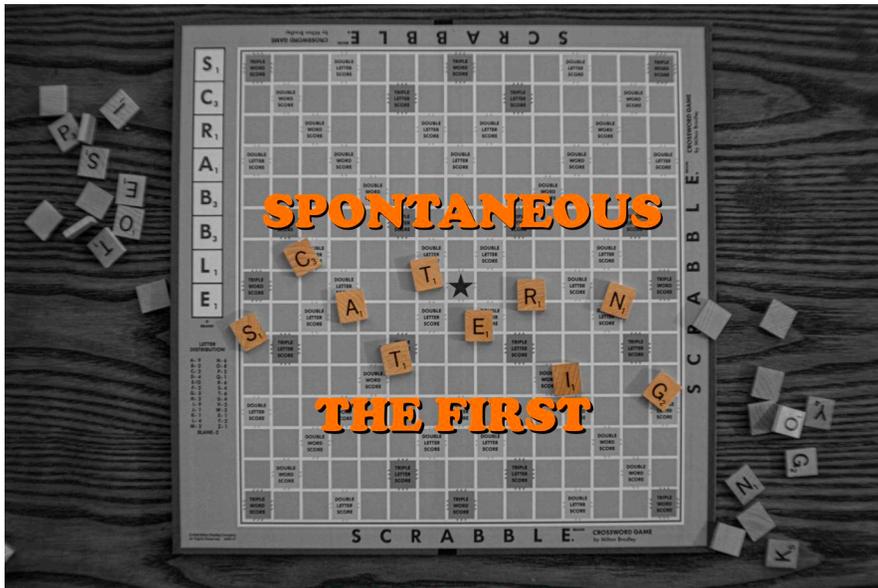




PRESENTS



**Saturday, November 21, 2020
7:00PM**

Streamed over YouTube Live

SPONTANEOUS SCATTERING THE FIRST

A 24-HOUR PLAY FESTIVAL

In March 2020, we had to close the doors of our theatre space on the eve of opening *Separating the Art* by David L. Williams. Since that time, Cone Man Running has worked to figure out creative ways to keep creating theatre for our audiences. In the 8 months since the start of the pandemic, we have kept busy, producing *The War of the Words*, an audioplay podcast which has since released 80 episodes and 117 original audioplays; an audience-interactive, live streamed original murder mystery show – our Cone Man Capers and now this – our inaugural **Spontaneous Scattering the First!**

And thanks to the generosity of our supporters and patrons like you, we have been able to keep our space in the hopes that very soon, we will be able to return to it and produce live shows and continue our mission to bring original and innovative works to Houston and the world.

So to show our appreciation, we hope you will enjoy this production – our first, entirely virtual Smattering – or Scattering if you will, showcasing the talents of 58 playwrights, directors, actors and producers from all over the country.

It is because of you that we are able to continue to play. Thank you so much.

PLAY PARAMETERS:

- 10 pages (no more than 11 minutes performed)
- Genre drawn at random
- Actors drawn at random
- Playwrights had to find a celebrity who shared their birthday and incorporate them into their play
- They had to include the origin story of a nickname (real or fictional)
- They had to include an action where an item was passed from one character to another character
- They had to include this line:
“I wanted to be a/an _____ when I grew up, but then _____ happened.”
- All shows have to use a spatula – the assigned prop

Artistic Director: Christine Weems

Everything Else to Make the Show Run Like Butter: Joshua Tiberius Baker

Want to stay on top of all of the fun Cone Man Running has to offer? Follow us on social media!

 Facebook at /ConeManRunningProductions

 www.twitter.com/conemanprod

 Instagram @ conemanrunningprod

THE PLAYS (IN ORDER):

HELL ON PLASTIC WHEELS

By Ben Plopper

Directed by Kelsey Finstad

Actors: Rachel Brownhill, Jenny Grabowski, Helen Rios and
Melissa Rodriguez

Genre: Sports



Ben Plopper (Playwright) is pleased to be part of the Cone Man Running extended family. Fresh off a round of audio dramas with Cone Man's "War of the Words Bracket Battle" and "Cone Man's Cauldron," he's glad that he can participate in this existential nightmare timeline's version of Spontaneous Smattering *ne* Scattering.



Kelsey Finstad (Director) did shows in Houston a lot and then moved to Washington. Now she enjoys beautiful hiking trails, legal weed, tolerable weather and a winning football team. But she truly misses the Houston people and theatre more than Whataburger's spicy ketchup. Shout out to Troy - *fingers crossed* he has to sing in this one too!



Rachel Brownhill (Actor) is excited to be back! An actress and voice over artist at Pastorini Bosby Talent. she also enjoys acting in the theatre scene. Rachel has appeared with Mildred's Umbrella most recently and will be narrating a Christmas story for Express Children's Theatre. Her full resume can be found at www.pbtalent.com.



Jenny Grabowski (Actor) is pleased to have continued her Smattering/Scattering participation into the double digits. While she is thrilled that Cone Man has found a way to play, she'd like to gently remind everybody to PLEASE WEAR YOUR MASK AND USE SOCIAL DISTANCING! Thank you!



Helen Rios (Actor) - If she is in a Western once again then the Smattering gods and Christine Weems personally and vindictively hate her. But other than that,...happy to be here.



Melissa Rodriguez (Actor) is a forensic scientist/theatre enthusiast. She recently can be heard in Cone Man Running's War of the Words Audio Play Podcast ... She wants to thank her two pups Luna and Apollo for offering so much companionship during this pandemic and her husband for encouraging her to bake even though it forced him to work out more.

YEA, MY PARENTS DANCE NAKED IN THE MOONLIGHT, WHAT OF IT?

By Kris Thompson

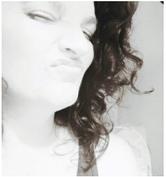
Directed by Leighza Walker

Actors: Helen Baker, Megan Nix, Dan Potter and Jonny Ringo

Genre: Fish Out of Water



Kris Thompson (Playwright) is always honored to play with Cone Man. Competitive lovemaking? Superhero infidelity? Another frickin western...are you serious? At Scattering... anything's possible! Kris has enjoyed production by a bunch of theatres (working w/CMR is her FAV) and is a member of Dramatist Guild of America and National New Play Exchange.



Leighza F. Walker (Director) is an actor, director, storyteller, set designer, producer, and award-winning playwright who studied with Edward Albee. She was selected in 2012 by the Houston Press as one of "100 Creatives" and is the Executive Director (and Queen) of Leighzaland. Leighza currently serves as Festival Manager for MUTC's iconic *Museum of Dysfunction*.



Helen Baker (Actor) is excited to play in the zoom with all these fabulous artists! She spends most of her time teaching theatre to middle school, so this is a fun break. One favorite role played is Inga in *Young Frankenstein*. Let's do this :)



Megan Nix (Actor) - It has been so long since Megan has done a show she has forgotten how to write bios. Megan has performed in 7 Smatterings, and has enjoyed each and every experience. Enjoy the show, tip your waiter, and have a nice evening of Scattering.



Dan Potter (Actor) has done shows in northern Virginia/Washington DC and Houston. Most recently, he was involved with Cone Man Running's WotW and Cauldron. This is his first experience with the Scattering – though arguably it's everyone's first time too...Dan adults during the week doing education research at Rice University.



Jonny Ringo (Actor) is thrilled to finally join the talented performers in this year's Cone Man Running Scattering. He has spent the last few years working more behind the scenes as a fight choreographer for the stage, film and various environmental theater shows. Most recently Jonny had the joy of playing Borachio in *Much Ado About Nothing* and Hortensio in *The Taming of the Shrew*.

THE BALLAD OF SETBACK SHANE

By Cassie Randall

Directed by Lauren Hainley

Actors: Sherra Gilbert, Reed Halvorson, Brian Kondrach and

Qasim Makkani

Genre: Western



Cassie Randall (Playwright) is PSYCHED to get to join the writers for Scattering. She loves writing, she loves acting, she loves Cone Man Running, and she owes a ton to each of them. Enjoy the show!!!



Lauren Hainley (Director) does theater. She also runs the Disaster Services program at Houston Arts Alliance. Thus, she is too tired to write a bio. Visit ready.haax.com if you need help.



Sherra Gilbert (Actor) is excited to participate in *Scattering*. Her best-known lines in her prior Cone Man Running debut was "Tell me what to do; I don't know what to do" - nothing could be further from the truth! Sherra is a mediator and the founder of Gilbert Law Firm, LLP. She also enjoys drinking wine with her friends...the ones who know she knows what to do.



Reed Halvorson (Actor) - ...He's taught HS theatre for the last 10 years, the last five at Christ Church Episcopal School. He's stayed busy with local theatres as an actor, director, playwright, and technician. He's excited to join his long distance family of Cone Man Running again from the comfort of his living room...He is 1/3 of the acoustic duo "Hatman and The Reed" and a proud girl-dad to a talented Color Guard performing 14 year old, Carly.



Brian Kondrach (Actor) is an actor and writer in Houston, TX focused mostly on improv comedy. He is absolutely thrilled to be working with Cone Man Running again. He is currently a professional player at ComedySportz Houston and the host of The Jim Carrey Project.



Qasim Makkani (Actor) - I have some formal training as an actor, but mostly learned by doing. I've acted in a lot of sketch shows over the past 3-ish years. I love getting into a character's skin. I've done mostly comedy, but I really enjoy dramatic roles. I'm a formally trained improviser and a semi-accomplished singer.

A TIMELESS NIGHT IN PARIS

By Kacie Adams

Directed by Eric Dunlap

Actors: Kealoha Petersen, Sandra Ramsey and Jason Rivas

Genre: Period Piece



Kacie Adams (Playwright) is so mentally ready for Scattering she didn't even remember that she needed to send in a bio until way after the deadline! (Get it? Because she's so... SCATTER-brained?!) Jokes aside, Kacie loves Cone Man so freaking much, and she hopes whatever goofiness ensues from her writing manages to express her thanks to all of her friends for supporting our theatre fundraiser. She has no idea what she'll write, but hey, that's the fun. Enjoy, pals!



J. Eric Dunlap (Director) has been active in Houston theatre since 1991 where he began his illustrious career as a prop. He has been seen both onstage and in the Director's chair at Theatre Southwest where he directed an original play in the 2019 Festival of Originals and Stupid F***ing Bird.



Kealoha Petersen (Actor) has been acting since 2012. He has appeared on stage at Houston Community College, Stageworks, The Beacon Theatre, Pasadena Little Theatre, and in the Houston Fringe Festival. This year he has been regularly appearing in Zoom Shakespeare and Drunk Shakespeare, which can both be seen on Facebook and Youtube.



Sandra Peck Ramsey (Actor) is thrilled to be joining Cone Man once again. She was last heard in War of the Words podcast as an actor and composer. She can be seen next in Pronoia Theater's Space Train Episode on December 10th. Visit www.sandramsey.com for more information.



Jason Rivas (Actor) defended his thesis two days ago. He'll receive a Masters degree in Public History this December. The success has already gone to his head. He demands no one make eye contact with him and for all to enjoy the show or he'll ruin your favorite historical movie.

I'VE HAD THE TIME CRIME OF MY LIFE PART II – DOUBLE THE CHRIS, DOUBLE THE CROSS

By Bryan Maynard

Directed by Sarah Sneesby

Actors: Bailey Hampton, Cheramie Hopper, Adina Owen and

Whitney Zangarine

Genre: Crime/Heist



Bryan Maynard (Playwright) is guilty of four full length plays produced by Cone Man, not to mention all 13 Smatterings, various short plays, sketch shows, and whatever else he could blackmail us into doing for him. In other words...HE WON'T LEAVE US ALONE! Call his wife and tell her to come pick him up!



Sarah Sneesby (Director) is excited to finally be in the director's chair this smattering after being in the role of audience member for previous years. When not searching for props and costumes and zoom production tricks, Sarah can be seen quarantining at home snuggling with her newborn baby girl whilst deep in the throws of writing her thesis for her MFA in Movement: Directing and Teaching from Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.



Bailey Hampton (Actor) has been in enough CMR productions to feel like performing in a virtual 24-hour play festival while alone at her parents' house in rural Michigan is a normal thing to be asked to do. Thanks to Christine and team for finding fun ways to keep us all creating!



Cheramie Hopper (Actor) is a Houston based director, actor, and educator. She loves Smattering and now Scattering, and is grateful to be able to work for this awesome company! She wants to thank her daughters, Corinne & Kensie, for being the most fun and inspiring daughters in the whole world!



Adina Owen (Actor) is delighted to be Scattering as an actor for the first time. Her recent appearances include *The Dead Eye Boy* (Shirley-Diane) at DDTCo.; *Twelfth Night* (Fabian) at Boiling Point Players/Company OnStage; and *A Doll's House* (Nora) at Theatre Southwest. She earned her degree in Integrative Arts from Penn State.



Whitney Zangarine (Actor) is a Houston actor who loves Cone Man! She appeared in several plays and musicals in the "before times." Now, she acts and teaches theatre over Zoom, eats a lot of carbs, and talks to her cats. She is so thankful for opportunities like this to perform with her friends ❤️

CONTROL-ALT-5

By Colleen O'Doherty

Directed by Rebecca Bernstein
Actors: Ruth McCleskey, Michael Raabe
and Carrie Lee Sparks
Genre: Sci Fi/Fantasy



Colleen O'Doherty (Playwright) is a writer based out of Omaha, NE, where she was born and raised. She has her MFA in play and screenwriting from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Her plays have been part of many festivals, including: Cone Man Running has also produced several of her audio plays in the last year, including: *Ghosts of COVIDs Past, Scrabble and Ashes*, and they are set to produce *Santa is F***ing Creepy* in October 2020.



Rebecca Bernstein (Director) is thrilled to be directing for the first Scattering (and her fifth Smattering-type event)! No stranger to Zoom theater, her virtual theater company Zoom Shakespeare has performed 42 productions of Elizabethan-era theater since March so far. She also will be appearing in the virtual premiere of *Ladies in the Hat* later this month! Happy Quarantine everyone! Hang in there!



Ruth McCleskey (Actor) graduated from the University of Houston with a degree in theater. She has varying theater credits and she'll show you her resume if you ask. She performs with Autumn Clack in the improv group Ophelia's Rope and is a co-founder of Boiling Point Players, a female-centric theater company.



Michael Raabe (Actor) happily returns for his 13th Cone Man Running event, and is always honored to be included. As a local actor with eight different theaters, and over a dozen theater companies, most recently on-line with Cone Man Runnings "Murder on the Deep Blue Sea," and selected Radio Plays...He is always honored to be invited to such a wonderful experience as Scattering. Thanks to all of Cone Man Running Productions for providing such a wonderful opportunity for such a diverse and talented group for such an amazing cause! All my love to Eric, who is my rock and support through theater and life!



Carrie Lee Sparks (Actor) - Yay Cone Man's COVID Smattering brainchild!! Ecstatic to share what we love and connect (♥ □ always Cone Man). Starring in a plethora of Midwest productions, she recently fulfilled artistic endeavors Live via Zoom/Facebook in premier of *Slave Narratives* as Hannah Ellis (*Vincent Victoria Presents*). Fav role: cat or ninja.

ALL RISE

By Michael Weems

Directed by Erica Smith
Actors: Audrey Burkhart, Autumn Clack, Ty Fisher and Kevin Sebastian
Genre: Fairy Tale



Michael Weems (Playwright) holds the crown from Smattering 13. The power is delicious.
www.playsofweems.com



Erica Smith (Director) is no stranger to a Smattering, nor to working with groups virtually (she's a teacher). She decided to join her two experiences to see what happens when she doesn't have to beg people to unmute themselves and turn their cameras on.



Audrey Burkhart (Actor) is excited to return to Cone Man Running after participating in War of the Words as both voice actress and writer of bonus plays. Many thanks to her family and friends for supporting her.



Autumn Clack (Actor) - Adelphi University; London Dramatic Academy; Improv with Massive Creativity. Half of improv duo Ophelia's Rope/co-founder Boiling Point Players. Roles - a bunch of Shakespeare's men with Boiling Point, also seen around town with Celebration Theatre, Mildred's Umbrella, and Cone Man. Aerial artist - anything she can hang upside down on.



Ty Fisher (Actor) is reminding you to never stop laughing.....never...and wear your damn mask! Oh yeah, theater is a joy. Treasure it, support it, and enjoy it. #LAUGHmore



Kevin Sebastian (Actor) is in NYC, riding out whatever pandemic wave we're on now. NYC: *The Adding Machine* (Off-Broadway), *Importance of Being Earnest*, *Complete Works of Shakespeare Abridged*, *Intermezzo* (NYC Opera at Lincoln Center). Regional: Rep Theatre of St. Louis, Arkansas Rep, Arrow Rock Lyceum. Film & TV: CBS's "Blue Bloods", "Murphy Brown", "Bull", Amazon's "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel". Kevin was a regular player in Christine's Phare Play Productions back in the day, and is honored to be a far-off Cone Man Runner. @KevSebastian

**WEDGED IN THE WALMART – CHAPTER 17:
COVIDIOTS, WALMARTIANS, AND FROZEN
CHICKEN NUGGIES AND CHAPTER18:
EVERYBODY GOOGLE IT BECAUSE THAT’S WHY
THE WATER IS SALTY**
By Nicholas Garelick

Directed by RaMina Mirmortazavi
Actors: Mary Andrechik, Brian Chambers and Sarah Keller
Genre: Serial Adventure



Nicholas Garelick (Playwright) is best known for writing absurdist fantasias about cats with veiled references to his marriage. A graduate of the University of Houston, his plays have been performed all over the place and tend to have titles that are... memorable. During quarantine, he learned how to tie a bowtie.



RaMina Mirmortazavi (Director) is a high school theatre teacher in Carrollton, Texas. She is a longtime theatre person, and she is so excited to be playing (virtually) with her favorite people to make art with!!



Mary Zuzik Andrechik (Actor) is an actor, writer, and director who is currently based in Washington, D.C., but she has been seen on stages all over the country. During COVID, Mary reconnected with CMR by voice acting in and writing audio plays for the War of the Words podcast.... Mary is thrilled to be acting again with Cone Man Running after having last performed in Smattering X.



Brian Chambers (Actor) has been a professional actor, director and acting coach for over ten years. ... Brian is thrilled to be joining Cone Man Running for this event. “Reason is intelligence taking exercise. Imagination is intelligence with an erection.” - Victor Hugo



Sarah Keller (Actor) is thrilled to join the Spontaneous Scattering from Cincinnati, Ohio! She has dabbled in Zoom Shakespeare during the pandemic, but her most recent in-person shows include *Shakespeare’s 154 Sonnets* (Boiling Point Players), *Local Authors Series: Ben Plopper* (Company OnStage), and *A Common Martyr* (Cone Man Running). Thank you; enjoy the show!

**THIS TIME IT’S PERSONNEL: AN AMANDA
KATKIT MYSTERY**
By David L. Williams

Directed by Aimee Todoroff
Actors: Sophia Carraro, Eliabeth Grant and Troy Rice
Genre: Mystery/Supense



David L. Williams (Playwright), the Bad Boy of War of the Words, lives in central Pennsylvania with his amazing wife Kathleen and wonderful son Samuel. He’s written more than 30 plays and musicals; you can learn all about them at www.playwrightdavid.com. Fun fact: David is RenaTa Smith’s favorite writer.



Aimee Todoroff (Director) is a freelance director, producer and political advocate for the independent theater community in NYC. She has her MFA in Directing, and has worked or studied with Marsha Norman, John Rando, David Ives, Karen Kohlhaas and the SITI Company. Quarantine win: Tina Landau liked one of Aimee’s tweets. aimeetodoroff.org



Sophia Carraro (Actor) is ecstatic not only to return for another Smattering, but to perform in her first virtual show! Some of Sophia’s favorite roles include Pepper in Cry Baby the Musical and Morticia in The Addams Family the Musical. There’s no telling what will happen in the Smattering, but Sophia is confident it will be ridiculous!



Elizabeth Grant (Actor) is thrilled to Scatter for the very first time! Previously, she wrote for Smatterings Nine, X, and Eleven, and acted in Smattering Se7en, the Eighth Smattering of the World, Smattering XII, and Smattering XIII. ... I can’t wait until we can do this in person, but, until then, enjoy the show!



Rice.

Troy Rice (Actor) is a man of great beard. Ready and raring to get back in the spot light. His stage presents was once described as, “not absent”. Though not a professional, he is well versed in the rigmarole of the stage. He’s acting career consist of mostly of smattering, a few musicals and a spit-spat of other stuff. His modest theater career began as a soundboard operator and well just look at him now! So be honored and slightly excited to be in the present of Mr. Troy

TRANSITIONS

By Conor Farrell

Directed by Steve Carpentier

Actors: Steve Brown, Caryn Fulda, Jonathan Gonzalez and Nicole Nesson

Genre: Coming of Age



Conor Farrell (Playwright) I am a Houston improviser, sketch writer, film maker and performer. I am so happy to be back writing for the Scattering and being a part of such an incredible group of talented creatives. I encourage you to check out the "War of the Words" podcast by Cone Man Running productions for more original material written, directed and vocally performed by many people in this show.



Steve Carpentier (Director) is a teacher, director, playwright and performing artist with over 70 productions under his belt. He is glad to be back helming one of Cone Man Running Plays for Scattering!! He was last since on stage at Studio 101 in Cone Man Running's smash hit "Man with The Plan, Filmmakers from Outer Space" by Brian Maynard. He gives thanks to his wife Mary who always allows him to pursue his greatest passions – Teaching and Theatre!



Steve Brown (Actor) is honored to be back with Cone Man Running for ~~another Smattering~~ their inaugural Scattering. He has been seen onstage in *House/Garden* and *The Right Kind of People*. He also directed Cone Man's production of *The Show Might Go On*. He has been a Theatre Educator for the last 20 years. He would like to thank his wife, Denise and their children for all their love and support.



Caryn Fulda (Actor) is a singer, musician, actress, writer, producer and comedian based out of Houston, Texas, where she regularly performs in sketch comedy troupes, open mic nights, cabarets and Zoom Shakespeare. Previous stage roles include *The Witch (Into the Woods)*, *Martha (Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf)*, and *Maggie (42nd Street)*.



Jonathan Gonzalez (Actor) is excited to zoom smatter with this awesome company where he was seen exactly one year ago as Rev. Brown in *Inherit the Wind*. Thanks for watching!



Nicole Nesson is thrilled to rejoin the Cone Man Running crew for Scattering! Last heard in the audio drama, "This American Wasteland", Nicole has also recently directed and appeared in the ongoing weekly virtual play reading series, *Drunk Shakespeare*, during the pandemic lockdown of 2020.

COOL PEEPS

Christine Weems (Artistic Director) is the coordinator of this hoopla and the ringmaster of this insanity. She is one-sixth of Cone Man Running Productions as well as a crazy sports fan (Longhorn football, Astros baseball and Rockets basketball), an often director, an occasional playwright, a seldom actor, a photographer, lawyer, wife, mommy and extra in *Office Space*. She is also a judge - seriously. Much thanks to the men in her life who make everything she does possible - Michael, Tommy, Jack and Sammy.

Josh T. Baker (Josh T. Baker)- AAARARRRGWWWH!!!