offers audiences an intimate window into these three indelibly linked moments in time.

"When we first set out to adapt Laurens' story for the stage, we were worried about the play becoming this pretty, glowing memoir piece," says Mars, director of the piece and long-time creative partner to the playwright. "The antebellum period informed and expanded the story, but it didn't fully ground it. A modern narrative, with modern voices, really pulled it together into this larger tale of warping legacies and the failure of generations upon generations to not just forfeit racism, but embrace antiracism to a meaningful degree. 'Effigy' doesn't allow for excuses of moral relativity or ignorance to be made for our contemporaries, but it also acknowledges that we ourselves are still struggling—and, at times, failing—to do better in the society that we have inherited."

"Effigy" has an approximate run time of 90 minutes. Please be advised, this play contains scenes of violence, explicit language, sexual situations, and use of racial slurs. The production contains strobe lighting effects and gunshots.

**LEARN MORE AT
www.effigytheplay.com**

EFFIGY CAST

John Laurens / Eric McEnery
Cameron Pillitteri

Cameron Pillitteri is a graduate of the Stella Adler Studio of Acting and the Penn State School of Theatre. His college credits include Angels in America, She Kills Monsters, Polaroid Stories, and The Laramie Project.

Keturah / Mariah / Daria Mesley
Tatiana Skyy

Tatiana Skyy is an actress and writer from Queens, New York. She received her B.A. in Media Studies and Production at Temple University. Some of Tatiana's recent acting credits include productions such as Cops and Robbers and Other Games of Innocence (Shellscape Theatre) and Tales from Da Ville (New Wave Kino Productions). Her hobbies include gaming, bingeing TV shows, and spending time with family and friends.

Billy Lee / Thomas Ross / Gavin Costillo
Isaiah Caleb Stanley

Isaiah Caleb Stanley is an actor based in Brooklyn, NY. Most recently seen in Walkup Arts' production of A Play About Drew Carey, Isaiah is honored and beyond excited to join the cast & crew bringing 'Effigy' to life this summer! BFA, Hofstra University.

George Washington / Alan Boswell
Mark Simmons

Mark brings more than 40 years experience to the stage, performing in over 65 different productions. He boasts of a spectrum of roles from Dracula to Jesus, and every conceivable type of work from Shakespeare to Charles Busch. He has written countless monologues as well as 3 history-based one man shows that he still performs. Mark is excited and honored to be working with everyone on the upcoming production of 'Effigy'.



Pictured: Cameron Pillitteri

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www.effigytheplay.com



Pictured: Isaiah Caleb Stanley

EFFIGY CAST

Alexander Hamilton / Floyd Abernethy

Maxwell Lamb

Maxwell Lamb is originally from Frederick, Maryland, and is currently a Senior, BFA Acting Major at Elon University in North Carolina. When he's not acting, you can find him writing songs or doing improv comedy. He would like to thank the Effigy team for this opportunity, and his friends and family for their support. Current credits include: Frank Sweeney (Molly Sweeney, Elon University), Happy Mahoney (Clown Bar, Elon University) and Rodney (Hekate, Virginia).

Henry Laurens / Josiah Sutherland / Dean Latham

Frank Bläuer

Frank Bläuer has been active in New York City area theatre since the mid-1980s. Mostly working in New Jersey, he has been seen as LtC. Littlefield in Summit Playhouse's production of Defiance by John Patrick Shanley; the Actor in The Woman in Black for Zenith Players' inaugural show in Budd Lake; Claudius in Hamlet (Fearless Productions in Rahway); Cardinal Richelieu in The Three Musketeers (Chatham Players); Mike Dillon in Good People (Summit Playhouse); Dr. Treves in The Elephant Man (Chester Theatre Group); and Slim in Of Mice and Men (Hudson Theatre Works in Weehawken), among many other roles.

Martha Manning / Loretta Latham / Jessica Cohen

Andrea Rose Cardoni

Andrea Rose Cardoni is an actor and teaching artist based in the tri-state area. As a Drexel Co-op Theatre Company graduate and a T. Schreiber Alum, she is eager to begin work on Effigy with this amazing cast and crew. This will be her debut at NY Summerfest, and is thrilled to be back in rehearsals at last! www.andrearosecardoni.com.

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EFFIGY CREW

L.A. Mars (Director)

Mars earned her B.S. in Media Production from Drexel University's Custom-Designed Major program. She is trained as a director for both theatre and film, and focuses on informed, intuitive, and truthful performances. She has worked in theatre both as a director and a stage manager, and is a founding member of Luration Creative, which she operates with her long-time creative partner, Laura Anthony

Laura Anthony (Playwright)

Anthony is a theatrically trained performer and playwright. They believe in theatre's ability to pursue truth and change through empathy, honesty, and catharsis. Their writing prioritizes quick, natural dialogue, and they value creating a safe artistic space for everyone on their team. Past works have been performed in colleges and festivals on the East Coast.

Lisa Geerhart (Stage Manager)

Lisa has had experience as a stage manager for many community theater productions, she is very happy and proud to have the opportunity to be a part of this important work. She lives in NJ with her husband, son and various pets. In her off time she loves yoga, reading and cooking.

Phaedra Scott (Script Consultant)

Phaedra Scott is a dramaturg for new plays and new play development workshops. She curates and develops dramaturgical displays for new and established works, writes playbill articles and creates production actor packets for her collaborators. Her work has been seen nationally at theatres and festivals including The New Harmony Project, Huntington Theatre Company, Company One Theatre, Cleveland Play House (recipient of the 2015 Regional Tony Award), and Bad Habit Productions.



Pictured: Phaedra Scott