

The PIGEON



written by
Riley (RJ) Payne



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Turlington & Company in association with The Tank
presents

The **PIGEON**

written by Riley(RJ) Payne

Sunday, November 16, 2025 @ 9:30pm
The Tank, NYC

CAST

Con.....GRACE PETRILLO
Nina.....JAZMYN D. BOONE*
Byron Trigorin.....KP SGARRO
Irina Arkadina.....SHANNON STOWE*
Masha.....SAM TURLINGTON*
Dev.....MAX RAYMOND
Dr. Dorn.....REGINA RENÉE RUSSELL*
Stage Directions.....JETT ROBERTS

* denotes a member of Actors Equity Association

CREW

Stage Manager
AUBREY MANN

Writer/Director/Producer
RILEY (RJ) PAYNE

Lighting Design
BEN DEMAREST

The Pigeon runs 75 minutes with no intermission

ABOUT THE PLAY

A disastrous rehearsal becomes the catalyst for Constantine's spiral into introspection and doubt. As a result Constantine is forced to reevaluate all aspects of their life, including their passion for writing and relationship with Nina. Against the backdrop of a prestigious MFA Drama program in New York, The Pigeon, thrusts a group of aspiring artists to explore the multifaceted and complex relationships artists forge with themselves and their art. This contemporary adaptation of Chekhov's The Seagull, challenges these all too familiar characters to collide with the modern day struggles of being a working artist through various stages of life

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PLAYWRIGHTS' NOTE

I fell madly in love with The Seagull as a young actor, who wanted nothing more than to be considered an artist. That's how this all started. This absolute love affair for The Seagull, a piece filled with pages of artists talking about art, complaining about art, destroying themselves for art, yearning for art, dying for their art. I spent many years wondering if I can be trans and be an artist.

The Pigeon is a love letter to all queer theatre kids who didn't quite fit in the box they'd been forced into artistically. You're trans because you're trans. And you're an artist because you make art.

Thank you for supporting artists. Thank you for supporting trans artists.

-Riley (RJ) Payne

FACES AND NAMES



Grace
Petrillo



Jazmyn D.
Boone*



KP
Sgarro



Shannon
Stowe*



Sam
Turlington*



Max
Raymond



Regina Renée
Russell*



Jett
Roberts

BIOGRAPHIES

GRACE PETRILLO (*Con*) [he/they/she] is a queer actor, singer, mover, puppeteer, drag king, jester, dog enthusiast, magician-in-training, icon, (etc. etc.) based in Brooklyn. Some recent theatre credits include *Much Ado About Nothing* (Borachio), *Good Samaritans at The Tank*, and *That Chicken Play* with The REV Theatre Co. He is so happy to be working with these lovely people again and hopes you enjoy the show! @grak_o

JAZMYN D. BOONE* (*Nina*) is a Bulcity born, NYC based actor and creative. Recent NYC theatre credits: *She's Got Harlem On Her Mind*, egg; or anythin' dipped in egg gone soften, and *Ophelia: A Prism*. Spelman Alumna. The New School for Drama MFA. Managed by LiteHouse Management. Always grateful for my village.

KP SGARRO (*Byron Trigorin*) [they/them] is a trans nonbinary actor, musician, and emcee. Select NYC: *Love's Labor's Lost* (Smith Street); *Coriolanus* (Nocturne); *Romeo & Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Othello*, *As You Like It*, *Macbeth* (Match: Lit); *Slaughter City* (Small Boat); *Little Egg*, *Big World*, *The Catamite* (BBTF); *haircut play* :€, *Circus Trick* (ExpoFest); *Storm Still*, *This Is Not...*, *Romeo & Juliet* (No Exit); *Holy Ghost People*, *Dangerous Games* (The Brick); *Under Woodside* (Original Cast); *Mirrors* (NYC Premiere Cast). KP is also a recurring actor in *Barefoot Shakespeare's UNREHEARSED* and *SERIALS* at The Tank. Select Music: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Queens College); *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, *Othello* (Match: Lit); *Blood on These Hands*, *Scar Tissue* (The Tank/SheNYC). As an emcee, KP has hosted trivia nights and more all over NYC, including GR42 and QED. "The best time to do it was yesterday;

the second best time is now." [09.04.2020] kristinsgarro.com

SHANNON STOWE* (*Irina Arkadina*) has an MFA in Acting and is an Associate Professor at the New School teaching acting, collaboration, devised theatre and restorative practices for performing artists. Recent projects include Boomerang Theatre's *RICHARD II* (Duchesses of Gloucester and York), *HOW I MEANT IT*, by Arisaël Rivera (Director) and choreography for *Word to the People's AS YOU LIKE IT*. Favorite roles include *Courtesan* (Comedy of Errors, Boomerang Theatre Company), *In the Bleak Midwinter* by Dorothy Lyman (Off Broadway), *Nora* (A Doll's House) *Kit Kat Girl* (Cabaret - twice!), *Medea* (Medea), *Pegeen Mike* (Playboy of the Western World), *Billie Dawn* (Born Yesterday). Television: *Law & Order SVU* (Co-star). Member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA. Shannon is also an accomplished choreographer and teaches dance and movement for actors.

SAM TURLINGTON* (*Masha*) [they/them] is an award-winning actor and multi-hyphenate creative artist. Off Bway: *The Lark*, *Wall to Wall*: Stephen Schwartz, *Honegger's Le Roi David*, *Soldiers & Other-Living Things*. Off-Off Bway: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Incongruence: A {trans}gender looking glass*, *Rockabye Hamlet*, *Oddity*, *Floot*. International: *Twelfth Night** at Shakespeare's Globe, *Are You Alice*, *The Virgin Trial*, *As You Like It*. Sam works frequently in film, tv, and commercials. Recently they won Best Actor at the Berlin Short Awards for their role in *The Rest of Them*; a short slice of queer life film. MFA: The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. IG: @seturl / TT: @prinx_samlet / seturlington.com

BIOGRAPHIES

MAX RAYMOND (*Dev*) [he/him] is a proud trans man and an NYC-based multidisciplinary theatre artist. Recently: PoserCorpse (The Berried Seed); Waco Boy Club (Fire Island); Let's Hear It For the Boys: A Transmasc Cabaret (The Green Room 42); The Trojans (the cell theatre); Why We Celebrate Juneteenth (Black Spectrum Theatre); The Wolves (SoHo Playhouse); The Death Avenue Posse (The High Line); Velvet Rage (The Tank); In Camera (Troy Foundry Theatre); In the Castle of Eternal Sunset (Brick Aux); The Elephant Man (Theatre in the Park); Antigone (Burning Coal); The Member of the Wedding (Star Pocket Theatre). He volunteers with PFLAG NYC and The Sam & Deborah Foundation for Trans Youth's Trans Mentor Project, a free national program that pairs trans youth with trans adults for virtual 1:1 mentorship. FREE PALESTINE. IG: @maxraymond_maxraymond.org

REGINA RENÉE RUSSELL* (*Dr. Dorn*) is a native New York based actress, playwright and director. Born and raised in the Bronx and a graduate of Cornell University (B.A. Theatre Arts) and East 15 Acting School in London (M.F.A Acting), Regina's favorite recent roles onstage and behind the microphone include: Benedick: Much Ado About Nothing, Storm: Marvel Move, Paulina: Winter's Tale, Cassie/Blackout: Blackout and Trainee: Brimstone Valley Mall. Regina also proudly serves as Director of Diversity and Inclusion with Barefoot Shakespeare Company. Upcoming Work: Regina will be finishing her latest edits to her as-of-yet-untitled reimagining of William Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing. For my mom, Shirley Ann Johnson. You taught me everything I'm proud to know. I love you, mom. IG: reggirenee

JETT ROBERTS (*Stage Directions*) is a trans femme gender nonconforming artist born in the Bay Area and currently based in NYC. Recently seen as Margaret in Much Ado About Nothing & Feather in a new play called Light At The End. They really enjoy finding new perspectives on classic stories which is what drew them to The Pigeon. Thank you to the tank for putting on out wonderful show.

RILEY (RJ) PAYNE (*Writer/Director*) [they/them] is a non-binary artist dedicated to collaborative work and youth-centered arts education. They hold an MFA in Acting from The New School of Drama. Riley has performed with companies including New Perspectives Theatre Co., Ensemble Studio Theatre, the nobodies collective, GOLD Comedy, and the Underground Skills Exchange (USE), where they also serve as Operations Coordinator. RJ's plays The Pigeon (kinda adapted from The Seagull) and A Girl's Guide to Smoking were presented during their time as a writer-in-residence with Theatre East. Their work as an actor, writer, director, teacher, and coordinator is to the service of inclusion and centers the voices of gender-nonconforming individuals. They are also committed to empowering young artists through their work as a teaching artist with Treasure Trunk Theatre. IG: rileyjopayne rileyjopayne.com

AUBREY MANN (*Stage Manager*) [she/her] is a NYC-based multi-hyphenated theatre artist. She recently graduated with her Master's in Performing Arts Administration and is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Educational Theatre from NYU. She has worked as a Director, Production Manager,

BIOGRAPHIES

Stage Manager, and Designer for notable names such as Rebecca Gilman, Matthew Gasda, La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club, The Tank, Verbatim Performance Lab at NYU, and more. Her upcoming works include Stage Manager for Chloe Saves Christmas, Production Manager for Elevate Theatre Company and the facilitator for a movement workshop exploring anger. aubreymann.com

BEN DEMAREST (*Lighting Designer*)
[he/him] BA SUNY New Paltz. Ben is a New York based Lighting Designer, Production Manager, Theater Maker, and Educator whose work primarily centers around contemporary dance and performance art. Recent lighting design projects include: John Jasperse "TIDES", Julie Mayo's "Bluefire Sleepwalker", David Appel & John

Morton's "Backchannel" and Stacy Grossfield's Metamorphosis III. His work has been featured at New York Live Arts, Lincoln Center, Baryshnikov Art Center, Roulette, Danspace Project, Center For Performance Research, and venues throughout the country. In 2021 his design for Julie Mayo's "NERVE SHOW" was a NYT Critics Pick. He currently serves as the lighting design professor for Sarah Lawrence's Dance department.

TURLINGTON & COMPANY (*Producer*) is an award winning multidisciplinary production company based in New York City with roots in Glasgow. T&C focuses on bringing like-hearted artists together in pursuit of new and adventurous storytelling.

SPECIAL THANKS

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