

FINE ARTS CENTER THEATRE COMPANY  
Scott RC Levy, Producing Artistic Director  
Presents

# LOVE IN THE HATE STATE

By

Marisa D. Hebert



**FEATURING**

**Cheerish Evans** as Jo  
**Rakeem Lawrence** as Chad  
**Kody Maynard** as Tony  
**Chloe McLeod** as Dani  
**Susannah McLeod** as Monica

Directed by  
**Nathan Halvorson**



**Cheerish Evans** is thrilled to be working with the FAC. She was last seen in THEATREWORKS' production of *House Arrest* where she played Lizzie McDuffie & Maggie Williams. Other recent productions include (Adria) in THEATREdART's *Puerto Rican Nocturne*, (Lady of the Lake) in Funky Little Theatre Company's *Spamalot*, *Little Shop of Horrors* (Chiffon) at THEATREWORKS, *High Yellow* (Just Right) at the Millibo Art Theatre. She is a UNC (University of Northern Colorado) and WAAPA (Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts) alum. Cheerish is also a social activist in her community when she is not onstage.



**Chloe McLeod** is a Denver based actress and teaching artist. Recent credits include: *Anna Karenina*, *A Christmas Carol* (DCPA Theatre Company); *This is Modern Art* (DCPA Off-Center); *You Can't Take it With You* (Colorado Shakespeare Festival); *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo and Juliet* (DCPA Shakespeare in the Parking Lot); *A Christmas Carol*, *The Nina Variations* (Boulder Ensemble Theatre Company); *Queen of Conspiracy*, *Fun Home*, *Biloxi Blues* (Miners Alley Playhouse) *Bad Jews* (Edge Theater); *Little Women* (Aurora Fox); *Wait Until Dark* (Avenue Theater). Training: American Musical and Dramatic Academy, NYC.



**Susannah McLeod** is thrilled to be making her FAC debut. Recent credits include: *The Nina Variations* (BETC); *Goodnight Moon* (DCPA Education); *Fun Home* (Penobscot Theatre Company); *Life Sucks* (Aurora Fox); and *The Humans* (Curious Theatre Company.) When not on stage, Susannah works as a photographer- [www.mcleod9creative.com](http://www.mcleod9creative.com).



**Kody Maynard** is excited to make his radio drama debut for the FAC! He has been on the mainstage here in *9 to 5*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Hands on a Hardbody!* He has also been in the music room, performing in *Androcles and the Lion* and *Busytown the Musical*. Kody spends his days as a theater educator and director in Colorado. Kody's evenings are spent playing and creating characters that will get you learning and laughing about life. He is honored to be a part of this project and hopes that this work can generate desperately needed conversation about creating safe and inclusive spaces where everyone belongs!



**Rakeem Lawrence** is making his FAC debut. REGIONAL: *Romeo and Juliet* (Shakespeare Theatre Company), *Bite Size: Toxoplasmosis*, *Goodnight Moon* (Denver Center), *Gloria* (Curious Theatre Company), *Six Degrees of Separation* (The Redhouse); *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Virginia Stage Company), *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, (THEATREWORKS Colorado Springs), *Angels in America* (Western Theatre Company); *Kill Move Paradise* (Unicorn Theatre); *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Colorado Shakespeare Festival); *Shrek*, *Sister Act* (Little Theatre on the Square); *Airness* (Benchmark Theatre); *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *Lend Me a Tenor* (The Legacy Theatre); *My Fair Lady* (Quintessence Theatre Group); *Working*, *A View from the Bridge*, *Annie* (Hope Summer Rep); *Sister Act*, *Ragtime*, *Grease* (Midtown Arts Center); TV/FILM: *Superbook* (CBN) Training: MFA, Regent University.

### **MARISA D. HEBERT (WRITER OF LOVE IN THE HATE STATE)**

**Marisa D. Hebert (She, Her, Hers)** Is an Actor, Director, and Playwright located in Colorado Springs, where she lives with her wife and four rescue dogs. As an actor, Marisa works with FAC, THEATREWORKS, and numerous other local and regional Theatres. As a director, Marisa worked at the old Smokebrush Theatre, Vintage Theater, and The Millibo Art Theatre. As a playwright, Marisa's first full-length play *Pieces of Him* won the FAC's 2013 Rough Writers New Play festival, and pieces of her lyrical autobiographical play *High Yellow* have been performed locally at UCCS and The Millibo Art Theatre.

## **ABOUT COLORADO AMENDMENT 2**

Amendment 2 was a ballot initiative passed by Colorado voters in 1992 that prohibited the state from enacting antidiscrimination protections for gays, lesbians, and bisexuals. Voters in the state of Colorado set in motion a legal and constitutional fight when they approved Amendment 2. Passage of the controversial amendment set the stage for a national debate over the rights of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals, while the ensuing legal struggle was the first legal case affecting homosexuals to reach the United States Supreme Court. The Supreme Court eventually declared the amendment unconstitutional.

Even though the amendment was overturned, anti-gay sentiment continued to permeate Colorado and the West, reflected in the horrific murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student from Wyoming, in 1998. Nonetheless, the efforts of volunteers in Colorado and across the country to overturn Amendment 2 showed that the gay rights movement was gaining strength. The victory in *Romer v. Evans* paved the way for the expansion of gay rights, as demonstrated in 2015 by the US Supreme Court's legalization of same-sex marriage in *Obergefell v. Hodges*

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### **OF SPACIOUS SKIES STAFF**

#### **THE WRITERS**

Mélisa Annis

Jonathan Andujar, Mickey Burdick, Marisa D. Hebert, Jessica Kahkoska, Xochitl Portillo, Jess Weaver

#### **THE PRODUCTION TEAM**

Scott RC Levy & Nathan Halvorson — Episode Directors

Jacob Keough-Mishler — Sound Designer, Engineer & Mixer

Bob Morsch — Assistant Sound Designer

Stephanie & Jay McGuffin — Composers, *Of Spacious Skies* Theme Music

Kate L. Ferdinandi, Morgan Gatson & Terri Harrison — Production Management

Christina Shoemaker — Theatre Company Assistant

#### **FOR THE VISUAL VERISON**

Christopher L. Sheley — Production Design and Art Direction

Holly A. Rawls — Associate Art Director and Video Editing



COLORADO SPRINGS

**Fine Arts Center**

at COLORADO COLLEGE