

THEATRE RHINOCEROS *PUBLIC RELATIONS* – E MAIL – [jtally@therhino.org](mailto:jtally@therhino.org)

Tel. Cell. 510-506-4924 (DO NOT PUBLISH THIS #)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 18, 2020

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<http://therhino.org/press-room/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2809654735972350/>

*Theatre Rhinoceros presents:*

## **THE REVIEW, OR HOW TO EAT YOUR OPPOSITION**

**Written by Donnetta Lavinia Grays**

**Directed by Tanika Baptiste**

***A Live On-Line Streaming Production***

**January 22-31, 2021**

*Limited Engagement - 2 Weeks Only! – 5 Live Performances.*

**Preview: Friday, January 22 at 8:00 pm.**

**Opening Night: Saturday, January 23 at 8:00 pm (On-Line Reception to follow)**

**Broadcast from Spark Arts – 4229 18<sup>th</sup> St., SF, CA 94114**

**[Note – this is a live on-line production broadcast from Spark Arts – no one will be admitted to Spark Arts for the event.]**

**[www.TheRhino.org](http://www.TheRhino.org)**

### **SYNOPSIS:**

In the fall of 2001 the air has a marked change in New York City. Dana – a naïve yet self-righteous art critic - and her sports loving partner Kerri struggle to reconnect through its weight. This freshly weighted air, by contrast, provides new life for Naomi – an iconic visual artist - who, after years in the business, finally experiences the throes of financial success just as a debilitating disease threatens both that success and her legacy. When Dana questions Naomi's artistic integrity the stage is set for a sexy, emotional and intellectual game of football between critic and artist. Secrets are revealed, beliefs are shattered, hearts are broken and art is made in this fast-paced drama that explores loss and sacrifice.

**Featuring: April Deutsche (“Dana”), Leticia Duarte (“Naomi”), Ci’era London (“Kerri”) and Marcie Rich (“Gretchen”)**

**Tech Credits:**

**Kimi Harvey-Scott** (Stage Manager), **Donnetta Lavinia Grays** (Author), **Tanika Baptiste** (Director), **Christine U’Ren** (Graphics), **Rebecca Redmond** (Costume Designer).

*This production made possible by generous grants from Tom Horn and the Bob Ross Foundation and Grants for the Arts in the form of a SPUN Grant.*

**Performance Dates:        January 22-31, 2021**

**Opening Night:            January 23, 2021 8pm**

**Individual performance dates are: January 22 – 31, 2020**

**Friday, January 22, 8pm (Preview)**

**Saturday, January 23, 8pm (Opening Night)**

**Friday, Friday, January 29, 8pm**

**Saturday, January 30, 8pm**

**Sunday, January 31, 1pm**

**Recorded Performance Stream available the rest of the day Sunday, January 31**

**To arrange an interview with the playwright, director, or actors or for additional info, contact Joseph Tally, [jtally@therhino.org](mailto:jtally@therhino.org)**

**BIOS:**

**DONNETTA LAVINIA GRAYS** (Playwright) – raised in Columbia, South Carolina - is a Brooklyn based Playwright. Her plays include WHERE WE STAND (World Premiere Co-production - WP Theater and Baltimore Centerstage. O’Neill Center National Playwrights Conference Semifinalist), LAST NIGHT AND THE NIGHT BEFORE (National Theater Conference Barrie and Bernice Stavis Playwright Award, World Premiere - Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Kilroys List, Colorado New Play Summit, National New Play Network New Play Showcase, Todd McNerney National Playwriting Contest Winner, Eugene O’Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference Semifinalist), LAID TO REST (Playwrights Realm Writing Fellow Finalist, Eugene O’Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference Finalist, Kilroys List - Honorable Mention, Ground Floor at Berkeley Rep, 2017 Space on Ryder Farm Creative Residency), THE REVIEW OR HOW TO EAT YOUR OPPOSITION (2018 WP Pipeline Festival, Eugene O’Neill Theater Center National Playwrights Conference Finalist), THE NEW NORMAL and THE COWBOY IS DYING. Donnetta is the inaugural recipient of the Doric Wilson Independent Playwright Award. She is also a Space on Ryder Farm Working Farm Resident, Time Warner Foundation WP Playwrights Lab, Civilians R&D Group, an Actors Studio Playwright/Directors Unit, and terraNova Collective Groundbreakers Playwright group alumna. Her work has been read or developed by New Harmony Project, Berkeley Rep, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, The Labyrinth Theater Company, New York Theater Workshop, Orlando Shakespeare Theater, Portland Stage Company, Pure Theatre Company, [the claue], Naked Angels, Classical Theater of Harlem, Slant Theater Project, terraNova Collective, Theatre 4 the People, TOSOS, The Group Lab and Coyote REP. Donnetta is currently under commission from Steppenwolf, The Public Theater’s Mobile Unit, The Denver Center for the Performing Arts, WP Theater and Theaterworks USA. For television she has been staffed on Spectrum Original/Liongate’s *Manhunt* and is currently staffed on *Y:The Last Man* for FX Network/Color Force. Proud member of WGA and The Dramatist Guild of America.

**TANIKA BAPTISTE** (Director) Tanika Baptiste is an award winning actor/singer based in San Diego and the Bay Area and excited to collaborate with Theatre Rhino for the second time. Most recent directorial credits include RACHEL (South Bay Musical Theatre), AT THE WAKE OF A DEAD DRAG QUEEN (Theatre Rhinoceros), BLACK FLAG (Common Ground Theatre), The DesTROYers – TROJAN WOMEN adaptation (Assistant Director/Co-Adaptor/Costume Designer, Southwestern College), FIRES IN THE MIRROR (Trinity Theatre Company.) Tanika served as the Artistic Director for the first inaugural Artists 4 Black Lives Festival at Balboa Park, San Diego, CA this past Juneteenth. She is slated to direct Program B of the Plays by Young Writers Festival IN February 2021. Tanika is a proud member of Actors Equity. Thank you John, Joe and The Rhino family. Love to my family and friends. [tanikbaptiste.com](http://tanikbaptiste.com)

**THEATRE RHINOCEROS** - Founded in 1977, The Rhino is the longest running LGBT theatre in the nation. We develop and produce works of theatre that enlighten, enrich, and explore both the ordinary and the extraordinary aspects of our queer community. Our emphasis is on new works, works about under-represented members of the larger queer community, and revivals of lesser known queer classics. Over the years Theatre Rhinoceros has received many awards of recognition including: Theatre Rhinoceros Day in the City Proclamation from Mayor Gavin Newsom, State Assembly Certificate of Recognition from Senator Mark Leno, recognitions from Congressperson Nancy Pelosi and Assembly Persons Tom Ammiano and Carole Migden, numerous Cable Car, BATCC and TBA Awards and Nominations, and the GLAAD Media Award for Best LGBT Theatre. Theatre Rhinoceros has been a national forerunner in COVID-19 production with over 60 productions, most of them original, broadcast since Shelter-in-Place.

## **Calendar Editors:**

WHAT: ***Theatre Rhinoceros presents***  
**THE REVIEW, OR HOW TO EAT YOUR OPPOSITION**  
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**Recorded Performance Stream available the rest of the day Sunday, January 31**

**TIX:** Tickets are \$25 and available at [www.therhino.org](http://www.therhino.org) 800-838-3006/Half-Price discounts for seniors, students and TBA members.

**WHERE:** On-line Live Stream, Broadcast from Spark Arts, 4229 18<sup>th</sup> St., SF 94114

**WEB PAGE:** [www.TheRhino.org](http://www.TheRhino.org)

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**Public Service Announcements (PSA's) for**  
**THE REVIEW, OR HOW TO EAT YOUR OPPOSITION**  
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Directed by Tanika Baptiste

January 22-31, 2021 - *Limited Engagement - 2 Weeks Only!* – 5 performances  
A Theatre Rhinoceros production live and on-line.

**15 seconds:**

**Theatre Rhinoceros invites you to the third show of its season – live and on-line.**

A naïve yet self-righteous art critic questions the artistic integrity of an iconic visual artist. The artist contacts her critic, and the stage is set for a sexy, emotional, and intellectual game involving art, hearts, and bodies.

**THE REVIEW, OR HOW TO EAT YOUR OPPOSITION plays January 22-31, live and on-line at [www.TheRhino.org](http://www.TheRhino.org).** Visit [TheRhino.org](http://TheRhino.org) for more information and tickets.

**30 seconds:**

**Theatre Rhinoceros invites you to the third show of its season – live and on-line.**

A naïve yet self-righteous art critic questions the artistic integrity of an iconic visual artist. The artist contacts her critic, and the stage is set for a sexy, emotional, and intellectual game involving art, hearts, and bodies. Dana's girlfriend, Kerri, watches the critic and artist, as secrets are revealed, beliefs are shattered, hearts are broken, and art is created.

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**1 minute:**

**30 seconds:**

**Theatre Rhinoceros invites you to the third show of its season – live and on-line.**

It's fall, 2001, in New York City, an unsettling site of devastation and trauma. Dana, a naïve yet self-righteous art critic, and her girlfriend, Kerry, strive for connection and stability with each other. In her blog, Dana questions the artistic integrity of Naomi, an iconic visual artist. The artist contacts her critic, and the stage is set for a sexy, emotional, and intellectual game involving art, hearts, and

bodies. Kerri must watch as critic and artist circle each other and spar, secrets are revealed, beliefs are shattered, hearts are broken, and art is created.

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