



Florida Players Presents

# Melancholy Play

a play by Sarah Ruhl  
directed by Matthew Bratko

Feb 12-14

Squitieri Studio Theatre at the Phillips Center

 **FLORIDA  
PLAYERS**

Tickets available at [floridaplayers.org](http://floridaplayers.org)



## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

*This play is dedicated to everyone who, at one point or another, has traveled to an almond state. ~ Sarah Ruhl*

The above dedication has brought me to tears more than once. It consistently makes me feel seen, understood, and loved.

I've been searching for an opportunity to stage this play since I first read it three years ago, so I am overjoyed that Florida Players has come together to bring it to life. It's one of the lesser-known works of Sarah Ruhl for reasons that are inexplicable to me. This play resonates on a deeper level because of its casual treatment of non-traditional sexuality, its deliberate emphasis on the emotional experiences between human beings, and its subtle and nuanced exploration of mental health. It manages to do all this heavy lifting almost effortlessly and with a joyful abundance of humor and good will.

I work in support of a theatre that cares. Cares about people, about the world, about its artists and its audiences, but cares very little about its self-importance or personal success. I apologize if this is bordering on manifesto, but I see so much theatre that cares primarily about itself. It has been my honor and privilege to be here with wonderful generous artists who work in service of the theatre because of the brokenness they see in the world and their determination to make it whole through their art.

I'd like especially to thank Jordan Key, for composing the music that my direction attempts to live up to.

Matthew Bratko, Director

Florida Players  
Presents

# MELANCHOLY PLAY

A play by

**Sarah Ruhl**

Directed by

**Matthew Bratko**

# CAST & CREW

Frank. . . . . Tyler Ellman  
Frances. . . . . Emily Lewis  
Joan. . . . . Karen Marulanda  
Lorenza . . . . . Courtney Mims  
Tilly. . . . . Summer Pliskow

Director . . . . . Matthew Bratko  
Assistant Director. . . . . Hannah Gintberg Dees  
Stage Manager. . . . . Ryley Valenti  
Assistant Stage Manager (Show). . . . . Mackenzie Bowden  
Assistant Stage Manager (Rehearsal). . . . . Esha Banwatt

Cellist. . . . . Ginny Lane  
Composer . . . . . Jordan Key  
Set Designer . . . . . Courtney Rogers  
Properties Master . . . . . Eddie Datz

# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

## Esha Banwatt

Assistant Stage Manager (Rehearsal)  
Esha is a Freshman pursuing a Biology major. She is happy to be involved in the arts through her first production with Florida Players.

## Mackenzie Bowden

Stage Manager (Show)  
Mackenzie is happy to be an ASM for this production. She's previously stage managed Thank God for AIDS and Killer Joe.

## Matthew Bratko

Director  
Enjoy the show!

## Hannah Gintberg-Dees

Assistant Director  
The foreign, really really blond sophomore BA is excited to be working on her first Florida players show and hopes to be doing many more!

## Tyler Ellman

Frank  
Doing a play about almonds...yes I'm allergic to almonds, and no mom the almonds are not real. Lmk if you like it and thanks for all your hardwork!

## Jordan Key

Composer  
Enjoy the show!

## Ginny Lane

Cellist  
Ginny Lane is a senior studying chemical engineering and cello performance at the University of Florida. Enjoy the show!

## Emily Lewis

Frances  
Emily is thrilled to be a part of this beautiful play and cast. She hopes you enjoy the show.

## Karen Marulanda

Joan  
Karen is a BFA Acting major, previously seen in FP's "Shakespeare (Abridged)". She's so proud of this cast & crew!

## Courtney Mims

Lorenza  
Courtney Mims is a first year Telecommunications major at UF. She is excited to portray a character that eats so much chocolate.

# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Summer Pliskow

Tilly

Summer is a BFA Acting major at UF. She would like to thank her cast for joining her on this "nutty" adventure!

Pun intended.

Courtney Rogers

Set Designer

Enjoy the show!

Ryley Valenti

Stage Manager

"Questa e la prima volta di Ryley nel ruolo di direttrice organizzativa."

This is Ryley's first time as a Stage Manager.

Sophia Vincent

Properties Master

Enjoy the show!

# 2015 - 2016 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Artistic Director .....	Andrew Quimby
Assistant Artistic Director .....	Kacey Musson
Production Manager .....	Lauren Kennedy
Assistant Production Manager .....	Matthew Henao
Assistant Production Manager .....	Macy Schmidt
Director of Publicity .....	Veronica Cinibulk
Assistant Director of Publicity .....	Eddie Datz
Director of Finance .....	Melanie Sholl
Special Events Coordinator .....	Michael Ortiz
Secretary .....	Summer Pliskow
Historian .....	Mako Horikoshi
Webmaster .....	Marcus Ball
Outreach Liaison .....	Kelsa Kuchera
Faculty Advisor .....	Tiza Garland

Florida Players is a student-run theatre company that provides opportunities for students to explore the world of theatre and showcase their talents in doing so. Sponsored by UF Student Government, Florida Players produces plays, musicals, and new works throughout each school year and is open to students of all majors as well as Gainesville community members.

Since its founding in 1929, the organization's purpose has been to facilitate the acclimation of students into the professional theatre environment. Florida Players offers students opportunities in all aspects of theatre including direction, design, performance, and playwriting, as well as leadership positions.

# SPRING 2016 SEASON

MELANCHOLY PLAY

by Sarah Ruhl  
Directed by Matthew Bratko  
Squitieri Black Box Theatre

ONLY YOU

by Timothy Mason  
Directed by Lauren Killer  
Squitieri Black Box Theatre

IN THE HEIGHTS

Playwright: Quiara Alegria Hudes  
Composer: Lin-Manuel Miranda  
Directed by Sami Gresham and  
Chris Alfonso  
Nadine McGuire Black Box

## SPECIAL THANKS

Tiza Garland	Anneliese Bratko
Dr. Ralf Remshardt	Jenny Goelz
Dr. Jerry Dickey	Ernest Briggs
Stacey Galloway	Mina Morita
Chris Herold	UF Student Government

## WHAT DID YOU THINK?

Tell us what you thought of  
the show on Twitter using  
#FloridaPlayers.



Florida Players



@Florida\_Players



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