



THE SHAPE OF THINGS

BY NEIL LABUTE **MARCH 4 - 20, 2016** DIRECTED BY JAMIL JUDE

 DalekoArts

FOR TIX: 952-314-9077 OR VISIT DALEKOARTS.COM

daleko Arts

Our Mission

DalekoArts (pronounced DELL-uh-koh) works with professional artists to create ensemble-based live performances centered in and around New Prague, Minnesota. We are committed to being a positive force for high-quality theatrical performance and arts education. We train and work under a great and spirited legacy; the rich artistic heritage of the Midwest.

Our Vision

DalekoArts will be a known destination for quality performing arts and education in New Prague and the surrounding southern metropolitan communities.

Our Journey

DalekoArts is a Proud member of The Network of Ensemble Theaters, a national coalition of ensemble theatre companies and artists.



Our Story

DalekoArts was founded in 2012 by theatre artists Ben Thietje and Amanda White as a way to help decentralize professional theatre in Minnesota. New Prague was chosen as the company's home due to the community's extraordinary interest in theatre, the regional growth and development it has experience in the last decade, its relative proximity to the Twin Cities, and its close ties to the founders. "Daleko" – a Czech word meaning "far away" – reflects New Prague's strong bohemian roots, its spatial relationship to the cultural hub that is the Twin Cities, and the ensemble's desire to step back and examine the world from a new point of view.

CONTEMPORARY ART

[kuh n-tem-puh-rer-ee] - existing, occurring or living at the same time; belonging to the same time. Of the present time; modern.

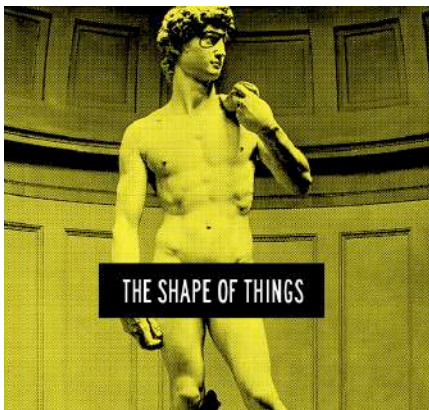
Like the definition of “art,” the definition of “contemporary” is hard to pin down. Above we have the denotation of the word, but its connotation differs widely. Often we use the word to describe work that is provocative, obtuse or work we just plain don't like. Here in Minnesota, we have several museums, theaters and orchestra halls dedicated to contemporary works of art. So why do we continue to erect these edifices, produce new plays, and commission new pieces of music if we don't “get it”? I posit that contemporary art shows us just how complicated life is; there is no clear delineation between good and bad, right or wrong, there just is. The contemporary artist seeks to explore the depth of questions rather than provide the easy answer. Not “getting it” is just part of the fun of the quest.

Neil LaBute is a contemporary artist. He doesn't apologize for his use of language, allegory or narrative style. He often shows us the nastiest parts of ourselves to get us to appreciate the best parts of ourselves. For this production, we've attempted to put LaBute in conversation with his contemporaries. This production will feature music from the best music artists of this time. The stories they tell play off of the story LaBute presents to us today. Additionally, we've chosen to intersperse a few non-contemporary visual artists whose work has been viewed as “timeless.” What makes some artist's work timeless while others seem to only exist for a moment? As a contemporary artist, I'll let you answer that one.

I want to thank DalekoArts for allowing me the opportunity to bring this story to you. Artists of color, female, LGBT-identified and other historically marginalized artists have fought for centuries to be respected by their contemporaries. Companies like this, who advocate for and radically include the voices of contemporary artists, matter. More importantly, you, the contemporary arts patron, are so important to the future of arts in America. I thank you for continuing to support the arts, even if you don't always “get it.”

Keep exploring the questions. Positive vibrations.

– Jamil Jude



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After a chance meeting in a museum, Evelyn, a sexy, aggressive artist, and Adam, a shy, insecure student, become embroiled in an intense affair. Before long, it veers into dangerous and seductive territory, as Adam, under Evelyn's steady influences, goes to unimaginable lengths to improve his appearance and character. Only in the final and shocking exhibition, which challenges our most deeply entrenched ideas about art and love, does Evelyn reveal her true intentions.

CAST

Adam	Mike Swan
Evelyn	Cristina Florencia Castro
Jenny	Tamara Clark
Philip	James Rodriguez

PRODUCTION TEAM

Scenic Designer	Brian J Proball
Technical Director & Scenic Build	Darren Hensel
Costume Designer	Lucas Skjaret
Sound Designer	Topher Pirkil
Properties Designer	Abbee Warmboe
Lighting Designer	Adam Raine
Stage Manager	Salima Seale
Assistant Stage Manager	David Loose

The Shape of Things runs approximately 90 minutes and will be performed without an intermission. Concessions are available in the Lobby prior to show start and are welcome in the theatre.

Produced through Special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc.
The script to this play may be purchased from BPPI at
BroadwayPlayPubl.com.

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Tamara Clark (“Jenny”) has appeared in various productions around the Twin Cities, including *Slow Motion Carnival* (Red Eye Theater), *Sherlock Holmes and the Ice Palace Murders* (Park Square Theatre), *Lonely Soldiers* (History Theatre), *Six Degrees of Separation* and *All's Well That Ends Well* (Theatre in the Round). Tamara is a graduate of Macalester College with a B.A. in Theater and Anthropology. This is Tamara's first production with DalekoArts.



Cristina Florencia Castro (“Evelyn”) has acted in the Twin Cities with theatres such as Mixed Blood Theater,

Park Square Theater, Theater Coup d'Etat, The Playwright's Center, Teatro del Pueblo, Little Lifeboats, The Guthrie Theater and The History Theater. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Guthrie Theatre BFA Actor Training Program and is currently a Jerome Many Voices Playwriting Fellow at The Playwrights' Center.

Darren Hensel (Technical Director) has been the Technical Director for DalekoArts since its inaugural season. He's ecstatic to be putting on another show at The Prague. Darren has also designed shows for Daleko with some of his favorites being *Proof*, *Barefoot in the Park* and *Another Main Street Holiday*. Outside of Daleko he is a freelance technical director, set designer and light designer. Companies he's worked for include DeLaSalle High School, Tartan High School, Totino-Grace High School, Chameleon Theatre Circle, Soar Theatre, Great Theatre, Open Eye Figure Theatre, Mixed Blood, Theatre L'Homme Dieu, History Theatre and Minneapolis Musical Theatre. When he is not working in theatre, he is a freelance musician in the Twin Cities music scene.

Jamil Jude (Director) is a freelance director and producer in the Twin Cities. He has directed for theaters across the Twin Cities and in Washington, D.C. Locally, he has directed for Park Square Theatre, Theatre in the Round, History Theatre, DalekoArts and Freshwater Theatre, and has assistant director credits at the Guthrie Theater, Pillsbury House, Children's Theatre Company and Mixed Blood Theatre. Future directing projects include Stages Theatre Company, The University of Minnesota, Augsburg College, Stages Theatre Company. In Washington, D.C., he has directed at Olney Theatre and Forum Theatre, with assistant directing credits at Arena Stage. Jamil is the co-producer of the New Griots Black Arts Festival. He is a member of SDC, and the Artistic Programming Associate at Park Square Theatre and is a participant in the Leadership U: One-on-One program, funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by Theatre Communications Group.

The Artists

David Loose (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to be back at DalekoArts! Past Daleko shows: *Wait Until Dark* and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Asst. Stage Manager). Off-Broadway: *United Front* (Wardrobe Supervisor). Off-Off Broadway: *Sisters Mine* (Stage Manager). *Fordham University: the dreamer examines his pillow* (Director), *Brotherly Love* (Director). Regional: *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune* (Asst. Stage Manager) at the Minneapolis Theater Garage.

Topher Pirkl (Sound Designer) works in theater and video games as both a designer and programmer. He has previously worked as a designer with Normandale Community College, Yellow Tree Theater, Lyric Arts and others. Additionally, he works as a sound mixer and technician at the Guthrie Theater, and as a news editor for the Designing Sound Blog.

Brian J Proball (Scenic Designer) is a theater designer based out of the Twin Cities and has worked all around the U.S. including the The Barn Playhouse in MI, Playhouse Merced in CA and the Stages Theater in MN. Brian has an MFA in Scenic Design from the University of Wisconsin - Madison and a BFA in Lighting Design from the University of Minnesota - Duluth. Brian is currently the Production Director at Lyric Arts Theater in Anoka. Brian designed *Always Patsy Cline* for DalekoArts last season. Special thanks to Chris Henkel, Lyric Arts and Emma Davis.

Adam Raine (Lighting Designer) received his MFA from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2015 and has been working around the Twin Cities for the past two years. This is his first production with DalekoArts, and he is very excited to be working on this project. For more information, visit adamsrainedesigns.com.



James Rodriguez (“Phillip”) is a Minneapolis-based actor. He was most recently seen in Dark & Stormy Productions production of *Extremities*. Twin Cities theater credits include work with Children's Theater Company, Theater Latte Da, Park Square Theater, Pillsbury House Theater, Mixed Blood Theater, Yellow Tree Theater, Frank Theater and Workhaus Collective, among others. James is extremely excited to be making his DalekoArts debut.

Salima Seale (Stage Manager) is a traveling freelance stage manager. She is pleased to be back in the Twin Cities after a brief hiatus, and she is excited to be working on her first show with DalekoArts. She is a 2014 graduate of Macalester College.

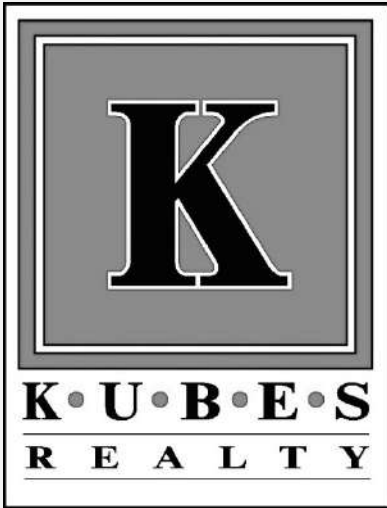
Lucas Skjaret (Costume Designer) is thrilled to be making his Daleko debut! Favorite costume designs are **Bloody, Bloody, Andrew Jackson** (Minneapolis Musical Theatre), **Don't Dress for Dinner** (Theatre in the Round), **Pioneer Suite** (Freshwater Theatre), **The Reagan Years** (Workhaus Collective) and **True West** (Teater Neuf, Norway). Lucas has also worked with Yellow Tree Theatre, The Playwrights' Center, Walking Shadow Theatre Company, Artistry, Park Square Theatre, The Children's Theatre Company, Market Garden Theatre and The History Theatre in various positions. He received his double BA in Theatre Arts and Scandinavian Studies from the University of North Dakota and studied abroad in Norway twice. Upcoming costume design: **Kid-Simple: A Radio Play in the Flesh** (Swandive Theatre) and will assist direct **On the 20th Century** with Skylark Opera. Thank you to Jamil, Amanda and Ben for hiring me! Learn more about me at lucasskjaret.com.



Mike Swan (“Adam”) is super psyched to be making his DalekoArts debut with **The Shape of Things!** A New Jersey native,

Mike moved to Minnesota in 2013 to work with the Commonweal Theatre Company in Lanesboro. After two seasons, he relocated to the Twin Cities and has been seen around town in **All My Sons** (Artistry), **And She Would Stand Like This** (20% Theatre) and **The Drawer Boy** (Theatre in the Round), among others. Mike holds a BA in Theatre Performance from James Madison University. Here's to having professional theatre in rural communities!

Abbee Warmboe (Properties Designer) has worked with DalekoArts for the previous productions of **Wait Until Dark** and **Little Shop of Horrors**. Recent work includes **Gypsy** (Theatre Latte Da), **An Octoroon** (Mixed Blood Theater), **HIR** (Pussy Valley), **You For Me For You** and **Twelfth Night** (Mu Performing Arts), **Great Expectation** (Park Square Theatre), **The Color Purple** (Language Archive), **Clybourne Park**, **Dancing at Lughnasa**, and **A Hunting Shack Christmas** (Yellow Tree Theatre) **Aliens**, **The Coward** (Walking Shadow Theatre), **Great Work** (7th House Theatre) and **Mad Munchkin Productions** (Representative Theatres), among others. She trained at St. Olaf College and has won the 2015 Ivey Award Recognition “Production Design” Crime and Punishment.



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This live radio play and podcast follows Blake Thomas and a colorful group of his multi-talented pals, patrons and employees as they stumble through each new 60-minute adventure, filled with original music, laughs, sound effects, conversation and beer swilling!

Friday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.

X

Saturday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.

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