



laboratory (/ləˈbɒrətəri/ or /ˈlæbərətəri/; informally, lab. 1: a place providing an opportunity for experimentation, observation, or practice in a field of study.

**Artist-driven. Risk-taking. Boundary-pushing.
New work.**

WSR's LAB Series is dedicated to showcasing new scripts, giving the audience an artist's perspective of the play on-the-page. Our goal is to offer a public forum, bringing audiences & theater artists together to share & discuss a wide range of exciting new work. Admission is FREE! Come for the reading and stay for our discussion afterward...tell us what you think! *The LAB reading of today may become the MainStage production of tomorrow!*

New scripts. New voices. New stories.

In its expanded commitment to the production of diverse and engaging new work, **WSR's LAB Series** presents a forum for more boundary-pushing and edgy programming. LAB's staged readings will feature scripts-in-progress by new and emerging playwrights, as well as exciting plays from established contemporary playwrights. Local artists participate in full-length, script-in-hand staged readings, a uniquely intimate and accessible way to experience the thrill of the page-to-stage process.

The relationship between audience and actors, audience and story has never been closer and we hope these readings will give WSR the exposure to potential new collaborators for our main stage programming! A question and answer session with the director and actors follows each performance. Performances are free, but reservations are encouraged.

LAB Duties and Expectations

REHEARSALS: A minimum of 1 three hour rehearsal block the week prior to each reading, and a 1 hour rehearsal immediately preceding each reading.

We will need to fill the following roles for each of these readings:

Director - Give any blocking/artistic realization of the script, facilitate Q&A session after the reading, determine what if any stage directions will be read during the reading

Readers - Read for assigned role

Stage Manager - Organize rehearsal schedule, call breaks during rehearsal, time reading, send rehearsal reports

Producer - Organize/set up rehearsal and performance space, organize any recordings/photographers for day of read, request and schedule personnel

Artistic Response Team - Develop an artistic response to the script to be put on display the day of the read (costume/set designs/impressions, lighting thoughts, sound thoughts, visual impressions/interpretations)

If you are interesting in helping out in any of these capacities please email lab@wsrep.org and specify what you would like to do and/or which readings you would like to work on.

2016/2017 Season (each reading also requires an actor to read stage directions)

See below for cast breakdown and summary.

Shooting the Sphinx - July 25, 2016

Cast: 2 women/5 middle

Bosons by K. frithjof Peterson - Sept 26, 2016

Cast: 2 men/ 2 or 3 women

Bit o Wit in the Burbs by Phil Denofrio - Jan 30, 2017

Cast:

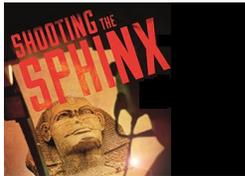
Mechanics of Love by Dikia Guha - March 27, 2017

Cast: 2 men/ 2 women

Bomber's Moon by Deborah Yarchun - May 1, 2017

Cast: 1 man/1woman

LAB 2016/2017 Season Summary and Character Breakdown



Shooting the Sphinx

by Avram Noble Ludwig
July 25 | 2016 | @ 7p

An international thriller.

In Hollywood, Ari Zucker is the stuff of legends, the man who always gets the impossible-to-film shots. In Cairo, however, he faces the most difficult and dangerous challenge of his career. Caught in a web of intrigue and corruption, he must work with a military dictatorship to get the shot he needs for his film.



Avram has produced over a dozen films including the “indie” sensation, SWINGERS, with John Favreau. Avram has shot four projects in the Middle East. In 2006, while working on the action movie JUMPER Avram shot a helicopter shot of the Sphinx. And in 2009, for the movie FAIR GAME, Avram returned to Egypt to film in multiple locations, then filming as well in Jordan then Baghdad while wearing a bullet-proof vest to get authentic shots for the film’s Iraq locations. Avram’s experiences on those two films are basis for the story of SHOOTING THE SPHINX, his debut novel and its adaptation into a play.



Bosons

by K. Frithjof Peterson
Sept 26 | 2016 | @ 7p

A comedic journey of cosmic discovery.

When you look up, do you marvel at your place among the stars or feel too small to matter? These are the voyages of Karl and Lucy, two college kids who boldly go on a mission through worlds of subatomic particles and Star Trek to seek out which parts of us can survive against the cosmic backdrops of loss and loneliness.



K. Frithjof Peterson's work has been performed throughout the United States as well as translated and performed in Moscow, Russia. Full length plays include WHERE THE WHANGDOODLE SINGS (Generous Company), BOOKMARKS (Finalist, O'Neill National Playwrights Conference) and BOSONS. His plays have also been finalists for The Kennedy Center's National Ten-Minute Play Award, the Heideman Award, and the Samuel French OOB Festival and developed with The Kennedy Center, WordBRIDGE, Fusion Theatre Company (Albuquerque), The Inkwell (D.C.), Strange Sun Theater (NYC), The Gift Theatre (Chicago) and Fox Valley Rep (IL).

"Bosons" Characters:

KARL: Early twenties. Library Assistant.

LUCY: 19. Physics student.

SANDRA: Anywhere from mid-20s to mid-30s. KARL's mom. A memory.

GENE RODDENBERRY: Ageless. Creator of Star Trek. An amalgamation of Star Trek concepts in LUCY's imagination.

PSYCHIC: May be doubled with SANDRA.



Bit O'Wit in the Burbs

by Phil Denofrio
Jan 30 | 2017 | @ 7p

A farcical romp.

Two English artists make a bet as to which one of them can steal the affections of their fellow ex-patriot from her moneyed French fiancé. Hilarity ensues.



P. C. Denofrio's plays include The Pastry Chef's Daughter, The Pastry Chef's Daughter II: Bake Harder, & A Bit o' Wit 'n th' Burbs. P.C.'s work has had staged readings for various Columbia College in Chicago, Williams Street Repertory, & Hidden Pearl Players. Founding Member: Hidden Pearl Players, TheatreVolt. P.C. Denofrio earned a bachelor's in Poetry with minor in Playwriting from Columbia College Chicago. He is currently Poet in Residence at Raue Center for the Arts.

“Bit O Wit” Character Breakdown

Mr. Mirabel Malbrough: A reformed rake

Mr. Donald Dormant: His friend; a rake and rover

M. Henri Cocauld: A man completely out of his depth

Mistress Country: A woman “transformed”

Miss Playhouse: Her maid



Mechanics of Love

by Dipika Guha

March 27 | 2017 | @ 7p

A fanciful romantic comedy.

In a mythical European city pressed up against a communist state, it is natural that the business of beginning a new world involves forgetting the old one. This heightened and heartbreaking new comedy questions the laws that govern love, the physics of choosing a spouse, and the miracle of what endures.



Dipika Guha’s work has been developed at Playwrights Horizons, Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre, The Atlantic Theatre Company, the Drama League, Cutting Ball Theatre, New Georges, Roundabout Underground, Shotgun Players, Red Bull Theatre, Leviathan Theatre, Naked Angels, The Cherry Lane Theatre, and many others. Dipika received her BA in English Literature from University College London, was a Frank Knox Fellow at Harvard University and received her MFA in Playwriting at the Yale School of Drama under Paula Vogel.

“Mechanic” CHARACTER Breakdown

FRANCESCA Mid-20’s-early 30’s, a ballerina, agile, intensely present and attentive-like a cat

GEORG Early 30’s-mid 40’s, a mechanic, devoted to engineering problems, entirely unused to expressing emotion

GLEN Early 30’s-mid 40’s, a chronic forgetter—or emotionally unavailable?
(both?)

FAIZI Early 30’s-mid 40’s, chronically busy, obsessive compulsive, fashionable



Bomber's Moon

by Deborah Yarchun

May 1 | 2017 | @ 7p

A poignant romantic drama.

After a devastating discovery during the first week of the London Blitz, Katrin, an American socialite, is propelled onto the streets during the blackout. Caught in an air raid, she seeks shelter in the basement of an abandoned music shop. She's followed by Lloyd, a displaced, working class East Ender. Over four charged, complicated nights sheltering together in the music shop, Lloyd and Katrin become enmeshed in each other's lives.



Deborah Yarchun is a New Jersey-born, Air Force-raised and Austin-rooted playwright; her plays are just as geographically discombobulated. Deborah's honors include two Jerome Fellowships at The Playwrights' Center, an EST/Sloan Commission, The Kennedy Center's Jean Kennedy Smith Playwriting Award, a Tennessee Williams Scholarship, University of Iowa's Richard Maibaum Playwriting Award, and the Iowa Arts Fellowship. She is currently the Gerald & Dorit Paul Artist in Residence at Indiana University for Spring 2016. M.F.A., University of Iowa, 2013.

"Bomber's Moon" CHARACTERS

Katrin, 27. American. Until the start of the play, staying at the Savoy near the West End.

Lloyd, 28. English. From Stepney, London. Masks his East End accent, but often slips.

TIME: September 12-15, 1940.

PLACE: The basement of "The Music Shop" in the City of London. Within eyeshot of St. Paul's Cathedral.