



WRITTEN BY:  
**LAUREN GUNDERSON**

DIRECTED BY:  
**LISA O'BRIEN**  
AND **DAVID VEGH**

**OCT. 4-6, 11-13**



**CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY**  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Theater



The Case Western Reserve University  
Department of Theater presents

# SILENT SKY

Written by: Lauren Gunderson

Directed by: Lisa O'Brien and David Vegh

Scenic Design

Jill Davis

Costume Design

Angelina Herin

Lighting Design

Nolan Sayer

Sound Design

Jim Swonger

Projection Design

Nicholas Drashner

*This production contains brief moments of theatrical haze  
and bright lights.*

**SETTINGS**

1900-1920

Star field.

The Harvard Observatory 2nd floor offices.

Leavitt home, Wisconsin.

Ocean liner on the Atlantic.

Henrietta's home, Cambridge, MA



**CAST**

HENRIETTA LEAVITT .....Olivia Minner  
MARGARET LEAVITT .....Madeline Golya  
PETER SHAW ..... Ethan Teel  
ANNIE CANNON ..... Carrena Spann  
WILLIAMINA FLEMING ..... Abigail Gilman

## PRODUCTION CREW

Stage Manager ..... Sophie Harrington  
Assistant Stage Manager ..... Maya Zimmer  
Dialect Coach. .... Beth McGee  
Light Board Op ..... Daishanay Williams  
Sound Op ..... Samantha Mailer  
Projections Op ..... Rachel Greidinger  
Wardrobe #1 ..... Dominic Monczewski  
Wardrobe #2 ..... Emily Kuntz  
Backstage Crew #1 ..... JR Ansu  
Backstage Crew #2 ..... Kashmere Shafik  
Backstage Crew #3 ..... Ouattara Matagari  
Backstage Crew #4 ..... Macy Dickerson  
Scene Shop Technicians ..... Lucy Ma  
Costume Shop Assistants ..... Jack Exline, Ava Bee  
Construction and Lighting Crew ..... Students Enrolled in  
THTR 105, 185

## DIRECTOR BIOS

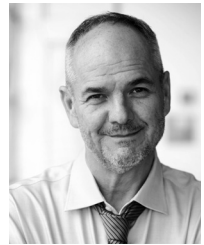
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**Lisa O'Brien** (Co-Director) is thrilled to be back at CWRU as an alumni to make her directorial debut! While you may be used to seeing her act, like in last year's fall production of *The Moors* as the Moor-Hen, Lisa has been getting more into directing with her most recent credit being the assistant director for the CWRU/CPH MFA

program's production of *Middletown*. She would like to thank the theatre department for this wonderful opportunity, her cast for being so full of curiosity and play, and David for being a great mentor and co-pilot. She hopes you all enjoy *Silent Sky*!

**David Vegh** (Co-Director) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Theater and Artistic Director of the undergraduate season. He has directed numerous productions at CWRU including *The Moors*, *Almost, Maine*, *Stop Kiss* and *Cry Baby*. He also directed *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* for the CWRU/CPH MFA Acting Program (virtual). Locally, he has directed for None Too Fragile (Cleveland Critics Circle Nomination) and the Beck Center for the Arts.



## CAST BIOS

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**Olivia Minner** (Henrietta Leavitt) is a fifth-year (4.5 if you want to get technical) Chemical Engineering Major, Theater Minor, and she is unbelievably honored to be playing Henrietta Leavitt. *Silent Sky* is her second production in the Case Theater Department, the first being *Dancing at Lughnasa* where she had the honor of playing

Kate. Other theater productions she's been in at Case include playing Hedda in PTG's *Moose Murders* and Beth in Footlighters' *Merrily We Roll Along*. She wants to thank you all for coming to see this beautiful play full of beautiful people. Most of all, she'd like to thank her parents for raising her to always look up at the night sky with wonder.



**Madeline Golya** (Margaret Leavitt) is a fourth year English and theater double major with a minor in marketing. Some of her past performance credits include Raelynn Nix (*John Proctor is the Villain*), Chrysothemis (*Electra*), and Catherine (*Pippin*). Madeline is ecstatic to be returning to the black box to tell this phenomenal story with such a talented and wonderful cast, crew, and production team.

**Ethan Teel** (Peter Shaw) is a fourth-year student studying English and Economics. Frequent visitors to the Maltz Performing Arts Center may recognize him from previous roles in various department productions, or from IMPROVment's weekly comedy shows. He secretly hopes that at least one member of CWRU's Department of Astronomy is in the audience tonight.



**Carrena Spann** (Annie Cannon) hails from Columbia, SC, and a life spent (thus far) in theater-making and the arts at large. A Drama graduate from The South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, Carrena is deeply excited to perform for the first time in a department show. She, as a Department Full Tuition and Dunn Scholarship recipient, is extremely thankful to the cast and creative team for coming alongside her and making her feel at home, the department, as always, for their unending support, her 'tribe' on campus for being a ray of light in dark times, and most sweetly, her deeply loving family who hold her down from home. She is grateful to Christ for the opportunity to marvel at the stars, like we all should from time to time.

## CAST BIOS, *continued*

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**Abigail Gilman** (Williamina Fleming) is thrilled to be back on the CWRU stage! She is a junior studying political science and theater. Past credits include *Cymbeline* (Imogen) and *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Maggie). Many thanks to this wonderful creative team, cast, and crew.

## DESIGN AND PRODUCTION BIOS

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**Sophie Harrington** (Stage Manager) is a senior theater and business management major with a minor in French. She wants to thank this fabulous cast, crew and production staff for giving her truly one of the most fun and wonderful shows she's ever worked on. This is Sophie's senior capstone and she looks forward to having a future of many more shows like this. She also wants to thank her family and Milo for coming out to support her and see a show, hope you all enjoy :)



**Maya Zimmer** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a second-year studying Theater and Sociology. Past credits with the CWRU Department of Theater include Beth in *John Proctor is the Villain* and a Chorus member in *Electra*. She is a proud participant of Players' Theatre Group and Studio300. She would like to thank Lisa O'Brien, David Vegh, and Sophie Harrington for their guiding leadership.



**Jill Davis** (Scenic Designer) is an Associate Professor at CWRU and serves as Resident Scenic Designer and for the Department of Theater. CWRU Department of Theater set designs include *Cabaret*, *Electra*, *Blood at the Root*, *Almost, Maine*, and *Arcadia*; and lighting designs include: *John Proctor is the Villain*, *Proof*, *The King Stag*. CWRU/CPH

MFA Acting Ensemble set designs include *The Seagull*, *Macbeth*, *Clybourne Park*, *Too True to Be Good*. Professional designs include *Every Brilliant Thing* (Cleveland Play House), *Chez Feydeau* (The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London), *A Doll's House* (The American Stage Theater Company), *The Other Place*, *Hurricane Diane*, *Marjorie Prime*, *The Flick*, (and others) for Dobama Theatre, *A Doll's House Part 2* and *Doubt* for Beck Center for the Arts.

**Nolan Sayer** (Lighting Designer) is a fourth year Mechanical Engineering major and Theater Design minor. He has previously sound designed for *Stop Kiss* and Lighting Designed for *The Moors*. He has also Tech Directed for productions of *Chicago*, *Pippin*, and *Heathers*. At CWRU he is the President of Engineers without Borders. He would like to thank the cast, crew, and production team for such a wonderful experience.



**Angelina Herin** (Costume Designer) is a Cleveland, OH based costume, wig, and makeup designer. She has designed for theatres across the country including Creede Repertory Theatre, Cleveland Play House, Theatre at Monmouth, Montana Repertory Theatre, The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio, and the Texas Shakespeare Festival. Angelina is an

Associate Professor and has been the Resident Costume Designer for the CWRU Department of Theater since 2011.

**Jim Swonger** (Sound Designer) has been a sound designer for the Cleveland area since 2004, designing for Cleveland Play House, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland Opera, Cleveland State University, Dobama, and various other projects. He has designed for various theaters across the country including Yale Repertory Theater, George Street Playhouse, Pioneer Theater Company, Center Stage in Baltimore, and Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. He has designed the world premieres of various shows including *why i had to dance* by Ntozake Shange, *The Tragic Demise of the Whaleship Essex* by Timothy J. Ray and *Swinging on a Star: A Tribute to the Music of Johnny Burke* by Michael Leeds. He has also taught Sound Design and Engineering at the University of Utah and Cleveland State University, as well as various seminars on Sound Design.



**Nicholas Drashner** (Projection Design) Nicholas is thrilled to join the faculty at Case Western Reserve University as an Associate Professor and resident sound and projection designer in the Department of Theater. His design credits include productions with companies such as Cleveland Play House, Dobama Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, La Jolla Playhouse, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, East West Players, and Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble. He received an MFA in Sound Design and a BA in Interdisciplinary Computing in the Arts, both from University of California, San Diego.

## DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

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Department Chair .....	Jeffrey Ullom
Artistic Director .....	David Vegh
Managing Director.....	Angelina Herin
Administrator .....	Elizabeth Rickel
Production Manager and Technical Director.....	Homer J. Farr
Scene Shop Manager and Assistant Technical Director .....	Nathan Kunst
Costume Shop Manager .....	Rainie J. Wilkes
Wig Design .....	Wigs and Whiskers
Theater Coordinator .....	Gregory Przybylak
House Manager .....	Ashley Rosinski
Usher .....	Sydney Raby

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