Voices in the Void

Devised by the Company  rating: PG

online via webinar

March 11th–13th at 7:30 pm
March 14th at 2:00 pm  Tickets: $10.00

WSU students receive 1 free ticket with WSU Student ID number

All tickets are Virtual. To Purchase Virtual Tickets go to https://wichita.edu/FABOTickets Any questions about tickets contact the College of Fine Arts

Box Office at 316-978-3233 or email at fastickets@wichita.edu

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Wichita State University
School of Performing Arts

PRESENTS

VOICES IN THE VOID

Devised by the Company

with

Cameron Brown
Crosby Dold
Carson Ediger
Ashley Grega

Austin Hancock
Bethany Khanu
Sang Le
Victoria Oquendo
Emily Redfield

Zachary Richardson
Renae Richmond
Hagan Simmons
Drew Thomas

Virtual Visual Design
Wesley Sweigart

Stage Manager
Alexandra Simpson

Costume Design
Jacob Kramer

Lighting Design
David Neville

Props Master
August Smaglik

Sound Design
Ed Baker

Directed by
Danette Baker
Act 1

Digital Fugue: voices in the void
Scene 1: Counselor’s Office
Digital Fugue: notifications
Scene 2: Will & Rob’s Apartment
Digital Fugue: idk or I can’t say
Scene 3: The Hangout
Digital Fugue: tell it like it is
Scene 4: The Restaurant
Digital Fugue: words stuck in my head
Scene 5: Will & Rob’s Apartment
Digital Fugue: how to talk with butterflies
Scene 6: Melanie’s TA Office
Digital Fugue: chrysalis
Scene 7: Counselor’s Office
Digital Fugue: mix-matched, rock solid
Scene 8: The Hangout
Digital Fugue: how to turn noise into harmony
Scene 9: Will and Rob’s Apartment
Digital Fugue: tone poem for 9 voices
Scene 10: Dani & Joe’s Apartment
Digital Fugue: chichi lesson on sound energy
Scene 11: Will and Rob’s Apartment
Digital Fugue: place of healing
Scene 12: The Hangout
Scene 13: Will’s Room in Will & Rob’s Apartment
Digital Fugue: Epilogue
## Cast Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Actor</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will</td>
<td>Drew Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>Sang Le</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brad</td>
<td>Hagan Simmons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna</td>
<td>Bethany Khanu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melanie</td>
<td>Renae Richmond</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerson</td>
<td>Crosby Dold</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlie</td>
<td>Victoria Oquendo</td>
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<td>Hunter</td>
<td>Zachary Richardson</td>
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<td>Oliver</td>
<td>Cameron Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dani</td>
<td>Ashley Grega</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe</td>
<td>Carson Ediger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin</td>
<td>Austin Hancock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sapphire</td>
<td>Emily Redfield</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Covers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actor</th>
<th>Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austin Hancock</td>
<td>If an actor drops out due to technical difficulties, a cover will step in until the actor returns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Redfield</td>
<td>If an actor drops out due to technical difficulties, a cover will step in until the actor returns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Crew Members

Director ............................................................................................................. Danette Baker
Assistant to the Director ...................................................................................... Victoria Boyd
Dramaturg ........................................................................................................... Dr. Julie Longhofer
Production Manager .......................................................................................... Amy Chisman
Assistant Production Manager ............................................................................. Melissa Penkava Koza
Technical Director .............................................................................................. Ed Baker
Stage Manager ..................................................................................................... Alexandra Simpson
Stage Manager Mentor ........................................................................................ Ed Baker
Assistant Stage Manager ..................................................................................... Alexys Porter
Costume Designer ............................................................................................... Jacob Kramer
Costume Design Mentor ...................................................................................... Sarah Bussard
Lighting Designer ................................................................................................. David Neville
Sound Designer ................................................................................................... Ed Baker
Virtual Visual Designer ........................................................................................ Wesley Sweigart
Scene Design Mentor ......................................................................................... David Neville
Scene Shop Manager ............................................................................................ Jason Flanders
Scene Shop Crew .................................................................................................. Trevor Seyl
Costume Shop Manager ....................................................................................... Melissa Penkava Koza
Lead Costume Shop Assistant .............................................................................. Erin Mittman
Costume Shop Assistants ................................................................. Emily Evans, Ariel Glorsky, Katie Goetz, Jacob Kramer, Katy Reko
Prop Master .......................................................................................................... August Smaglik
Poster Designer ................................................................................................... Ella Kempker
Artist of Commissioned Art Piece ........................................................................ Alicia Miró
Playbill Design ...................................................................................................... Courtney Wages
Cameron Brown
Cameron Brown (Oliver) is delighted to be starring in Wichita State University's theatre production of *Voices in the Void*. He has previously served as a stagehand for *Noises Off! & The Wizard of Oz* (Derby High School) as well as *The Moors* (Wichita State Theatre Department). Cameron is a sophomore, set to graduate in two years with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. He was previously a member of Derby Drama Troupe 184. Cameron’s mission is to work as a voice actor for Rooster Teeth’s animation department.

Crosby Dold
Crosby Dold (Emerson) is making their Wichita State University theatre debut. Previous credits include *Viral Shakespeare: The Second Wave* (Wichita Shakespeare Company), *Mamma Mia* (Theatre Lawrence), and *Les Misérables* (Lawrence Art Center). Crosby is a senior pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Performance with a minor in music. Crosby’s mission is to provide people with a sense of escapism through theatre.

Carson Ediger
Carson Ediger (Joe) is excited to be making his Wichita State University theatre debut. Previously he appeared in *Merry Murders at Montmarie* (Caldwell High School), *Alice in Wonderland* (Caldwell High School), and *Stop That Villain! or Have You No Shame, Rip Roquefort?* (Caldwell High School). Carson is a freshman pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Performance. Carson’s mission as an artist is “to bring the world together through laughter and entertainment.”

Ashley Grega
Ashley Grega (Dani) is making their Wichita State University theatre debut. Previous credits include *Newsies* (MVHS), *You Can't Take it With You* (MVHS), and *The Fantasticks* (MVHS). Ashley is pursuing a degree in theatre with a minor in communications, and is a member of Delta Gamma. Ashley’s mission statement is to empower aspiring artists to follow their dreams.
**Austin Hancock**

Austin Hancock (Martin) is making their Wichita State University debut. Before this show, he had roles in *Title of Show* (Independence Community College), *Dead Man’s Cellphone* (Independence Community College), *Nunsense* (Field Kindley High School), and *Beauty and The Beast* (Coffeyville Community College). Austin is a sophomore in pursuit of a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Performance, as well as a certificate in Voice Acting. Austin’s mission is “to make people laugh and enjoy their lives, even for just a moment.” You can learn more about Austin at https://austinjhancock.weebly.com/

**Bethany Khanu**

Bethany Khanu (Anna) is excited to be making her Wichita State University theatre debut. Previous credits include *She Stoops to Conquer* (Kechi Playhouse), *The Crucible* (St. James Episcopal Church), and *Arabian Nights* (Mulvane WildActs). Bethany is a junior pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts and is a member of Phenomenal Women Organization. Her mission as an artist is “to help bring the world into the light of joy and happiness with a smile.”

**Sang Le**

Sang Le’s (Robert) has been in leading roles like Harry in *Night of the Living Dead LIVE!* (Independence Community College), Dan and Jimmy in *Almost Maine* (Independence Community College), Chuck in *She kills Monsters* (Independence Community College), and John in *Anything Goes* (Wichita State University). Sang is happy to be obtaining a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Performance Arts at Wichita State University.
Victoria Oquendo

Victoria Oquendo (Charlie) is excited to be making their Wichita State University theatre debut. Previously they appeared in *In The Middle of Grand Central Station* (Campus High School), and worked on the wardrobe crew for *Comedy of Errors* (Wichita State University) and *Gianni Schicchi/L'enfant* (Wichita State University). Victoria is a junior pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. Victoria’s mission is to “inspire others to change their outlook on the world through her art.”

Emily Redfield

Emily Redfield (Sapphire) is making her Wichita State University theatre debut. Previous credits include *She Stoops to Conquer* (Kechi Playhouse), *The Radio Adventures Of Trixie Trueheart: Girl Aviator* (Kechi Playhouse), and *Les Miserables* (Music Theatre for Young People). Emily is a sophomore pursuing a BFA in Theatre Performance along with a Directing Certificate. Emily’s mission is to inspire future generations of artists.

Zachary Richardson

Zachary Richardson (Hunter) is a sophomore attending Wichita State University and striving for a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre: Performance. He has been in other shows here including *Comedy of Errors*. He is excited to be a part of this unique experience and looks forward to continuing to perform here at Wichita State!

Renae Richmond

Renae Richmond (Melanie) is thrilled to make their Wichita State University Theatre debut. Previously she has been seen in *Stuart Little* (A.D. Players Academy), *Matilda the Musical* (Centre Stage Theatrical School), and a Wichita State student film entitled *Brainstorm*. She is a freshman pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Performance and aiming to minor in music theatre. Renae’s mission as an artist is “to inspire others through performing.”
Hagan Simmons

Hagan Simmons (Brad) is playing the role of Brad. He is a second year student at Wichita State University. He has appeared in the past at WSU as the Mastiff in *The Moors*. He is proud to be a part of the process that created this wonderful production.

Drew Thomas

Drew Thomas (Will) is a sophomore here at Wichita State University and is thrilled for you all to watch the company's devised piece *Voices in the Void*. You may have seen him as Cameron in WSU's film *Flash Bang* or as Dr. Lynn Keaton in WSU's Stagestruck Audio Theatre's show *The Midnight Angel*. He is super thankful for all the opportunities given to him by his peers, professors, and the community around him. He hopes you all enjoy the show and everything it has to offer.
DIRECTORS NOTE

Why This Play, This Way, Now

*Voices in the Void* is a Group-Built piece that the cast, the dramaturg/script doctor and I have been developing since last September. The idea grew out of teaching students who were reluctant to express their thoughts, ideas or opinions in class. Over the past few years, the silence in our classrooms has become louder and louder. I was chatting with students one day about why they are so hesitant to speak up, and what they said was "Nobody really wants to hear what I have to say" and "When I try to say something I get shut down or ignored." That answer shook me because in the college setting we must listen for new thoughts, ideas and dialogues; not only listen but when we hear them, lift them up. Then Covid-19 happened and the problem of being literally silenced became even more obvious with the insistence that students enter the remote classroom muted, and that most of the time they stay on mute. Add to that the long unheard and ignored voices that started to explode over the summer and the time seemed right to address the problem.

The public health concerns and safety protocols we put in place to protect our students, staff and faculty lead us to focus on the possibilities of Virtual Theatre; looking at the question “what does live theatre mean in a virtual world?” The initial plan was to see if we could combine some carefully staged movement work that would be filmed and mixed in with a live Webinar performance. Students filled out questionnaires to prompt ideas for exploration, and we developed a text from those explorations and subsequent discussions. We started working on movement pieces right before the Winter break, then picked back up in late January. Ultimately the virus hit too close to home and in the interest of safety we decided to go completely virtual. The movement pieces have been rethought to fit in the digital framework. This entire process has been about the ability to change and grow.

I am honored to work with such beautiful collaborators

Danette (MFA) is the Program Director of Theatre. Her WSU directing credits include The Moors, Comedy of Errors, 39 Steps, and A Hedda Gabler. She has received Certificates of Commendation from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region V (ACTFV) for A Hedda Gabler and for her fight choreography for Twelfth Night. She is a frequent director, actor and fight coordinator for Seven Devils New Play Foundry, a national conference focusing on new play development, and has acted in theatres across the country from NY to Idaho. Danette is the only Society of American Fight Directors Certified Teacher in the stage of Kansas. She has presented workshops in acting and stage combat at area high schools, colleges, state high school festivals and the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival for Region V. She is an 8-time recipient of the Mary Jane Teall Theatre award for Outstanding Acting, a recipient of the 2012 Ruth McCormick Outstanding Theatre Educator Award and the 2019 Mickey and Pete Armstrong Faculty Excellence Award in Teaching.
Special Thanks

Performance Facilities

Dean Rodney Miller and the Dean's Office

School of Performing Arts

Linda Starkey, Director of the School of Performing Arts

Performing Arts Angels
The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts’ Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.
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Victoria Oquendo
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Andrew Bowden
Marcella Cosby
Crosby Dold
Eleanor Dooley
Ariel Glorsky
Ethan Harmon
Porter Jones
Ella Kemper
Claire Kempker
Emily Redfield
Zachary Richardson
Emerson Ross
Kaley Russell
Mirta Santana
Ciaran Schaedtler
Trevor Seyl
Hagan Simmons
Alexandra Simpson
Drew Thomas
Courtney Wages

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Ethan Harmon
Porter Jones
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Zachary Richardson
Emerson Ross
Kaley Russell
Mirta Santana
Ciaran Schaedtler
Trevor Seyl
Hagan Simmons
Alexandra Simpson
Drew Thomas
Courtney Wages

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Caroline Boesen

KIM STEPHENS EXCELLENCE IN DANCE
Hannah Chandler

PAMELA POSTIER SCHOLARSHIP
Ashley Strella

RAMSEY MUSICAL THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP
Ethan Crank
William Day
Mary-Micheal Gomez
Olivia Goodspeed
Trevor Seyl
Abbi Lanini
Courtney Wages
Caitlin Wolff

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Ciaran Schaedtler

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PERFORMING ARTS ANGELS

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The School of Performing Arts faculty, staff, and students recognize and deeply appreciate all your financial support. It allows us to fulfill our mission to educate and train students for a career in the arts and entertainment industry. To find out how you can become a Performing Arts Angel and support the School of Performing Arts students, please contact our office at 316-978-3899 or give online at www.wichita.edu/give.

We apologize in advance for any omission or errors in this list. Please bring corrections to the attention of Alyssa Scott at alyssa.scott@wichita.edu or 316-978-3368. Listings may shift from one program to another depending on the timing and receipt of gifts.

PERFORMING ARTS ANGELS GIVING FOR FEBRUARY 2020-MARCH 2021

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☐ PRODUCER $ 1,000 +
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