THE EFFECT

By Lucy Prebble

Directed by Christina Gutierrez-Dennehy

FEB 22, 23, 28, MAR 1, 2 AT 7:30 PM
FEB 24, MAR 3 AT 2 PM

IN THE STUDIO THEATER

#DOINGTHEATRE

2019
THE EFFECT

by Lucy Prebble
directed by Christina Gutierrez-Dennehy

Please be aware this show contains scenes of nudity, violence, and adult content. Recording on any device during the performance is strictly prohibited.

There will be a fifteen minute intermission.

CAST

Dr. Lorna James                        Michaela Rodriguez*
Dr. Toby Sealey                        Morgan Gallob
Connie Hall                           Gillian Norton
Tristan Frey                          Nathan Gayan

CREATIVE TEAM

Director                                Christina Gutierrez-Dennehy
Movement Director                      Rebecca Whitehurst
Fight Choreography                      Bob Yowell
Costume Design                          Aliza Lynn^*+
Scenic Design                           Jess Lyon^+
Lighting Design                         Helena Williams^+
Sound Design                            Ben Alexander

PRODUCTION TEAM

Technical Director                      Mark DeLancey
Stage Manager                           Lily Vetter^*
Assistant Stage Manager                 Teresa Wise+ & Matthew Villarreal+
Chore Scenic Artist                     Jess Lyon^+
Props Manager                           Jess Lyon^+
Resident Stage Manager                  Ella Johnson*+
Master Electrician                      Rebekah Ryan+
Lighting Programmer                     Kathryn Frketich+
Lighting Coordinator                    Michael Castro*+ & Jayden X. Hill
Master Electrician                      Rebekah Ryan+
Costume Shop Manager                    Nancy Parr
Chair & Event Promotion                 Kathleen M. McGeever
Program Design                          Kacie Debevc
Poster Design                           Sydney Graham

CAPSTONE^ APO* USITT+
**COSTUME CREW**

Costume Crew Head: Charlene McKenna  
Run Crew: Sean Lang, & Allison Jasper

**LX CREW**

LX Crew Head: Gabrielle Affronti  
Crew: Kelsey Brown, Alexis Gibbs, Holly Glave, Grace Kennedy, & David Quinones

**CARPENTRY & PAINT CREW**

Crew: Claire Woodard, Jesse Wannagot, Steven Schwartz, Maia Englethaler, Jamelissa Ottley, Eliza Estabrook, Ava Liu, & Keara Normile

**EVENT PROMOTION**

Event Promotion Assistant: Kacie Debevc  
Team: Skyllar Huskisson

**HOUSE MANAGEMENT**

Managers: Tori Niemiec++ & Emily Wood ++  
*Thank you Ushers for your volunteer work!*

**SPECIAL THANKS**

Patricia Murphey Visual Design Lab, Valero Ferme Dean of College of Arts & Letters, Linda Phoenix Theatre Administrative Associate, Shawn Dennehy & Stella Dennehy.  
The Department of Theatre would also like to recognize Bill and Jana Harper for their generous Endowment for production. Please consider giving to this important fund:  
The Harper Family Endowment

**WHAT’S NEXT?**

**MR. BURNS, A POST ELECTRIC PLAY**

by Anne Washburn  
Score by Michael Friedman  
Lyrics by Anne Washburn

**DATES & TIMES**

April 19-20, 25-27 at 7:30PM  
April 21, 28 at 2PM

**IN THE CLIFFORD E. WHITE THEATER**

Buy tickets today:  
ONLINE nau.edu/cto  
PHONE 928-523-5661  
IN PERSON: Ticket office in University Union
The Effect
By Lucy Prebble
A Note from the Director

Welcome to Raushen Technologies, and to our latest and most exciting drug trial series! We here at Rauchen are excited to invite you in to our experiments with cutting edge medical technology designed to revolutionize the ways we treat, supplement, and ultimately medicate mental illness. We are fully confident that through scientific advances, we can map out the human brain—with all of its attendant disorders, quirks, and glitches—and move toward a comprehensive understanding of human consciousness.

...or are we?

Alternately, maybe what we’ve discovered is that human consciousness, human desires, and human emotions really can’t be quantified. How do we know that what we feel is “real?” Or maybe a bigger and more pressing question—what does “real” even mean? Or beyond even that question, does it matter, in the end, what in our lives was “real” and what was manufactured by substances, experiences, memories, or encounters?

The Effect is both a simple love story and a gigantic look at the ways in which our brains interact with the world around us. We follow Tristan and Connie through their participation in an new antidepressant drug trial, but maybe what we’re really looking at is an exploration of the dis/connects between the heart and the brain. Maybe what we think we know isn’t what we know, or what we feel.

Much in this world will look recognizable, but much might also seem alien or strange. How do we integrate experiences into our consciousnesses that do not seem to line up how we’ve always understood the world to work? While most of us don’t volunteer on a regular basis to be test subjects for new mind-altering substances, our increasingly global culture presents us everyday with new perspectives and stories about ourselves and our worlds. Maybe then, this play is actually about how we choose to accept or reject those new inputs.

As much as medical technology has advanced, our understanding of depression and anxiety in particular continues to develop. The Effect gives us numerous viewpoints about both the advantages of medication as well as the creative possibilities inherent in non-neurotypical brains. Where do we draw the line between self-help and self-harm? Can Western medicine incorporate notions of mental health in holistic ways?

I don’t promise that this play will answer any of those questions. In fact, I can almost certainly guarantee that it won’t. Rather than answers, I hope that The Effect gives you space for the questions, and for the contradictory ways in which others have answered them.

-Christina Gutierrez-Dennehy, Director

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