

**N\*VA NIGHTSKY THEATER**

**PRESENTS**

*The*  
**TAMING**  
*of the*  
**SHREW**



**BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

**ADAPTED & DIRECTED BY  
SARAH BACZEWSKI**

Falls Church Presbyterian Church - Memorial Hall

225 E Broad St., Falls Church, VA 22046

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

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Like many of us raised on *10 Things I Hate About You*, *The Taming of the Shrew* has always had a nostalgic pull for me. But revisiting the original play as an adult is a different story—it's a piece that both fascinates and challenges, especially with its glaring patriarchal values and its controversial treatment of women. What I love about NOVA Nightsky Theater is our willingness to tackle these kinds of works head-on, not by sanitizing them, but by reframing them in ways that spark conversation.

Two things struck me as I returned to the text. First, the play is obsessed with performance—roleplaying, disguise, and the slippery nature of identity. Everyone in *Shrew* is pretending to be something they're not, whether for love, power, or survival. Second, and perhaps more provocatively, Katherine isn't really a shrew at all. She's sharp-tongued and unapologetically direct, yes—but not violent, monstrous, or unreasonable. It's the world around her that labels and punishes her for refusing to play nice.

That got me thinking: where in our modern world is performance not just encouraged but demanded? Where is being opinionated a liability, and authenticity constantly questioned? The answer came quickly—reality television.

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE CONT.

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In our adaptation, Bianca is a full-blown influencer and the star of her family's reality show, *Keeping Up with the Minolas*, managed by her ever-present mom-ager, Baptista. Katherine, meanwhile, wants none of it. Jaded by the spotlight and exhausted by the fakery, she just wants to run her family's SoCal vineyard, yearning for something real. Enter Petruchio—a fame-hungry wildcard looking to boost ratings and win Katherine's hand through an unconventional courtship in front of the cameras. What follows is a satire that explores love, power, identity, and the pressure to perform in a world built on appearances.

Ironically, most of us on the creative team aren't avid reality T.V. fans. But we had a blast building this hyper-curated world and populating it with larger-than-life characters. As Danielle J. Lindemann writes in *True Story: What Reality TV Says About Us*, the genre “is a fun-house mirror, to be sure, but one that powerfully reflects the contours of our social world.”

We hope you enjoy our take on *The Taming of the Shrew*—a story about how hard it is to be real in a world that thrives on the fake.

-SARAH BACZEWSKI

# FEATURING

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LUCENTIA

Lorena Dujmusic

TRINA

Pilar Bruyere

BAPTISTA MINOLA

Suzie Carmack

KATHERINE MINOLA

Jaclyn Robertson

BIANCA MINOLA

Fosse Thornton

OLIVIA MINOLA

Olivia Roland

GREMIO/VINCENTIO

Mick Butler

HORTENSIO

Nick Koutris

PETRUCHIO

Adam Ressa

GEORGIO

Marty Kelly

CURTIS/TAILOR/WIDOW

Leanna Saler

CAMERAMAN MIKE

Mike Kroboth

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

# TECH & CREATIVE TEAM

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**DIRECTOR**

Sarah Baczewski

**STAGE MANAGER**

Elyse R. Smith

**ASSISTANT STAGE  
MANAGER**

Sharon Kim

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANT  
& BOARD OPERATOR**

Sean Johnson

**SOUND DESIGN**

Adam Parker &  
Sarah Baczewski

**LIGHTING DESIGN**

Adam Parker

**VIDEO DESIGN**

Jon Roberts,  
Jaclyn Robertson,  
Adam Ressa

**SET DESIGN**

Adam Ressa

**SET DECOR &  
PROPS**

Naomi Shayto  
Anu Iyer  
Bharathi Mathivanan  
The ensemble of actors

## SET CONSTRUCTION

Fosse Thornton, Jaclyn Robertson, Adam Ressa, Elyse R. Smith, Nick Koutris, Sarah Baczewski, Sean Johnson, Suzie Carmack, Mick Butler, Marty Kelly, Leanna Saler, Lorena Dujmusic, Pilar Bruyere, Mike Kroboth

## INTIMACY CHOREOGRAPHY

Jessie Holder Tourtellote

## FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHY

Casey Kaleba

## COSTUMES

The ensemble of actors

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Sharon Kim

## LOGO DESIGN

Adam Ressa, Anu Iyer, & Bharathi Mathivanan

## PUBLICITY & GRAPHICS

Adam Ressa  
Jaclyn Robertson

## “MUCH ADO ABOUT WATCHING” VIDEO

Bharathi Mathivanan & Anu Iyer

## WEB DESIGN

Nate Eagle

# 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  
ADAM RESSA  
HANNAH RUTH BLACKWELL

SARAH BACZEWSKI  
FOSSE THORNTON  
ELYSE R. SMITH



## Special Thanks to:

Susan Loyd, Pastor Yena Hwang, and the entire  
Falls Church Presbyterian Church Family

Our friends, families, and loved ones for allowing us  
to make the art we love.

## ABOUT US

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NOVA Nightsky Theater was founded in later 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 who 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.