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# Learn Love ART



**Before the stage lights dim and the curtains rise...**

Join us for special Mobtown Theater hours at The Potters Guild Gallery and Studio. Browse our selection of beautiful and useful ceramic arts and be sure to pick up a current class schedule. Try pottery, you'll love it! Mention code "WHEEL" to get 10% off your next class purchase.

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Regular gallery shopping hours are Sat-Sun 12-5  
and Wed-Fri 11-4. Enjoy the show!



**The Mobtown Players & Mobtown Playwrights Group Present**



# COME OUT and SAY IT

a new play by  
**Erica Smith**

## From the Director

New play development programs don't always have the best reputations among playwrights. When the writer in me sees words like "workshop," he occasionally wants to fire an email at the offending theater: *Just produce my play!* Which is why the ultimate goal of the Mobtown Playwrights Group is just that: to give playwrights an opportunity to secure honest-to-god productions of their work. At the same time, my hope each season is that the selected writers take full advantage of the opportunities to *develop* their plays—by attending rehearsals; responding to questions from actors, directors, and audience members; and having the simple luxury of hearing what works onstage and what doesn't.

When we chose *Come Out and Say It* for this past season's readings, I was pretty sure the draft Erica submitted was nearly complete—we'd be polishing more than developing. Yet there she was at every rehearsal, listening intently, responding graciously, and each week or so handing me a few more pages to put on their feet. Nearly every one of these pages remains in the play you're about to see—what's more, I cannot imagine life without them.

Somehow Erica took a wonderful play and made it more wonderful ... repeatedly! Here's hoping every time is so rewarding.



**Jack Sossman** (Fight Director) is a recent addition to the area theatre scene, performing with Comedy Sportz DC, the Baltimore Rock Opera Society, The Elden Street Players, and Landless Theatre. Jack has also performed in D.C. and New York as a stand-up and with his improv troupe, Brobot. Recent and upcoming area credits include *President Harding is a Rock Star* (Guitar, Daugherty), *Bent* (Fight Director), *Valhella* (Fenrir, Bjerg, Fight Director), *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* (Milt Fields), *Dark Nightmare Before Christmas* (Patrick Stewart), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Demetrius/Quince), *Rock Bottom* (Roadie), *Fools Call It Fate* (Fight Choreographer), and *Amphion* (Nurses).

### Attention playwrights!

#### The Mobtown Playwrights Group is seeking submissions!

This season, the play development wing of Baltimore's Mobtown Players workshopped three new plays, including Erica Smith's *Come Out and Say It*. For the 2012-2013 season, we will again devote 3 slots (plus a complete production in the summer) to the development of new work by area writers.

Scripts for the first slot, which will run October 5 through 13 (2012), should be submitted by July 31. Scripts for the remaining two slots, which will run February 1 through 9 (2013) and March 29 through April 6 (2013), should be submitted by August 31. If you prefer a particular slot, please include that information with your submission; otherwise, we will consider you for all three.

Further details can be found at <http://www.mobtownplayers.net/mpg-call-for-submissions>.

If you have questions, please contact Brent at [mobtownplaywrights@gmail.com](mailto:mobtownplaywrights@gmail.com). Scripts should be submitted electronically to the same email address.

Stay informed about upcoming shows, auditions, and ticket specials by visiting us at [www.mobtownplayers.com](http://www.mobtownplayers.com) or by finding us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MobtownPlayers](http://www.facebook.com/MobtownPlayers)

**Lizzie Jump** (Special Effects) Departed Artistic Director Ryan Whinnem brewed Lizzie up in a cauldron backstage using paint, scrap lumber, old costumes, and some cold coffee. Since then she's been doing it all for Mobtown. Just don't go backstage after midnight...

**Shannon Light** (Photographer) studied graphic design, photography and art history at Miami University, and is currently a member of the Baltimore Rock Opera Society. She would like to extend her utmost thanks to Brent for his understanding and patience during the production; as well as the Mobtown Players, for their passion and dedication to excellent theater.

**Andrew Macomber** (Lead Set Carpenter) has been swinging a hammer since he could walk. As a carpenter he has used his skills in a variety of construction projects, his favorite being theatrical set building. Andrew's recent credits include set construction of *Darwin in Malibu* (Mobtown); he also designed and built the set of *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* (Mobtown).

**William Quick** (Lighting Designer) Born in Washington, D.C., Bill Quick has been around theatre since before he could walk. Once he learned that, it didn't take long for someone to put him to work. When he began learning how to run a light board at the age of twelve, it was love at first sight. Now, nearly twenty years later, he is a lighting tech, designer, light and sound board operator, and set builder. Most recently, Bill worked on set design for *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, and lighting design for *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*.

**Erica Smith** (Playwright) studied writing at UMBC, where she earned a B.A. in Theater Performance. Her one-act plays have been performed at festivals at the Laurel Mill Playhouse, Greenbelt Arts Center, Spotlights Theater, and the Vagabond Theater. While she's not entirely sure this is a full-length play (yet), this is her first work that's being produced by itself. Switching to first-person: I couldn't begin to thank everyone I need to here in this program --- there's just not enough room --- so I'll narrow it to the barest handful: To Brennan for the idea, to Chris for the inspiration, to Rich for the support, to the cast for being astonishing, and to Brent for everything.

# Come Out and Say It by Erica Smith

## Cast

Brian S. Kraszewski.....Anders  
Christopher Krysztofiak.....Vale  
Kate Shoemaker.....Chestnut  
Steven Shriner.....Macy  
Katharine Vary.....Pierre

## Special Thanks

Jill and Richard Englar  
Bill Henry  
Melissa O'Brien  
Work Printing



## Production Staff and Crew

Director.....Brent Englar  
 Producer.....Caitlin Bouxsein  
 Stage Manager.....Will Carson  
 Set/Costume Designer.....Jessica Ruth Baker  
 Assistant Set Designer.....Jonathan Kerr  
 Lighting Designer.....William Quick  
 Lead Set Carpenter.....Andrew Macomber  
 Special Effects .....Lizzie Jump  
 Fight Director.....Jack Sossman  
 Poster Design.....Ben Johnson  
 Publicity Photography.....Shannon Light



*And Underneath the Moon* (costume), and was recently in a collaborative piece written and directed by Peter Davis at In-Flight Theatre called *Breadwinners* (Molly). She is thrilled that she gets to put her degrees to work now, and hopes that you will continue to support local Baltimore theatre!

**Caitlin Bouxsein** (Producer) has a B.A. in Theatre Arts from Drew University where she directed, choreographed, designed for, and performed in a variety of productions. In addition to The Mobtown Players, Caitlin has worked with several local theater companies including The Strand, Spotlighters, Single Carrot, and Glass Mind Theatre where she recently designed the costumes for *Brainstorm 3: Mind the Gap*. She has directed seven shows at Mobtown, including this season's production of *Darwin in Malibu*, and looks forward to working with Brent again next season, when she will be producing his play *The Apple Don't Fall*.

**Will Carson** (Stage Manager) is so touched by how warm and welcoming everyone was when he stepped into the position of stage manager for this show a tad late. A resident member of the Baltimore theatre crowd and member of the Mobtown board, he was last seen directing *Bent* for the Mobtown Players. Notable performances on the Mobtown stage include *No Exit* (Garcin), *Fools Call it Fate* (Ash), and *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Simon the Zealot). He will next be seen in Mobtown's premiere production of *Electra* in the role of Castor. He would like to send out a special thanks to Brent for giving him this wonderful opportunity as well as his utter confidence. The cast and crew are superb. Enjoy this phenomenal show!

**Brent Englar** (Director) is a playwright who for many years considered himself an actor with no desire whatsoever to direct. But several years ago he agreed to take over the Mobtown Playwrights Group, for which he has directed most of the readings the past two seasons. He enjoys this so much, he decided to direct four of his own plays for the 2011 Capital Fringe, and he will be directing another of his plays, *The Apple Don't Fall*, as part of Mobtown's 2012-2013 season. Thanks to Erica and to a phenomenal cast and crew for making his job so easy.

**Steven Shriner** (Macy) returns to Mobtown having previously been seen on this stage as Richard Baines in *Fools Call It Fate*. He appeared most recently as Bill Lewis in *The Hot I Baltimore* at Spotlighters. Other Baltimore credits include Harvey Fierstein's *Safe Sex and The Middle Ages*. He has travelled halfway across the country and back playing roles as diverse as Father Flynn in *Doubt* (Encore Award), Thomas Jefferson in *1776*, Simon Peter, et al in *Corpus Christi* (Joseph Jefferson Award), Johnny Guitar in *Johnny Guitar* (Encore Award), Randall P. McMurphy in *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and Arnold Beckoff in *Torch Song Trilogy*. He would like to thank Brent and Erica for the opportunity to help create Macy. Most of all he'd like to thank his partner, Anthony, for his love and support.

**Katharine Vary** (Pierre) is having a blast in *Come Out and Say It*, her first full production with the Mobtown Players. New to the Baltimore theatre scene, she has previously appeared as Gwen in "@The\_Moment: #5shortplaysonlifein2011" (Salt Luck Arts); as Pierre in the original staged reading of *Come Out And Say It* (Mobtown); and as Lyrica in the staged reading of *Oraculous* (Salt Luck Arts).

## PRODUCTION STAFF AND CREW

**Jessica Ruth Baker** (Set/Costume Designer) is a recent graduate of UMBC's theatre program with degrees in both Acting and Scenic and Costume Design. She has designed at Mobtown several times before: *She Stoops to Conquer* (set and costume) and *Darwin in Malibu* (set). She has also designed for Glass Mind Theatre with



## From the Playwright

About a year ago, I once again found myself buckled securely into the mental straitjacket of writer's block. I had no ideas. No inspiration. No words. One night at an open mic, I asked a friend what I should write about; he said, "A heist."



We tossed a couple of ideas back and forth about style and tone (believe it or not, this was going to be a farce), and I went home bursting with ideas and names and plots and ... nothing happened. I couldn't even start the darn thing. I had Vale onstage staring at blueprints, and that's all I could make him

do. So I put him in a wheelchair. And I cast him --- just mentally, at this point --- with an actor I knew (the one you'll see tonight, in fact).

This play has seen a lot of shaping since then, and while some of it happened by accident, much of it came from my experience with the Mobtown Playwrights Group. When I talk about this process, I keep using the words "extraordinary" and "astonishing" to describe the people involved, and neither of those words is in the least exaggerated. Chris, Kate, Brian, Kathy, and Steven (and Melissa, of course) made my words into people, which never stops being surreal. And let me just do you a favor and say that if you are a playwright and want what's in your head to get better before it makes it to the stage, get Brent to direct it. You're welcome.

## CAST

**Brian S. Kraszewski** (Anders) is thrilled to be working with Erica Smith yet again. He was last seen on stage as Max in Martin Sherman's *Bent*. Brian studied theater and acting at UMBC. Additional credits include *Camelot* (Sir Sagramore); *Closer* (Dan); *Fools Call It Fate* (Danny); *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls* (Tom); *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Judas); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander); *Much Ado About Nothing* (Benedick); *Sylvia* (Tom/Phyllis/Leslie); *Three Days of Rain* (Walker/Ned); *Twelfth Night* (Malvolio).

**Christopher Krysztofiak** (Vale) has been seen all over Baltimore with numerous theatre troupes for over a decade. He attended Carver Center for Arts and Technology with a focus in theatre, and attained a B.A. in acting from Frostburg State University. Christopher's most recent credits include In Flight Theatre's *Breadwinners* and FPCT's *Little Dog Laughed*; he also participated in the Fall One-Act Competition at the Manhattan Repertory Theatre in New York. He is also routinely active within The Baltimore Rock Opera Society.

**Kate Shoemaker** (Chestnut) is so excited to be back at Mobtown! She received her Masters Degree from the San Francisco Conservatory in vocal performance with an opera emphasis. Favorite roles include C in *Three Tall Women*, Elaine in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Cinderella in *Into the Woods*, and Suzy in *The Hot I Baltimore*. Kate is so excited to be onstage performing with this amazing cast!

(Continued on page 8)



Parents. Children. Friends. Lovers. Partners. No matter how sacred or solid a bond may seem, there's only so much stress a relationship can take before it's broken beyond repair. Next season, the Mobtown Players will explore how the bonds that tie us together are severed, what happens in the aftermath, and—at least in one case—the attempt to foster new connections. Why and how do we put these bonds in danger? What do we gain? What do we lose?

*Electra*, by Euripides, directed by Lizzie Jump (Fall 2012): Virgin sacrifice...Infidelity...Murder...and that's just the prologue.

*Othello*, by William Shakespeare, directed by Marshall B. Garrett (Fall 2012): Shakespeare's thriller of jealousy is streamlined to the essence of its tale of passion and love: a man for his wife, a soldier for his captain, and men for themselves.

*The Apple Don't Fall*, written and directed by Brent Englar (Spring 2013): Six months ago, Dan's entire known family died in a tragic tornado accident. Does his million-dollar inheritance go to a visionary theatre troupe or the half-sister he just met?

*Medea*, directed by Melissa O'Brien (Summer 2013): Is she a vengeful sorceress, a pawn of the gods, or something in between? Mobtown's original production of this classic tragedy will draw on a variety of sources to create a new picture of "one of Aphrodite's most destructive victims."