

# CLOSING TIME AT THE *Moonside Cafe*

JUNE 12TH TO  
JUNE 27TH

AT THREE STORIES  
937 LIBERTY AVE



**CLOSING TIME AT THE MOONSIDE CAFE**

Directed by Connor McCanus

Written by Sean Collier and Renee Rabenold

Produced by Vigilance Theater Group

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Hello, immersive theatre-goer! Thank you for coming to the show, and thanks for reading my little Director's Note. I personally love Director's Notes, because simultaneously they are beautifully useful and completely unnecessary!

This is fitting, as I have always been drawn to the concept of duality. We all contain multitudes, and the version of ourselves that we present at any given time is based on our surroundings and our goals in that environment. From childhood fairytales like "Cinderella" to backstage comedies like "Soap Dish", I love how the art of performance mimics this transformative ability we have to shift personas, whether it be with a simple disguise or a feat of magic. And in cinematic thrillers like "Black Swan", "The Substance" or "Mulholland Drive", we explore the alluring danger of temporarily being someone else, if only for an evening.

We carry these multiple versions of ourselves with us at all times, but these masks are not just for fun acts like escaping chores and wooing princes. We transform in order to survive, or protect ourselves from harm. In order to support ourselves, we willingly give our minds and bodies — we surrender a version of ourselves to someone or something else in exchange for resources. I haven't seen the show "Severance" (we got rid of Apple TV after they canceled Schmigadoon), but I'm sure I would like it.

What was I saying?

Right — so that surrendering of our time and of ourselves, that labor of being the "on" version of ourselves, that can be a really difficult shift to have to clock into every day. (Oh, that's very kind of you, but I don't need your Apple TV login, thanks.) So when Vigilance approached me about an immersive play with musical elements that would explore duality, I jumped at the opportunity to get involved. (Please stop trying to give me your Apple TV login information.) Sean and Renee have provided these incredible artists and me with a space to theatricalize the dichotomy of who we are onstage versus offstage, at work versus at home, public versus private — and especially the difference between saying what we feel and singing what we feel. This concept of duality as existence has limitations, of course. Even though we have the ability to transform into different versions of ourselves, we physically can only be one version of ourselves at a time.

I mean, we can't be in two places at once. Right?

— Connor McCanlus

# CAST & CREW

Knox: Bradleigh Bell  
Lyco: Noah Kendall  
Cap: Max Petrunya  
Merida: Marisa Postava  
Luna: Jess Uhler  
Vera: Gwen Arbuckle  
Mercury: Harper York  
Vesper: Hannah Brizzi  
Kyrie: Laina Stanek  
Justina: Megha Pai  
Gus: Isaac Miller  
Frank: John Feightner  
Livy: Allie Burns

Ren, an Accompanist: Travis Rigby  
Royce, a Drummer: Braden Ball

Directed by Connor McCanlus  
Assistant Direction by Brooke Echnat  
Written by Sean Collier and Renee Rabenold  
Story by Sean Collier  
Stage Management by Sun Marshall  
Assistant Stage Management by Sarah Dugan  
Musical Direction by Travis Rigby  
Production Management by Renee Rabenold  
House Management by Sean Collier  
Production Direction by Marisa Postava  
Production by Anna Failla

Costume and Make-Up Design by Allie Lampman-Sims  
Set Design by Heather Heitzenrater  
Lighting Design by Remy Porter  
Sound Design by Janus Young  
Production Assistance by Beacon on the Hill  
Poster and Artwork by Edaphon Suzy  
Social Media Content by Sarah Dugan

Vigilance Theater Group Co-Founded by Dana Custer and Ariella Furman

# THE CAST



**Gwen Arbuckle** (Vera) is pleased to be making her Vigilance debut. For all intents and purposes, this production marks her first appearance in the Pittsburgh theater scene after spending the past year training with Ensemble Actors Studio and Nancy Mosser Casting. A stand-up comedy dabbler and aspiring playwright as well as an actor, you might see her doing ... well, any number of things in a myriad of settings. She hopes to spend the rest of her summer in rehearsals for yet-to-be-cast productions for the Bridges and Stages play festival, Ensemble's Pittsburgh Play Festival and the Pittsburgh New Works Festival. If those particular options do not materialize, she'll continue going to punk shows with her fantabulous pseudo-spouse, taking acting classes with the marvelous Jaime Slavinsky at Ensemble Actors Studio, and following orders laid down by her two dogs, Maverick and Minnie Pearl. Gwen is represented by Docherty Agency, Pittsburgh, for film and television projects.



**Bradleigh Bell** (Knox) is an actor and musician from Philadelphia. She graduated from Point Park University in 2024 with a BFA in Theatre Arts. While in college she performed in "Rocky Horror Picture Show" as Eddie and debuted her original play, "Lockdown," which she also directed. For Vigilance, she portrayed Leah in "Hide" and has appeared in "4.48 Psychosis," "Campfire Stories" and "The Crucible." She can also be seen in "The Deliverance" on Netflix, directed by Lee Daniels.



**Hannah Brizzi** (Vesper) is excited to be acting in her first production with Vigilance Theater Group. She has appeared in numerous productions in the Pittsburgh area over the last 18 years, including shows with the Pittsburgh New Works Festival, Poor Yorick's Players, Throughline Theatre Company, Riverfront Theater Company, Prime Stage Theatre and more. Directing credits include "The Bowl" (Riverfront Theater Company/Pittsburgh New Works Festival) and "[title of show]" (Asst. Director, Riverfront Theater Company). She currently serves as a board member for Riverfront Theater Company. Thank you to the incredible cast and crew, Connor McCanlus, and Vigilance Theater Group. Thank you, Nate, for your love and support.

# THE CAST



**Allie Burns** (Livy) is thrilled to perform in her first show with Vigilance! Recent credits: Lily St Regis, “Annie” (Pittsburgh Musical Theater); Anne Washington/French Soldier, “Young Washington” (Pittsburgh CLO); Dromio E./Dromio S., “A Comedy of Errors” (Steel City Shakespeare Center); Maureen, “Rent” (Iron Horse Theater Company). Winner! University of Michigan Thesis Award for her comedic film, “Marys Anonymous,” where she played six bickering Marys from the Bible. Recent training: Prague Shakespeare Company, The Barrow Group (Lisa Wolpe, Stephen Singer).



**John Feightner** (Frank) is back for his third Vigilance Theater project, having been seen before in their productions of “Hollow Moon” and “Hide.” Other immersive theater ventures have included “Serpentine” with Uncumber Theatrics and “Ojo” for Bricolage Theater Company. When improvising in a sillier capacity, John is seen monthly at Arcade Comedy Theater as a member of The Knights of the Arcade: A D&D Comedy Adventure. Recent theater credits have included “Twelfth Night” (Pittsburgh Public Theater), “Repulsing the Monkey,” “The Play That Goes Wrong” (Riverfront Theater), “Arsenic and Old Lace” (Prime Stage), and “Love and Information” (Quantum Theatre). He would like to use this space to remark he’s never loved a director more than he has on this production.



**Noah Kendall** (Lyco) is excited to perform their first show at Vigilance Theater Group! When not performing, Noah works as a Pre-K teacher at The Goddard School. Recent credits include the City Theatre Young Playwrights Festival, “A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder” (D’Ysquith Family), and “[title of show]” (Jeff). Other local credits include performances with Riverfront Theater Company, South Park Theatre, The Theatre Factory, Main Street Theatre Company and Little Lake Theatre. Noah thanks the cast and crew of this production for an incredible experience! @noahkendall

# THE CAST



**Isaac Miller** (Gus) Recent credits include “Young Washington” (PCLO), “ENRON” (Quantum) “Campfire Stories 2” (Vigilance) and “Titanic the Musical” (LPPAC), as well as staged reading series with City Theatre and PICT. He was awarded Best Supporting Actor in last year’s Pittsburgh 48-Hour Film Festival. Isaac is also involved in the local indie film community, namely with Ben Carlucci’s Bit Sized Productions. CMU School of Drama MT. Instagram: @isaacmiller412.



**Megha Pai** (Justina) is excited to make her Vigilance debut in “Closing Time at the Moonside Cafe”! She performs improv (on teams Horse Divorce and Butter Hamlet), sketch comedy and stand-up at Arcade Comedy Theater by night while working as a communications strategist by day. She’s also performed her original poetry at the Millvale Music Festival. Megha would like to thank her dad for her sense of humor, and her mom for her love of mystery.



**Max Petrunya** (Cap) is thrilled to be a part of his first live theatre production for “Closing Time at the Moonside Cafe.” Born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA, Max spent the last decade performing as the independent professional wrestler “The Gavel” David Lawless, Esq., for Enjoy Wrestling, 880 Wrestling, Ryse Wrestling and many other promotions throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. Max is a licensed attorney in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Max owns and operates Max Petrunya, P.C., a full service law firm, out of his home in Shadyside.

# THE CAST



**Marisa Postava** (Merida) is thrilled to be working with Vigilance Theater once again! Although she holds a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Pittsburgh, she can be found performing in shows around Pittsburgh. Favorite roles include: Vigilance Theater's "Hide" (Ann Chambers) and "4.48 Psychosis," Elsewhere's "Crave" (B), Stage 62's "Urinetown" (Billie Boy Bill/ Fight Captain), Poor Yorick's Players "Twelfth Night" (Olivia), Pittsburgh Classic Player's "Romeo and Juliet" (Tybalt/Peter/Balthazaar), and Throughline Theatre's "Uncle Vanya" (Sonya). She also serves as Director of Production for Vigilance.



**Laina Stanek** (Kyrie) is thrilled to be making her Vigilance debut in "Closing Time at the Moonside Cafe." They graduated from Point Park University with a BA in Theater Performance and Practices. Some previous credits include Cora in a reading of Kira Rockwell's "Wicked Bitter Beasts" (CMU), Mrs. Lily Mortar in "The Children's Hour" (Point Park University), and Titania in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (Point Park University). They would like to thank their family and Mac for their love and support! Find her @mintsucre on instagram!



**Jess Uhler** (Luna) is incredibly thankful to be working with Vigilance Theater Group for the first time. Recently, she was seen on stage in Jeremy Seghers production of "The Trial" by Franz Kafka, "The Bay Of Fundy" by David Adam Gill for the Pittsburgh New Works Festival, "The Missing" by John Mabey for The Becoming Arts Collective's Bridges and Stages Festival, "Mr. Edgar A. Poe Presents: Tales of Mystery, Horror, and Imagination" with Prime Stage Theatre and Food For Groundling's production of "The Tragedy Of Richard II." Jess is also a local actor in the independent film scene, working on features such as "Godless Children," "Massacre Academy," and "The Boonies." She would like to thank her family, her partner Brent and her friends for their endless encouragement; the Vigilance Theater Group team; and the audience, for attending and supporting theatre.

# THE CAST



**Harper York** (Mercury) is excited to be back with Vigilance, this time as an actor! Harper directed the immersive “4.48 Psychosis” for Vigilance in 2024. Based in Pittsburgh, PA, Harper is a theatrical polymath, excelling in acting, directing, costuming and pretty much every aspect of the theatrical arts. Harper is a frequent collaborator with Salt and Sage Theatre in Portland, OR, as well as FUSE Theatre Ensemble, also in Portland, where she just directed the world premiere of “Riot Queens” by Mikki Gillette. Highlights of a career spanning nearly thirty years include: Directing: Sarah Kane’s “4.48 Psychosis,” Shakespeare’s “Macbeth” and “Romeo and Juliet.” Acting: Catherine in “Proof,” Marc Antony in all-female productions of “Julius Caesar” and “Antony and Cleopatra,” and Hamlet in “Hamlet.” Thanks to all that support this art and show up for storytellers! Enjoy the show!



# THE CREW



**Braden Ball** (Royce) is a drummer and percussionist living and working in Pittsburgh. He has worked with such diverse artists as Dayshift, Riften Rain, Calico Dogs, Rachel Whitcomb, James The Seventh and Ben Nicholson, as well as accompanying musicals such as “Spring Awakening” and “The Little Mermaid.” Braden is honored to be working with Vigilance Theater Group for his first time, and is so excited to be collaborating with so many skilled and talented individuals.



**Sean Collier** (Co-Writer/House Manager) is the Creative Director and co-founder of Vigilance. Since beginning his collaboration with Renee Rabenold in 2018, he has written or co-written the scripts for five original productions, two installments of the “Campfire Stories” review and one radio drama — none of which would’ve happened without the support, guidance and brilliant ideas of Renee, who is frequently tasked with turning his vague notions and unexplained plot threads into something an audience might, theoretically, understand. He is also the editor-in-chief of Shady Ave Magazine, a film critic with the WDVE Morning Show, a regular guest on KDKA-TV’s “Pittsburgh Today Live,” the co-host (with Allie Lampman-Sims) of the Steel City Horror Show and the ring announcer for Enjoy Wrestling. He’d like to thank his wife, Mary Beth, and his dog, Peanut, who are both frequently wondering where he is — and yet provide unwavering love and care.



**Sarah Dugan** (Assistant Stage Manager) is ecstatic to be working on their fourth show with Vigilance, the previous three being “Hide,” “Mac Beth,” and “Campfire Stories.” Past credits include “Head Over Heels” (Asst. Stage Manager), “As You Like It” (Co-Dramaturg) and “The Inseparables” (Emerson) with Pitt Stages; “Cincinnati” (Susan), and “Suppressed Desires” (Mabel) with Performance Collaborative; and “The Wedding Singer” (Rosie) with Pitt’s Musical Theatre Club. Sarah would like to thank Vigilance for being so amazing; her friends and family for their unending love and support; and, of course, Sun for being such an amazing stage manager and role model.

# THE CREW



**Brooke Echnat** (Assistant Director) a director and theater educator based in Pittsburgh, PA. She is a Resident Director for Vigilance Theater, having directed “Hide” and “Campfire Stories.” She is thrilled to be the Assistant Director for “Closing Time at the Moonside Cafe.” She most recently returned to her alma mater, Bucknell University, to guest direct “Walden” by Amy Berryman. She is also a recent alum of the Eugene O’Neill Theater Center’s National Theater Institute Directing Program. Other Affiliations: London Dramatic Academy, City Theatre, Pittsburgh CLO, Walt Disney Entertainment, True Acting Institute, Michael Chekhov Association, and Ensemble Actors Studio. [www.brooke-echnat.com](http://www.brooke-echnat.com) IG: @echnat\_brooke



**Heather Heitzenrater** (Set Designer) is a local artist. Along with her own studio practice, she has painted and/or designed sets for haunted houses, escape rooms, amusement park attractions and theaters around Pittsburgh. She also teaches figure drawing and painting workshops.



**Allie Lampman-Sims** (Costume Designer) began her theater career as an immersive haunt actor. She joined Vigilance Theater Group in 2022 for “Blood Moon.” She quickly became one of the company’s production associates, its scream coach and its hair and makeup consultant. Allie homesteads in Zelienople, raising ducks and chickens with her husband, JP. She has her own pet sitting and cleaning business, Allie’s Pet Care Services. Allie has her Associates in Culinary Arts, but prefers to cook at home or for those close to her.

# THE CREW



**Sun Marshall** (Stage Manager) is thrilled to continue their work with Vigilance Theater Group! Sun started at Vigilance in 2024 with “Hide” and continued their run as Resident Stage Manager on “4.48 Psychosis” and “Mac Beth.” Other stage management credits include “Witch” and “Orphans” (EMPC, Director Ingrid Sonnichsen), “Shakespeare’s Will” and “Chimerica” (Quantum Theatre Co.), “Changing Channels” (Fulton Theater), “NOT MEDEA” (off the WALL), “Smart People” and “Pipeline” (Disrupt Theater Co.), “Mamma Mia!” (Stage 62), and “Henry V” and “Comedy of Errors” (PSiP). Beyond their life in theater, they can be found crafting, walking dogs or talking about their cats. Sun would like to thank Vigilance, for believing in weird art; their partner Beth, for believing in Sun; and their ASM Sarah, without whom the show would fall to pieces.



**Connor McCanlus** (Director) is a Pittsburgh-based theatre artist working with Vigilance Theater for the first time! McCanlus has directed plays and musicals for Front Porch Theatricals (“A New Brain”), Stage 62 (“I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change”), Uncumber Theatrics (“Wee Beasties”), Through-line Theatre Company (“The Inspector General”), Arcade Comedy Theater (“The Sketch Lab Report: Volume 1”), Suspension Theatrical Arts (Director in Residence for Full Day Suspension Festival) and No Name Players (“The Sisters Sorella”). He has developed and produced several independent productions including two official selections for the New York Musical Improv Festival (“Yo Gloria!” and “Hashtag the Musical”) and a Pittsburgh City Paper Readers’ Poll Nominee for Best Local Stage Production (“What Ever Happened to babyGRAND?”). McCanlus is an improv and sketch comedian whose work has been featured in national comedy festivals from Chicago (iO, Second City) to NYC (UCB, Magnet, PIT). He is currently the Resident Director of Sketch Comedy Lab at Arcade Comedy Theater, where he also serves as the Arcade Academy Director.



**Remy Porter** (Lighting Designer) creates lighting environments for architectural spaces, theater and film. He’s designed for “Secret Hour” (Ensemble Actor’s Theater) and The All Things Pittsburgh Play Festival (Ensemble Actor’s Theater), and contributed lighting designs to spaces like Redwood City, Google’s Tokyo Partnerplex, and the Allegheny Cancer Center. This is his first Vigilance production.

# THE CREW



**Renee Rabenold** (Co-Writer/Production Manager) is the Artistic Director and co-founder of Vigilance Theater Group. She has collaborated with Sean on maintaining the vision for Vigilance, brainstorming immersive show concepts, creating improvisational scene structures and assisting with script writing since Vigilance's first project, "Hollow Moon," in 2018. She has been honored to watch Sean bring those ideas to life as he crafts the words and the world of each show. For "Closing Time at the Moonside Cafe," they edited, revised and invented together. Once the creation process was complete, Renee started wearing the hat of Production Manager. She is very grateful for the talent and professionalism of this design team. The ambition and the solid team behind this project is a testament to Vigilance's growth. Renee is grateful that visionary artists choose to work with Vigilance Theater Group to bring audiences unique and impactful experiences.



**Travis Rigby** (Music Director/Ren) is a Pittsburgh based music director, conductor, keyboardist, orchestrator/arranger, and educator. Their recent MD credits include "[title of show]," "Sound of Music," "Into the Woods," and "Little Shop of Horrors." Travis is excited to be working on their first show with Vigilance, especially since it is an original work and a premiere. Plays with music are always fun for Travis to be a part of, but this immersive work is truly something special. Enjoy your visit to the Moonside Cafe!



**Janus Young** (Sound Designer) is excited to be returning to Vigilance for "Closing Time at the Moonside Cafe." They previously designed the sound for Blood Moon with Vigilance and have had the joy of working as a director, designer, dramaturg, playwright and administrator throughout the Pittsburgh region and as far as New York, Nicaragua and Iceland. Previously Janus has worked with Bricolage Production Company, New Hazlett Theater, Off The Wall Productions, Black Brick Productions, and many others. When not recording sounds to play loudly in the direction of other people or playing make-believe on stage, Jan can be found gardening, petting animals, or playing DnD (make-believe at home).

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Vigilance would like to acknowledge that our performances take place on the ancestral lands of Indigenous peoples native to the Pittsburgh area, including the Seneca Nation, the Haudenosaunee (or Iroquois) Confederacy and others. None of these groups ceded their lands to the United States, and much of the land important to the Pittsburgh area's development was taken by the U.S. government as late as the mid-20th century. We hope to remain mindful that we are only standing here today because the land, and in many cases the lives, of native populations were taken.

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**Curiosity Beverage Company**

Thanks to Curiosity Beverage Company, based in West Deer,  
for providing the custom (non-alcoholic) cocktails for the  
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### **Next From Vigilance:**

#### **“Campfire Stories 3”**

Directed by Tal Kroser

September 2026