

Room

Virginia Woolf: extracts from various works adapted for the stage as "Room" by Jocelyn Clarke

Directed by Anne Bogart

Created & Performed by SITI Company

Featuring Ellen Lauren*

Costume Design
Lighting Design
Soundscape
Movement Dramaturg
Production Stage Manager
Associate Sound Designer
Follow Spot Operator
Associate Producers
Executive Director

James Schuette
Brian H. Scott
Darron L West
Barney O'Hanlon
Ruth E. Sternberg*
M.L. Dagg
Bondo
Roberta Pereira, David Roberts
Megan Wanlass Szalla

Room was commissioned by the Wexner Center for the Arts at The Ohio State University with support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, City Theatre and SITI Company.

***Members of Actors Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the US.**

-Designers are members of the United Scenic Artists Union (USA).

-Anne Bogart is a member of SSDC, the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers Inc., an independent national labor union.

Director's note:

Virginia Woolf wrote with delicacy, humor, anger, outrage, and passion from the point of view of a highly creative woman in the first half of the 20th century. Her issues are still contemporary. *Room* examines these notions from the perspective we now share at the beginning of the 21st century. Sampled from a lifetime of Woolf's writings, *Room* traces the movement of a creative spirit in exquisite crisis. Ellen Lauren portrays an artist in the pressure cooker of articulation. The play is about the room to move, the room to breathe, the room to imagine, emotional room, creative room.

—Anne Bogart

Virginia Woolf (25 January 1882 – 28 March 1941) was an English author, essayist, publisher, and writer of short stories, who is regarded as one of the foremost modernist literary figures of the twentieth century. Her most famous works include the novels *Mrs. Dalloway*, *To the Lighthouse*, *The Waves* and *Orlando*, and the book-length essay *A Room of One's Own*, based on lectures she had given at women's colleges at Cambridge University. Virginia married writer Leonard Woolf in 1912, and the two collaborated professionally founding the Hogarth Press in 1917, which subsequently published Virginia's novels along with works by T.S. Eliot, Laurens van der Post, and others. The Press also commissioned works by contemporary artists, including Dora Carrington and Vanessa Bell. Virginia Woolf died on 28 March 1941 when she drowned herself in the River Ouse near her home in Sussex, by putting rocks in her coat pockets.

Room is approximately 85 minutes long and will be performed with no intermission.

The original lighting design was created by Christopher Akerlind and the original scenic design was created by Neil Patel.

Assistant Director, Shannon Fillion
JKB Theater Staff, Andy Nice and Jaime Martinez

COMPANY

SITI Company is an ensemble-based theater company led by Anne Bogart. Its mission is: To create bold new productions; To perform and tour these productions nationally and internationally; To train together consistently; To train theater professionals and students in an approach to acting and collaboration that forges unique and highly disciplined artists for the theater; and, to create opportunities for artistic dialogue and cultural exchange.

Founded in 1992 by Anne Bogart and Tadashi Suzuki, SITI Company began as an agreement to redefine and revitalize contemporary theater in the United States through an emphasis on international cultural exchange and collaboration. Originally envisioned as a summer institute in Saratoga Springs, New York, SITI expanded to encompass a year-round company based in New York City with a summer season in Saratoga. The Company is known nationally and internationally as a top-level artistic collective that generates groundbreaking theater while also training artists from around the world.

In addition to Artistic Director Anne Bogart, SITI Company is comprised of ten actors, four designers, a playwright and an executive director. The company represents a change in thinking about the relationships between artists and institutions. SITI Company has formed relationships with theaters and venues around the world who present the Company's work. Every summer the Company continues to gather for our annual Summer Intensive at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY.

SITI recently premiered *American Document* with the Martha Graham Dance Company at the Joyce, *Antigone* at Dance Theater Workshop, *Under Construction* at Actors Theatre of Louisville's Humana Festival, Virginia Woolf's only play *Freshwater* at the Women's Project and *Who Do You Think You Are* at Arizona State University. Future works include: *Trojan Women*, *Soot and Spit*, *Empire of Light* and *The Visit*.

Sign up for our e-newsletter (siti.org) and join the SEE (SITI Extended Ensemble) Network (siti.groupsite.com) Facebook group (facebook.com/SITICompany) or Twitter (twitter.com/siticompany) – these are all great ways to be kept up to date on what's happening with SITI Company's training, performances and events.

SITI Company: Akiko Aizawa, J. Ed Araiza, Anne Bogart, Will Bond, Gian Murray Gianino, Leon Ingulsrud, Ellen Lauren, Kelly Maurer, Charles L. Mee, Jr., Elizabeth Moreau, Tom Nelis, Barney O'Hanlon, Neil Patel, James Schuette, Brian H. Scott, Megan Wanlass Szalla, Stephen Webber and Darron L West

Board of Directors: Anne Bogart, Gigi Bolt (Chair), Martha Coigney, Barbara Olsen Cummings, Lauren Flanigan, Rena Chelouche Fogel, Jason Hackett, Chris Healy (Treasurer), Leon Ingulsrud (Secretary), Cherry Jones, Ellen Lauren, Thomas Mallon, Charles L. Mee, Barney O'Hanlon and Leonard Perfido (Vice-Chair)

Consultants: Ellen Pearre Cason, Accountant; Maggie Elliott & James Harley, Graphic Designer; Barbara Janowitz and Michael Ross, Strategic Planning; Jenny Lerner & Isabelle Doconinck, Press Agent; Al Foote, Web Programmer **Interns:** Molly Bernard and Katie Ventimiglia

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SITI Company has been selected to take part in Leading for the Future: Innovative Support for Artistic Excellence, a groundbreaking new arts initiative created by Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF) and funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

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Biographies

Anne Bogart (Director) is the Artistic Director of the SITl Company, which she founded with Japanese director Tadashi Suzuki in 1992. She is a Professor at Columbia University where she runs the Graduate Directing Program. Works with SITl include *American Document*; *Antigone*; *Under Construction*; *Freshwater*; *Who Do You Think You Are*; *Radio Macbeth*; *Hotel Cassiopeia*; *Death and the Ploughman*; *La Dispute*; *Score*; *bobrauschenbergamerica*; *Room*; *War of the Worlds*; *Cabin Pressure*; *The Radio Play*; *Alice's Adventures*; *Culture of Desire*; *Bob*; *Going, Going, Gone*; *Small Lives/Big Dreams*; *The Medium*; Noel Coward's *Hay Fever* and *Private Lives*; August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*; and Charles Mee's *Orestes*. She is the author of three books: *A Director Prepares*, *The Viewpoints Book* and *And Then, You Act*.

Jocelyn Clarke (Playwright) is a freelance dramaturg and writer. He is a creative advisor on the Screenwriting program at the National Film School in Ireland, as well as a member of the artistic staff of the Sundance Theatre Lab. He was the Commissioning and Literary Manager of the Abbey Theatre for four years, and lead theatre critic with The Sunday Tribune for nine years. He has written four adaptations for Anne Bogart and SITl Company—*Bob*, *Alice's Adventures*, *Room*, and *Score*. He is an Associate Artist with the New York based theatre collective The Civilians, and recently collaborated with the company on a new play *Brooklyn at Eye Level*, which premiered in New York last December. His adaptation of Flann O'Brien's *At Swim Two Birds* for the Blue Raincoat Theatre Company will open in Sligo, Ireland, in November.

M.L. Dogg, (Associate Sound Designer) has designed for such companies as Second Stage Theatre, Why Not Theatre, Herman World Productions, The Boise Contemporary Theater, The Pearl Theatre Company, The Living Room For Artists Inc., 13P, Two River Theater Co., Berkeley Repertory Theatre, The Roundabout Theatre, Working Theatre, Ars Nova, Epic Theatre Ensemble, Stillpoint Productions, The Women's Project, Theatre B, Classic Stage Company, and The Actors Theatre Of Louisville. Awards: Outstanding Sound Design, 2005 FringeNYC Festival, *Go-Go Kitty*, *GO!*; Drama Desk nominee, 2002, *Cressida Among the Greeks*.

Ellen Lauren (Virginia Woolf) Associate Artistic Director for SITl. Company credits include: *Under Construction*, *Radio Macbeth*, *Who Do You Think You Are*, *Hotel Cassiopeia*, *Death and the Ploughman*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *systems/layers*, *bobrauschenbergamerica*, *War of the Worlds*, *Cabin Pressure*, *The Medium*, *Culture of Desire*, *Going, Going, Gone*, *Orestes*. Venues include: Bonn Germany, Iberoamericano Bogota, BAM Next Wave, Humana, Bobigny, Melbourne, Edinburgh, Singapore Festivals; Wexner, Krannert and Walker; NYTW, CSC, Miller Theater in NYC. Regional credits with SITl: San Jose Rep, ART Cambridge, Court Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville: (including *Picnic*, *Adding Machine*, *Hay Fever*, *Miss Julie*, *Private Lives*). Additional credits include *The Women* (Hartford Stage), *Seven Deadly Sins* (New York City Opera, Kosovar Award for Anna II) all with Anne Bogart. Resident company member: StageWest Mass., The Milwaukee Repertory, The Alley Theatre. Associate artist for The Suzuki Company of Toga (SCOT); Venues include, Moscow Art Theatre, Toga Festival, Alexandrinsky Theatre, RSC, Theatre Olympics Athens, Istanbul Festival, Festival Mundial Chile, Teatro Olimpico Italy, Montpelier France, Hong Kong Festival. Ongoing faculty member 11 years: The Juilliard School of Drama; Associate Director Summer Training Program, Toga, Japan. 2008 TCG Fox Fellowship recipient for Distinguished Achievement.

Barney O'Hanlon (Movement Dramaturg) has been a SITI Company member since 1994 and collaborator with Anne Bogart since 1986. International: Dublin Theatre Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, Prague Quadrennial, MC93 Bobigny, France, Bonn Biennial, Festival Iberoamericano, Bogota, Kaleideskop Theatre, Copenhagen, Denmark, Royal Shakespeare Company, Stratford on Avon. New York: BAM's Next Wave Festival, Public Theater, New York Theater Workshop, PS 122, Dance Theater Workshop, New York City Opera, Glimmerglass Opera. Regional: American Repertory Theater, Trinity Rep., Alley Theater, Actors Theater of Louisville, Steppenwolf, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, San Jose Rep, Portland Stage, UCLA Performing Arts, Walker and Wexner Arts Centers, the Krannert Art Center, Austin's Rude Mechs (with Deborah Hay) and numerous Humana Festivals. Other: Los Angeles Opera, Opera Omaha, Prince Music Theater.

James Schuette (Costume Design) has designed over 15 productions for the SITI Company. Recent work includes Tarrell Alvin McCraney's *Brother/Sister* plays directed by Tina Landau (McCarter Theatre, Public Theater and Steppenwolf), *Ghosts of Versailles* directed by James Robinson (Opera Theatre of Saint Louis and the Wexford Festival), *Endgame* directed by Frank Galati (Steppenwolf) and Tracy Letts' *Superior Donuts* directed by Tina Landau (Broadway/Music Box). His work has been seen at the American Repertory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, American Conservatory Theatre, Arena Stage, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Berkeley Rep, Court Theatre, Goodman Theatre, Minneapolis Children's Theatre, Long Wharf, La Jolla Playhouse, Mark Taper Forum, Manhattan Theatre Club, New York Theatre Workshop, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Playwrights Horizons, The Public Theater, Papermill Playhouse, Seattle Rep, Trinity Rep, Vineyard Theatre, Yale Rep, Boston Lyric Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Seattle Opera, New York City Opera, Santa Fe Opera, Minnesota Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Opera Colorado and internationally. Upcoming projects include *La Cenerentola* (Minnesota Opera), *La Fille du Regiment* and *The Death of Klinghoffer* (Opera Theatre of St Louis), *Nixon in China* (Canadian Opera Company), *Un Ballo in Maschera* (Washington National Opera) and Ricky Ian Gordon's *Sycamore Trees* at Signature Theatre.

Brian H. Scott (Light Design) With SITI Company: *American Document*, *Antigone*, *Freshwater*, *Who Do You Think You Are*, *Radio Macbeth*, *Hotel Cassiopeia*, *Death and the Ploughman*, *bobrauschenbergamerica* (2004 Henry Hewes Design Award), *systems/layers*, *War of the Worlds – The Radio Play*. With Rude Mechanicals: *The Method Gun*, *Lipstick Traces*, *Big Love*, *Cherrywood*, *Matchplay*. Classic Stage Company: *The Age of Iron*, *Hamlet*, *Richard II*, *Richard III*, *The Tempest*. With Playwrights Horizons: *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. With NYTW: *Songs From an Unmade Bed*.

Ruth E. Sternberg (Production Stage Manager) is thrilled to be working with the SITI Company once again. Ruth is currently in her sixth season as Director of Production for the Public Theater. Ms. Sternberg has stage managed for directors Anne Bogart, Robert Wilson, Richard Foreman, Mark Lamos, Emily Mann, Amanda Dehnert, David Rabe, David Wheeler, Scott Ellis and Ken Bryant (among others) at theaters such as Hartford Stage Company, Dallas Theatre Center, American Repertory Theatre, McCarter Theatre, as well as Trinity Repertory Company.

Darron L West (Soundscape) a SITI Company member since 1993 and first collaborated with Anne Bogart in 1990 while resident sound designer at Actors Theatre of Louisville. His work has been heard in over 400 productions both Nationally and Internationally. His accolades include a 1998 Obie award for SITI's BOB, A 2000 Princes Grace Award, An Entertainment Design Magazine EDDY the 2004 and 2005 Henry Hewes Design award and a 2006 Lortell Award. As Director *Kid Simple* (2004 Humana Festival at Actors Theater of Louisville), *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* and *Eurydice* (Children's Theater Co. Minneapolis), *Big Love* (Rude Mechanicals Austin, Texas) and SITI Company's *War of the Worlds – The Radio Play* (National Tour).

Megan Wanlass Szalla (Executive Director) has been a member of SITI Company since 1995. Megan was the Company Stage Manager for five years prior to becoming SITI's Executive Director. In her tenure with SITI, Megan has helped to create over 25 shows. She began working with Anne Bogart during *The Adding Machine* at Actors Theatre of Louisville. She has an Arts Administration Certificate from New York University, attended the Executive Program for Non-Profit Leaders at Stanford University Business School, was a member of the Arts Leadership Institute Charter Class at Teachers College, Columbia University and holds a B.A. in Theater from Occidental College in Los Angeles, California. Megan currently serves on the board of Theatre Communications Group (TCG).

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