

**N\*VA NIGHTSKY THEATER**  
PRESENTS

**BIG LOVE**



BY CHARLES L. MEE

**JUNE 12 - JUNE 27**

**DIRECTED BY**  
**JACLYN ROBERTSON & ADAM RESSA**

**ADAPTED BY**  
**JACLYN ROBERTSON**

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

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Charles L. Mee's *Big Love* is based on the ancient Greek myth of the Danaids, fifty sisters who flee across the sea to escape arranged marriages to their fifty cousins. While the story is thousands of years old, the questions it asks remain surprisingly contemporary: How much do we owe our families? How much control do we have over our own futures? And what happens when duty and desire collide?

When we began discussing our first co-directing project, *Big Love* quickly rose to the top of the list. The play challenged us and sparked the kinds of conversations that have defined our collaboration for years. Its blend of humor, spectacle, and deeply human questions made it the ideal project for two directors who enjoy approaching a story from different perspectives.

For this production, Jaclyn adapted and rewrote portions of Mee's script, reimagining the story in a post-apocalyptic world. Together, we were drawn to the idea of a society rebuilding after a collapse, where old rules have broken down, and every choice carries greater consequences. In that environment, the play's questions about love, family, freedom, and obligation feel especially immediate.

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE CON'T

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As you watch, you may find yourself changing your mind about the characters more than once. That's part of what makes *Big Love* so compelling. The play rarely offers simple answers, and neither does this production.

Thank you for joining us. We hope you enjoy our adaptation of Charles L. Mee's *Big Love* and the remarkable world it has allowed us to explore.  
Jaclyn Robertson & Adam Ressa



# SETTING

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**TIME:** The Future. Near? Far? Definitely Post-Apocalyptic

**PLACE:** Sicily, Italy

# FEATURING

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THYONA

Melanie Gordon

OLYMPIA

Maggie Shircliff

LYDIA

Keely Sullivan den Bergh

CONSTANTINE

Nate Eagle

OED

James Storen

NIKOS

Zach Litwiller

PIERO

Tristan Poje

BEPPE

Chuck O'Toole

GIULIANA

Pilar Bruyere

LEO

Mickey Butler

ELEANOR

Suzie Carmack

EMILIA

Mackenzie Gaylord

LYDIA U/S & ENSEMBLE

Aurora Pasos

ENSEMBLE

Felisha Cuenca

# TECH & CREATIVE TEAM

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<b>DIRECTORS</b>	Jaclyn Robertson & Adam Ressa
<b>STAGE MANAGERS</b>	Chamberlaine Beard Fosse Thornton Felisha Cuenca
<b>SCENIC DESIGN</b>	Jaclyn Robertson & Adam Ressa
<b>LIGHTING DESIGN</b>	Jaclyn Robertson & Adam Ressa
<b>SOUND DESIGN</b>	Jaclyn Robertson & Adam Ressa
<b>PROPS DESIGN</b>	Joey Pierce
<b>COSTUME DESIGN</b>	Callie Stapleton
<b>MEDIA DESIGN</b>	Jaclyn Robertson & Adam Ressa
<b>TECHNICAL INTERNS</b>	Holland Hasle Lila Halleran Jadyn Nahon
<b>BOARD OPERATOR</b>	Jadyn Nahon
<b>INTIMACY CHOREOGRAPHY</b>	Jessie Holder Tourtellote
<b>FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHY</b>	Casey Kaleba
<b>HAIR &amp; MAKE UP</b>	Kinsey Robertson
<b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b>	Jeff Fitzgerald
<b>LOGO DESIGN</b>	Adam Ressa
<b>PUBLICITY</b>	Jaclyn Robertson

## TECHNICAL CREW



Adam Ressa  
Callie Stapleton  
Chamberlaine Beard  
Chuck O'Toole  
Dan Widerski  
Elyse Smith  
Fosse Thornton  
Holland Hasle  
Jaclyn Robertson  
Jadyn Nahon  
Jeff Fitzgerald  
Joey Pierce  
Keely Sullivan den Bergh  
Lila Halleran  
Mackenzie Gaylord  
Olivia Roland  
Pilar Bruyere  
Sarah Baczewski

This NOVA Nightsky production featured the work and talents of two Lake Braddock High School interns, one Virginia Tech student, and one NOVA Community College student, who will receive college credit for the experience.

**READ CAST AND CREW BIOS ON**  
**ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

# NOVA NIGHTSKY LEADERSHIP

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PRODUCING  
DIRECTOR

Jaclyn Robertson

ARTISTIC  
DIRECTOR

Sarah Baczewski

DESIGN & TECHNICAL  
DIRECTOR

Adam Ressa

ADMINISTRATIVE  
DIRECTOR

Elyse R. Smith

## COMPANY MEMBERS

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JACLYN ROBERTSON  
HANNAH RUTH BLACKWELL

ELYSE R. SMITH  
FOSSE THORNTON



# SPECIAL THANKS

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Susan Loyd, Pastor Yena Hwang,  
the entire Falls Church Presbyterian Church Family,  
Reston Community Players, Dan Widerski, Frank Burdette,  
Lake Braddock High School

# ABOUT US

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NOVA Nightsky Theater was founded in late summer of 2021 by actor/producer Jaclyn Robertson and playwright/director Ward Kay. Both had worked in the local theater scene for years but wanted to bring something a little different to the community. While our first show was performed outdoors in the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have performed productions in all different types of venues, aligning with our mission of producing theater in unconventional spaces. Unlike other community theater companies that rely on grants or donations to operate, we rely on ticket sales to produce our shows. As such, we maintain tight budgets and create shows utilizing the amazing talents of our company members and casts.

100% of your ticket purchase goes into our company.  
Please consider joining us for future shows so we can continue to thrive.

