

Panasonic Theatre

BLUMENTHAL PERFORMING ARTS

presents



Written by

KAHLIL ASHANTI TJ DAWE JUSTIN SUDDS FRANK WARREN

Director

TJ DAWE

Production Stage Manager

ANNA KATHERINE MOORE

Stage Manager

KAT ROTHER

Executive Producer

RIGHT ANGLE ENTERTAINMENT

All roles performed by

KERRY IPEMA ABBY ROWOLD TJ DAWE

Live music performed by

ELYADEEN ANBAR

Composer

MARIO VAIRA

Animation by

THE GLOSSARY, EGG STUDIOS, JEREMY STEWART and DANA GOLDMAN

Sound editing by

JARED BRICKMAN

Tour Direction

IN HOUSE BOOKING

Tour Marketing

YARNI POLAND

PostSecret: The Show was workshopped at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park.

All of the stories featured in this show are true. The majority of the text in the show is taken from postcards and emails submitted to Frank Warren, creator of PostSecret.com, by the PostSecret community.

Special thanks to Blumenthal Performing Arts, Fireman Creative, Reese Butler, IMAlive, HopeLine, Active Minds, Matt Kridel, K.C. Morrisseau and all our amazing interns and volunteers.

Thank you to the Firehall Arts Centre in Vancouver, British Columbia, for their early support and for being the host to the Canadian premiere.

message from frank warren

“Two weeks ago I was placed in a psych ward for attempting to take my own life. I was sitting alone until another boy came up to me and simply said, ‘You’re not the most fucked up person anymore.’ For the first time in my life I didn’t feel like I was the only one struggling.”

Like many of the secrets shared with me, this email about an intimate encounter between strangers is one I will never forget. It’s the story of a boy telling a girl the secret she needs to hear. It’s a twisted and beautiful valentine.

Tonight’s performance is a love letter to PostSecret.

— By Frank Warren

GIVE US FEEDBACK

We’re eager for your feedback, as this work is still developing. If you have thoughts that occur to you later or that you don’t have a chance to express right after the show, please email us directly: info@postsecretshow.com

And help us spread the word by telling your friends on social media.

Please consider submitting a secret of your own for possible inclusion in today’s performance in the box in the lobby. There are blank postcards available.



There will be one 15-minute intermission.



The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. Please turn off all electronic devices such as cellular phones, beepers and watches.

who's who



KERRY IPEMA

Actor

Kerry Ipema is an actor, improviser and producer in New York City. She performs in

the interactive Off-Broadway show *Accomplish*, as an improviser at the Peoples Improv Theater, and is a member of the resident acting company at The Flea. She studied improv with the Upright Citizens Brigade, Shakespeare in Oxford at BADA's Midsummer Intensive, and has a BFA from Indiana University in Musical Theatre. Favourite roles include Rosalind in *As You Like It*, Lil' Bit in *How I Learned to Drive*, and Laurey in *Oklahoma*. She is also the creator and producer for *Lady Bits*, a semi-annual fundraiser for Planned Parenthood. Although originally from the Chicagoland area, Kerry has lived in Brooklyn since becoming an adult. www.kerryipema.com



ABBY ROWOLD

Actor

Abby Rowold is pleased to be joining the *PostSecret: The Show* cast and crew on their North American tour.

Abby currently lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, and was first introduced to *PostSecret: The Show* as the "local actor" called in to perform Character A for their workshop at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park in 2012. Abby began her training as an actor in the undergraduate theatre program at the University of Northern Iowa. After receiving her BA in theatre she moved to Chicago, Illinois, where she performed in storefront theatres and trained with the Second City Conservatory. In 2011, she received her MFA in Acting from

Indiana University. While at IU, Abby was given a travel grant to study with Patsy Rodenburg at Michael Howard studios in New York. She also won the Theatre and Drama Merit Award and the Rosemary R. Schwartzel Scholarship. Highlights from Abby's numerous theatre credits include: Regional: *Richard II*, directed by Henry Woronicz, at Utah Shakespeare Festival (Duchess of York); Cincinnati Shakespeare Company: *Comedy of Errors* (Abbess) and *Little Women* (Aunt March); Diogenes Theatre Company: *Relatively Speaking* (Sheila Carter); *Cinderella Kids* with The Children's Theatre (Stepmother); *PostSecret Unheard Voices* at Playhouse in the Park (Character A); Brown County Playhouse: *There Goes the Bride* (Ursula), *Present Laughter* (Monica Reed); Indiana Festival Theater: *Ah, Wilderness!* (Essie), *You Can't Take it With You* (Penny Sycamore); Phoenix Theatre: *Jericho* (Beth); Cardinal Stage: *Annie* (Miss Hannigan). Chicago credits: *Top Girls* (Isabella Bird/Joyce), *The Crucible* (Ann Putman), *Anna Karenina* (Dolly). Abby's other favourite roles include *The Winter's Tale* (Paulina), *Rabbit Hole* (Becca), and *The Clean House* (Virginia). Abby is the co-creator and co-artistic director of SHEatre, Cincinnati's Women's Theatre, which produces theatre by and about women for everyone.



TJ DAWE

Actor, Director and Writer

TJ Dawe is a writer/director/performer from Vancouver, B.C., who has worked exclusively creating and touring new theatre pieces. He's participated in more than 100 theatre and comedy festivals worldwide.

His co-written play *Toothpaste and Cigars* was adapted into the feature film *What If*, featuring Daniel Radcliffe and Adam Driver. He co-created and directed *The One Man Star Wars Trilogy*, and *One Man Lord of the Rings*, which have been touring the globe for more than a decade. If you punch his name into YouTube, along with the word “Medicine,” you’ll find a full video of his solo show *Medicine* which describes his experiences using the shamanic plant brew ayahuasca in a therapeutic setting. You can find scripts to some of his monologues on amazon.com. He teaches a course on how to turn your ideas and stories into solo shows at Langara College in Vancouver. He and his girlfriend lead workshops on personality types and making creativity a part of your regular life. If you mention the word “enneagram” to him, you’ll have a very hard time shutting him up. He asks questions on Facebook and Tweets links to things he’s reading
@TJ_Dawe.



ELYADEEN ANBAR

Musician

Elyadeen Anbar was born in Los Angeles, California, later living in Montreal, Chicago and New York City. Although discouraged by his rejection from Hogwarts academy, Elyadeen found that music was his ultimate passion. He enrolled in the music conservatory at DePaul University in the fall of 2004. He began residencies at the esteemed Green Mill and Andy’s Jazz, Chicago’s mainstay jazz venues. He performed at the Symphony Center, Navy Pier, the United Center and more of the city’s legendary venues, in a variety of musical contexts. While visiting New York City for the first time as an

adult, Elyadeen was overwhelmed by the sounds and soul of the city and decided to relocate. He found a home in Brooklyn and enjoyed participating in the city’s vibrant and progressive music scene. Elyadeen performed everywhere from the Blue Note to BB King’s, toured throughout the United States, Europe and Japan, and contributed guitar and production to several albums. He released an EP of his own original music under the moniker Self Esteem in the winter of 2014. Now living in Los Angeles, he continues to perform, compose and write about music, and is excited about his involvement with *PostSecret: The Show*.
www.elyadeenanbar.com



KAHLIL ASHANTI

Writer

Kahlil Ashanti is an actor and survivor who got tired of waiting to be picked. So he picked himself.

Best known for his Off-Broadway solo show *Basic Training*, five world tours with *Tops In Blue* and performing magic in Japanese at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas for three years. Awards include NY Times Critics Pick, Drama League Nomination for Distinguished Performance, Scotsman Fringe First, GreyFriars Bobby Award and three sellout seasons at the Edinburgh Fringe. Twice selected for *Cirque Du Soleil* as a character actor, Kahlil is ridiculously excited to be a creator, writer and producer for *PostSecret: The Show*. Twitter@kahlilashanti,
www.kahlilashanti.com.



JUSTIN SUDDS

Co-Creator, Executive Producer

Justin is honoured to work with such an incredibly talented cast, crew and creative team. He has had a successful career in theatrical touring, management, programming and producing branded entertainment for the stage. Justin has produced touring for *America's Got Talent LIVE*, *The Price is Right LIVE*, *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical*, *One-Man Star Wars Trilogy* and *Sing-a-Long Sound of Music* among many others. He lives in Vancouver with his wife and young son. Special thanks to Eran, Henry, Mom and Julie for their confidence and support.



FRANK WARREN

Founder and Writer

Frank Warren is the founder and curator of PostSecret; an ongoing community art project where people mail in their secrets anonymously on one side of a postcard. The works have been exhibited in galleries and museums around the world including MoMA, The Smithsonian Postal Museum, the Winnipeg Art Gallery and the American Visionary Art Museum. There have been six *New York Times* bestselling PostSecret books and the PostSecret blog has garnered more than 750,000,000 hits and won several Webby Awards. Frank continues to share secrets at colleges and events, including TED. He recently received the Mental Health Advocacy Lifetime Achievement Award. Every Sunday he continues to post secrets at www.PostSecret.com and believes that our secrets can cut or heal.



MARIO VAIRA

Composer

An award-winning composer, songwriter, producer and multi-instrumentalist, Mario Vaira has had his music featured everywhere from halls and theatres to clubs and living rooms in more than 70 countries around the world. Whether composing dark orchestral scores, uplifting themes or vibrant happy tunes, Mario strives to bring honesty and truth to his compositions. Among his many works, including the underscore for *Post Secret: The Show*, you can hear his compositions for the Hallmark series, *Cedar Cove*, starring Andie Macdowell, currently playing for audiences worldwide.



TRACEY MCFARLAND

Tour Direction

InHouse Booking is a boutique theatrical booking agency dedicated to bringing the best of live touring entertainment to theatres across North America. Led by Tracey McFarland, an 18-year veteran of the industry, InHouse Booking is pleased to represent the national tours of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical*, *Let It Be*, *PostSecret: The Show*, *Cirque Éloïze' Saloon*, *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* featuring Kurtis Blow, and *Wine Lovers the Musical* to name a few. inhousebooking.com.



ANNA KATHERINE MOORE

Production Stage Manager

Anna Katherine Moore is excited to be going on tour with *PostSecret: The Show* after stage managing the Charlotte premier in 2014. Tour: *One Man*

Breaking Bad. New York credits include *Three Days to See* (Transport Group), *Darling* (29 Hour Reading), *Poptart!*, *Kiss Me or Cut Off My Head*, *Out of the Basement*, *Sea Legs: A Nautical New Musical*, *Jeremy And*, and *Becket*. Selected regional credits include *Man of La Mancha* (Serenbe Playhouse); *Les Mis*, *Big River* (CPCG); *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, *Avenue Q* and *In the Heat of the Night* (Theatre Charlotte). She spent the 2010-2011 season as a stage management apprentice for Orlando Shakespeare Theatre. Thanks and love to my amazing and supportive friends, family and co-workers! This one's for you, Mama.



KAT ROTHER

Stage Manager

Kat Rother is excited to be joining the PostSecret team. Previous production stage management

credits include: *A Little Shakespeare: Pericles* (Two River Theater), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Sharon Playhouse), *Merrily We Roll Along* (Sharon Playhouse), *My Fair Lady* (Sharon Playhouse), *A Little Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Two River Theater) and the touring production of *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* (Two Beans Productions/TheatreWorks, USA). Additional credits include: *Father Comes Home from The Wars* (Parts 1, 2 and 3) (PA — The Public Theatre), *Pentecost* (ASM — PTP/NYC) and *Antigona* (SM — Noche Flamenca).



RON LAW

Consulting Director

Since June of 2005, Ron has served as Executive Director of Theatre Charlotte. Before coming

to NC, Ron was the Program Manager for the Community School of the Arts

of JCC Metrowest in West Orange, New Jersey. He has been a theatre professor at High Point University in High Point, NC (where he headed the theatre program), Marymount Manhattan College in NYC and East Stroudsburg University in East Stroudsburg, PA. He also has worked as Program Director of the International Theatre Institute (ITI) in NYC, which is now a part of Theatre Communications Group (TCG). At ITI, Ron was responsible for providing orientation to U.S. theatre to visiting foreign theatre professionals, as well as coordinating workshops and seminars with such artists as Peter Brook and his company, the Bulandra Theatre Company of Romania, and Wole Soyinka, Nobel Prize-winning playwright from Nigeria. During that time, Ron had observer status at Actors Studio, under the leadership of Lee Strasberg. He also studied acting at HB Studios in NYC. Ron has served as the Producing Director of the Piedmont Repertory Company, an Actors Equity summer stock company that operated the Tanglewood Barn Theatre in Clemmons, NC. Ron has directed 76 productions in professional, educational and community theatre. He has a Master of Fine Arts in acting and directing from the University of NC Greensboro. Ron serves on the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Theatre Conference.

RIGHT ANGLE ENTERTAINMENT

Producer

Right Angle Entertainment was co-founded by industry veterans Alison Spiriti and Justin Sudds in 2014. Specializing in the production, management and distribution of live theatrical and concert events, RAE has worked with brands and companies such as *America's Got Talent*, *Cirque du*

Soleil, Lucasfilm, DreamWorks, NBC, Live Nation, Michael Cohl & S2BN among many others. Right Angle Entertainment works closely and collaboratively with managers, producers, artists, agents, studios and licensors to bring their brands and properties to life on stage. With more than 35 years collective experience in presenting on the road, managing and representing artists, and producing new work, RAE's founding partners have robust relationships with the leaders in our industry as well as a deep understanding of the live event landscape both domestically and internationally.

BLUMENTHAL PERFORMING ARTS (BPA)

Blumenthal Performing Arts operates six theatres in Charlotte, North Carolina. Its highly diverse arts and education programs range from blockbuster musicals to dance, music and family attractions. Under the direction of CEO Tom Gabbard, BPA has a staff of more than 120 full-time professionals and an annual budget exceeding \$35 million, making it the largest arts non-profit in the Carolinas. Broadway, national tours and London productions in which BPA has served as a co-producer or investor include *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *The Color Purple* (2005 and 2015), *Kinky Boots*, *Matilda*, *Traces*, *Legally Blonde*, *Pippin*, *Something Rotten*, *On Your Feet*, *Frost/Nixon*, *RED*, *Basic Training*, *The Mountaintop*, *American in Paris* and *Waitress*.

credits & acknowledgments

FOR TICKETING

- General Manager JAMES ALDRIDGE
- Phone Operations Manager ALAN FORSYTH
- Phone Operations Asst. Manager SUSIE MARCON
- Phone Operations Supervisors KAREN COSTA, SCOTT RICHARDSON, JANET KOMPARE-FRITZ
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FOR THE PANASONIC THEATRE

- General Manager RON JACOBSON
- Front of House Manager MARIE HOLOWATY
- Assistant House Manager KENNY GALLOP
- Box Office Manager GERARD RAJU
- Assistant Box Office Manager DENNIS WONG
- Maintenance Manager KEVIN MCCARTHY
- House Head Technician JASON BROWNING



Backstage Employees are represented by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (or I.A.T.S.E.).



United Scenic Artists represents the designers and scenic painters for the American Theatre.



The Director and Choreographer are members of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, an independent national labor union.