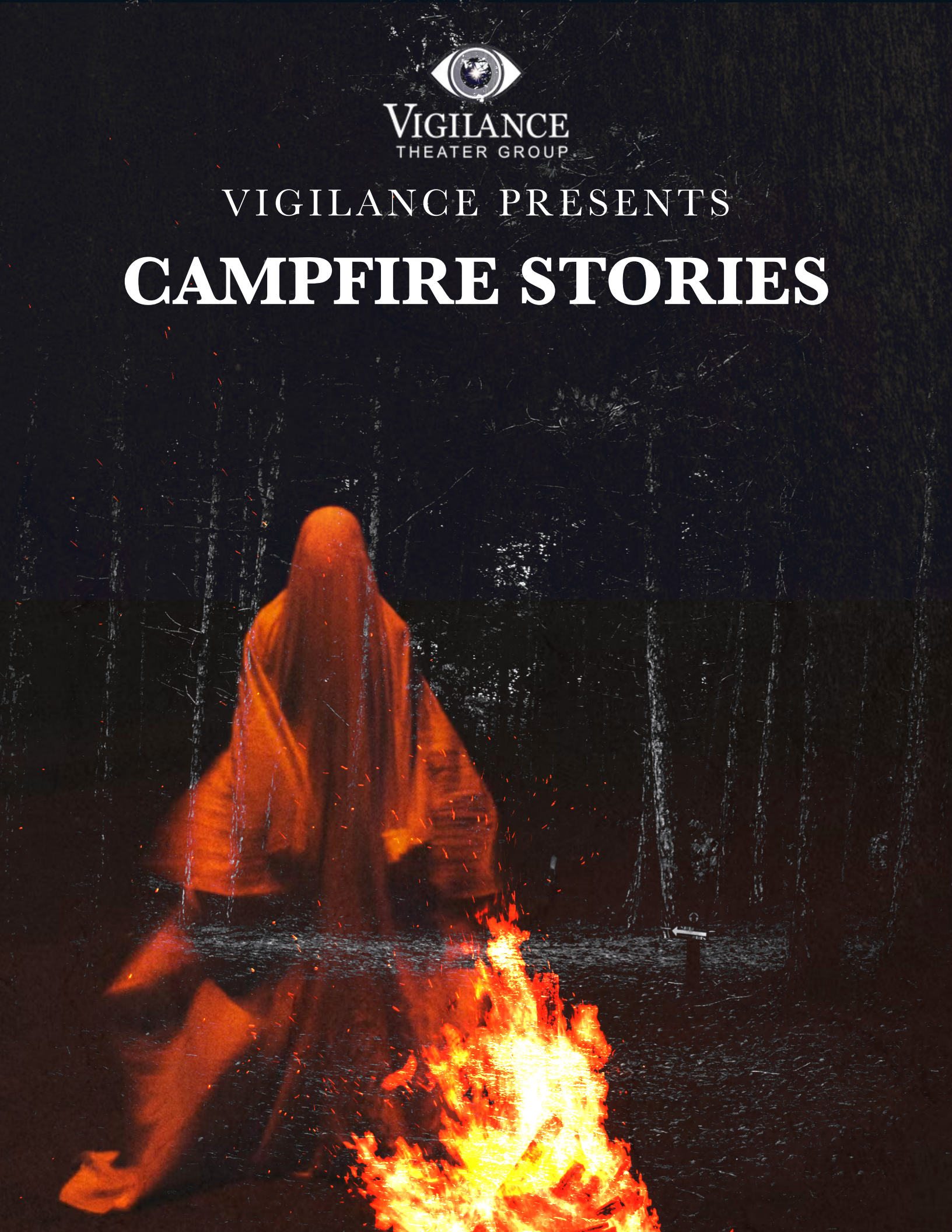
VIGILANCE
THEATER GROUP

VIGILANCE PRESENTS

CAMPFIRE STORIES



CAMPFIRE STORIES

Directed by Tal Kroser

Created by Vigilance Theater Group

Written by Sean Collier

CAST & CREW

CAST

Carly Chotiner
Sydney DuBose
Elizabeth Glyptis
Katy Grant-Blair
Allie Lampman-Sims
Ashley Lucas
Michael Roth
Lani Skellington
Jess Uhler
Lelaina Vogel

CREW

Directed by Tal Kroser
Script by Sean Collier
Original Story “The Great American Earworm” by Mal MacKenzie
Lelaina’s Story Adapted from “Frritt-Flacc” by Jules Verne
Concept and Production Management by Renee Rabenold
Development and Production by Brooke Echnat
Stage Management by Lisa Moucheron
Lighting Design by Remy Porter
Costume and Creature Design by Allie Lampman-Sims
House Management by Sean Collier
Production Direction by Marisa Postava
Production by Anna Failla
Additional Consultation by Sun Marshall
Jimothy Poster by Lani Skellington
Poster, Program and Artwork by Laina Stanek
Social Media Management by Rebecca Knowles
Vigilance Theater Group Co-Founded by Dana Custer and Ariella Furman

THE CAST



Carly Chotiner (**she/they**) is so excited to gather round the campfire with Vigilance for the very first time! All of her years as a camp counselor are coming in handy! After returning home to Pittsburgh two years ago, she has stayed busy acting and directing around the city. Some of her favorite recent credits include: Lydia in Kate Hamill's Pride and Prejudice with The Heritage Players; both Loudspeaker and Parsons (understudy) in Playbox Production's 1984; Sorel Bliss in Community Theatre Players' Hay Fever; Irene Rudolph in Radium Girls with The Heritage Players; and Marian Halcombe in the Pittsburgh Savoyard's Woman in White, a role for which Carly was recently awarded Broadway World Pittsburgh's "Best Performer in a Play" (2025). Carly has also spent the last two years directing and assistant directing Allderdice High School's fall play and spring musical, respectively.



Sydney DuBose (**she/her**) is a performer who believes in the comedy "Rule of Threes", so she is thrilled to be back for her third Campfire Stories with Vigilance Theater Group! When she isn't leading camp crafts or connecting with otherworldly beings, she can be found improvising with her teams the Well Known Strangers, Stinky Börgör, and Barbara, A Mother. This summer she performed at Del Close Marathon (NYC), the Fun & Dumb Improv Festival (NYC), iO Fest 2026 (Chicago), and the Yo Adrienne! Improv Festival (Philadelphia). You can follow along with her artsy antics on Instagram at @sydneydcomedy. Like the Squonk, she is a sensitive soul and would like to thank her family, friends, and orange cat, Oliver, for their love and support — without them, she fears she would literally burst into tears.



Elizabeth Glyptis (**she/her**) is delighted to be returning to Campfire Stories for a third year! She enjoys performing with theater companies all over the Pittsburgh area, including Little Lake Theatre, South Park Theatre, PICT and The Theatre Factory. Some of her favorite roles include Joanne Galloway (A Few Good Men), Irene Adler (Ms. Holmes and Ms. Watson - Apt 2B), Baroness Elsa Schraeder (The Sound of Music) and Charlotte Corday (The Revolutionists). She would like to thank her family and friends for their endless support, and especially her fiancé Tom for always asking, "Why not?"

THE CAST



Katy Grant-Blair (**she/her**) is ready to get spooky with Vigilance again after appearing as Susanna Walcott in The Crucible and as your handy dandy s'mores maker at last year's Campfire Stories. Some other favorite roles include Helen Hubbard in Murder on the Orient Express, Amalia Balash in Parfumerie, Dragon in Shrek The Musical, Amy March in Little Women The Musical and Margot in Legally Blonde. She has also been fortunate enough to work in entertainment at Walt Disney World and perform at The Edinburgh Festival Fringe with Frantic Redhead Productions. While not on stage, Katy is a travel agent, teacher and mom to 3 adorable dictator kitties. She would like to thank her husband, Alex, for constantly acting as a calming presence in her chaotic life.



Allie Lampman-Sims (**she/her**) 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. She also recently starred in Eros for Eidetic Project. 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.

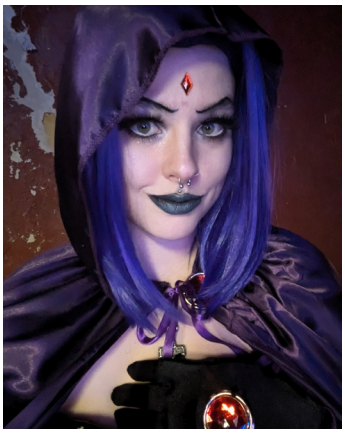


Ashley Lucas is a flow arts and fire performer from Butler County. She has carried a love for dance and expressive arts throughout her life, participating in ballet, jazz, tap, acro, colorguard and winterguard. Learning to hula hoop in 2009 grew into a passion for fire hooping in 2012 and has since evolved into various forms of fire dancing. Her practice has allowed her to share her art with others in many ways, but her favorite shows are at music festivals, community festivals, haunted houses, parades and private events. Sharing and teaching others how to safely play with or without fire remains the most cherished aspect of performing.

THE CAST



Michael Roth (**he/him**) is a professional musician and improviser who performs and accompanies with the Pittsburgh-based musical improv comedy group String and the Beans, winners of Pittsburgh City Paper's 2025 Best Comedian and Pittsburgh Magazine's 2026 Best Improv/Sketch Comedy Team awards. A lifelong guitarist, Michael began performing professionally in 2024. Outside of theater, he is a children's picture book author with multiple books in publication.



Lani Skellington (**they/them**) is a multidisciplinary artist and performer who has been serving as Vigilance Theater Group's fire tender and fire safety, among other things, since the first Campfire Stories. They are thrilled to be bringing warm, cozy vibes for the third year running.



Jess Uhler (**she/her**) is overjoyed to be returning to the Vigilance/Moonside Universe! Recently, she was seen on stage in South Park Theatre's Boeing, Boeing, Vigilance Theater Group's original production of Closing Time At The Moonside Cafe, Food For Groundling's The Tragedy Of Richard II, Mr. Edgar A. Poe Presents: Tales of Mystery, Horror, and Imagination with Prime Stage Theatre, The Missing by John Mabey for The Becoming Arts Collective's "Bridges and Stages" Festival and The Bay Of Fundy by David Adam Gill for the Pittsburgh New Works Festival. Jess is also a local actor in the independent film scene, in features such as Godless Children, The Boonies, Massacre Academy and The Gymnast. She would like to thank her family, her partner Brent, and her friends for their endless encouragement; the Vigilance Crew for inviting this little shadow back; and to the audience for supporting the arts.

THE CAST



Lelaina Vogel (**she/her**) is here to play her one true type: overly serious camp counselor. She is a Shakespeare dork, improviser and theater director who runs the tiny fringe collective The Underlings Theatre Co. Previous directing credits include Ada, Soon, What Rough Beast, The Tour, Romeo & Juliet and Hamlet. She earned a secondary concentration in Dramatic Arts from Harvard University, where she performed roles including Cassius in Julius Caesar and Mina in Dracula. Today, you'll find her performing narrative improv as part of Femme Ferale and musical improv as part of award-winning team String and the Beans.

THE CREW



Tal Kroser (**he/they**) appeared in the first two productions of Campfire Stories, and is honored to come back to work with Vigilance as a director! Tal has been a part of the Pittsburgh Theater community for most of his life. He is a proud alumnus of Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12 and went on to earn his B.F.A. in Acting from Point Park University. He has worked with many companies around the city, most recently directing Dial M for Murder at Little Lake Theater. If you want to catch Tal on stage, you can frequently find him at Arcade Comedy Theater where he performs improv comedy with his teams: Penny Arcade, Kevin's Garage, and Fool Moon!

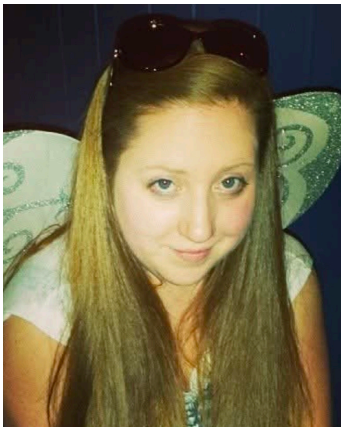


Sean Collier (**he/him**) is the Creative Director and co-founder of Vigilance. Since beginning his collaboration with Renee Rabenold in 2018, he has written or co-written the scripts for five original productions, three installments of Campfire Stories and one radio drama. He is also the editor-in-chief 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.



Renee Rabenold (**she/her**) oversees Vigilance productions in many capacities and is happy to do so once again for this 3rd installment of Campfire Stories. Renee is thrilled to manage a fantastic production team and a talented cast. Renee is grateful for all the folks who add value to Vigilance and foster its growth. Renee also works with Arcade Comedy Theater as a performer and instructor, Beacon on the Hill Productions as a performer and assistant director and Point Park University as an adjunct teacher for acting and improv.

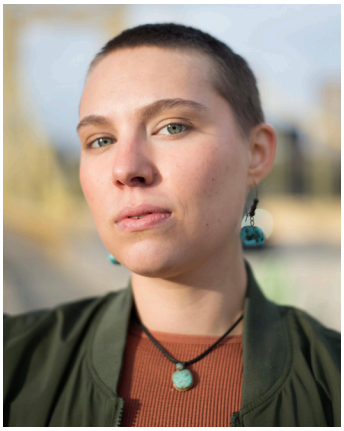
THE CREW



Lisa Moucheron (**she/her**) is thrilled to be joining Vigilance for this iteration of Campfire Stories! Self-described as an indoor kid who can normally be found backstage at Arcade Comedy Theater stage managing Sketch Lab Report, she's excited to branch out and walk cryptids in nature.



Remy Porter (**he/him**) 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. Most recently, he ensured the Moonside Cafe was properly mystical.



Mal MacKenzie (**they/them**) is an actor and emerging playwright based in Pittsburgh and thrilled to return to Vigilance as both. Recent acting credits include The Beautiful Future is Coming (Ana, Team WITCH) and 69/70 (Sharon, Manalo Productions). Mal's play, Roadkill Bambi, won "Best New Queer Writing" from Binge Fringe Magazine at the 2025 Edinburgh Fringe and is a finalist for the Carlo Anonni International Playwriting Prize. They are a current resident artist at Kelly Strayhorn Theatre, where an excerpt from their new play AURA will be performed in early October. malmackenzie.com

A Word on Area Cryptids

Shadow People are tall, usually humanoid beings who resemble detached (and sometimes amorphous) shadows. Reported in legend and folklore for centuries, Shadow People are often said to lurk around areas of human habitation, often vanishing when spotted. While some can be angry or malevolent, most are merely curious. Some reports claim that Shadow People possess glowing red eyes; others claim that light seems to bend around them.

Not-Deer are cryptids reported throughout Appalachia. They are similar enough to "regular" deer that they can be mistaken for their common cousins from a distance; further inspection reveals "errors" of anatomy, such as extra joints in long, spindly limbs or overly sharp and pronounced teeth. Not-Deer are aggressive and potentially dangerous, defending their territory — often remote hollows in wooded areas — violently.

The **Wampus Cat** — or the catawumpus, cata wumpus, wumpus, gallywampus or whistling wampus, depending on your location — is a monstrous feline, often depicted with four legs and two additional arm-like forelegs. While different folkloric traditions ascribe different characteristics, the creature is almost always seen as nocturnal and threatening. Several high schools in the plains use the wampus cat as their mascot.

The **Great American Earworm** … look, it's gross. Let Katy tell you about it.

Mothman is a creature seen in and around Point Pleasant, West Virginia, beginning in 1969, but sometimes believed to be responsible for sightings of other flying creatures since time immemorial. Frequently depicted with fiery eyes, large black wings and a combination of human and avian features, Mothman is occasionally described as benevolent or even protective of humanity. A large and deeply surprising statue in his honor can be found in Point Pleasant.

Squonk are small, rodent-like creatures found in Pennsylvania logging camps. Eternally uncomfortable and unhappy as a result of itchy, ill-fitting skin, squonk cry during all waking hours and desperately try to hide from all other creatures they encounter. If cornered, squonk will occasionally dissolve into a puddle of tears, immediately blinking out of existence as a result of profound shame.

Moonside Spirits have always been here. Time Dawn way out when. Midnight need-ed Mourning to so Earth — Salem? Wolf murders, but this heath but now (not). Night busy. (Void?) Moon was full. Not then. Also then. Oh no, Luna, no. I don't think there was ever a bar here at all. Wait, it's back. Luna, no.

Note: All cryptids and other spirits are folklore and legend, and should not be taken as literal reality (but what is reality, anyway). It would be irresponsible for us to assert that any of these creatures or beings are real and may be here tonight, so we won't do that. Really. We won't.

OUR BOLD AND GENEROUS DONORS

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... and Many Anonymous Donors

Support Vigilance with Your Donation at vigilancetheater.com

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.

Special Thanks

Arcade Comedy Theater

Kim Daniher

Sarah Dugan

Steve Gottschalk

Mary Beth Kulin

Lucky Sign Spirits

PearlArts Movement and Sound

Pittsburgh Mennonite Church

Sun Marshall

Phoebe Sharp

Rob Sharrar

Justin Shifflett and Dark Zealot Studios

Laina Stanek

David Franklin and Shane D. Valenzi

Harper York

Janus Young

Next From Vigilance:

A Return Engagement of

Closing Time at the Moonside Cafe

Directed by Connor McCanlus

January 2027