



THE MOORS

By Jen Silverman

Directed by Cameron Vipperman

February 28, 2025 at 7:30pm

March 1, 2025 at 7:30pm

March 2, 2025 at 2:00pm

at New Stage's Warehouse Theatre

1000 Monroe Street, Jackson 39202



THE MOORS

BY JEN SILVERMAN

DIRECTED BY CAMERON VIPPERMAN

Off-Broadway premiere produced by The Playwrights Realm (Katherine Kovner, Artistic Director; Roberta Pereira, Producing Director) in January 2017.
World premiere produced by Yale Repertory Theatre, New Haven, Connecticut; James Bundy, Artistic Director, Victoria Nolan, Managing Director.

The Moors is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Place: The bleak moors...of England?

Time: The 1840s...ish.

Run time: 100 minutes, no intermission

WARNING: STROBE EFFECT USED

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

“OMG PLEASE TELL ME YOU’VE READ THE MOORS!?” is the text I sent to my close friend and scene partner three scenes into the play you’re about to see. I was enjoying a porch-sit in early fall of my senior year at Winthrop University getting ahead on my homework for Acting II, in which I was assigned to do a scene study as Huldey from Scene 11 of Jen Silverman’s *The Moors*.

My fascination grew as I read on and discovered how nuanced a play could be: absurdity with a compelling plot; character-objective-driven story with music that gives insight into those characters, but not a musical; portraying hard-hitting truths from the mouths of larger-than-life characters. I was moved. *The Moors* is a play I wish I wrote. I wanted to portray every character, design every element, and direct a million productions. Luckily, my professor and scene partner shared in my geek-out.

When I was told to propose a play for this season of the Unframed at New Stage Theatre Series, I immediately knew I was going to propose *The Moors*. I have never directed anything, so taking this project on was exhilarating. I feel like my experience as an actor and observer of my acting professors’ coaching uniquely suit this play. Each character has a distinct and intense objective that they need to play, which largely drives the blocking. The cast understood this idea, so my role in rehearsals was largely posing questions about motivation, tactics, and breaking points. They truly are all superstars and I am so proud that they are my first cast.

Thank you especially to Mackenzie Joy and Rachel Dawson, without whom I would not have a play to nerd out over this intensely and whose direction style influenced how I am trying out this new facet of my art.

I’d also love to acknowledge you, the audience. I have found that you are a character of your own in any play, and you are the final ingredient that makes live theatre magical. Thank you for being here.

With Sincere Gratitude,
Cameron Vipperman
Director of *The Moors*
Unframed at New Stage Theatre Series

Cast

Huldey.....	Ashlyn Pinkerton
Emilie.....	Mahri McLean
Marjory.....	Mary Frances “MF” Dickie
Agatha.....	DeShadrian Hopkins
Moor Hen.....	Tessa Bierle
Mastiff.....	Baxter Evans
Understudy.....	Grace Reeves

Production Team

Director.....	Cameron Vipperman
Stage Manager.....	Jacob Tate Heuer
Scenic Designer/Artist....	Michael “Monte” Montgomery
Light Designer.....	Baxter Evans
Costume Designer.....	Ashlyn Pinkerton
Sound Designer.....	Keith Allen Davis, Jr.
Properties.....	Tatiana Grace
“Emilie’s Song” Track.....	Tatiana Grace
Poster Design.....	Cameron Vipperman
Sound Board Operator.....	Keith Allen Davis, Jr.
Light Board Operator.....	Tatiana Grace

New Stage Staff

Artistic Director.....	Francine Reynolds
Unframed Producer/Education Director.....	Xerron Mingo
Production Manager.....	Casey Nelms
Technical Director.....	Richard Lawrence

Who's Who in *The Moors*



Tessa Bierle (Moor Hen) is a senior at Belhaven University, majoring in Psychology with an emphasis in Creative Arts Therapy, and minors in Studio Art and Museum Studies. Her passions all lie within the arts, and for the last 15 years, she has eagerly clung to any theatre opportunities that have come her way, with locations ranging from Quito, Ecuador, to Minneapolis, Minnesota, to the University of Edinburgh. Recent credits include Mary in *The Man in the Bowler Hat* and Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Belhaven University. In April, she will make her directorial debut at Belhaven University, and in the meantime, she is thrilled to be working with dear friends in *The Moors*.



Baxter Evans (Mastiff) is an actor and combatant from Clinton, MS where he went to Hinds Community College, and performed in shows called *Water Engine* and *Bus Stop*. Baxter then moved to Hattiesburg, MS to study theatre at the University of Southern Mississippi, performing in the shows *Once in a Lifetime*, *She Kills Monsters*, *The Addams Family*, and *Macbeth*. While at USM, Baxter received a KCATCF nomination, allowing him to travel to the KCATCF Region IV back in February 2023. He also served in Alpha Psi Omega, Harlem (a BIPOC theatre club), and Skip the Script (an improv club). Baxter was also one of the five associates of the 2023-2024 year at New Stage Theatre. He is very thankful to be a part of the show and is excited for what comes next!

Who's Who in *The Moors*



Mary Frances “MF” Dickie (Marjory) is delighted to join the cast of *The Moors*. Previously in *Unframed*, she played Theresa in *What Every Girl Should Know* (2023). She also worked as costume designer for *Unframed’s Small Mouth Sounds* (2023) and Millsaps College’s *Tale of a West Texas Marsupial Girl* (2024). MF works in fundraising by day and enjoys drawing, writing, exploring new flea markets, and doing improv with local group *To Kick a Mockingbird*. She would like to thank the crew and cast of *The Moors* for their incredible work, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



DeShadrian Hopkins (Agatha) is a force of artistic versatility, captivating audiences from the sunlit studios of Southern California to the soulful stages of her Mississippi roots. After refining her craft in the dynamic world of voice acting in California—where she mastered the nuances of vocal storytelling—DeShay recently returned to the South and live theater, delivering performances in *Unframed’s* productions of *When We Were Young and Unafraid* (Agnes), and *Fairview* (Beverly). Her raw and magnetic portrayals solidified her reputation as a performer who transcends mediums. Now, she reunites with the *Unframed* family for a third time to ignite their latest production— DeShay gives all thanks to The Most High and her village for their love, support and encouragement.

Who's Who in *The Moors*



Ashlyn Pinkerton (Huldey) is the Directing/Acting Associate for New Stage Theatre this season. She recently graduated from Belhaven University with a BA in Theatre Performance. Ashlyn previously played Bets in *Fairview* and directed *When We Were Young and Unafraid* by Sarah Treem earlier this season for the Unframed season. Her previous acting credits include Dorothea in *A Lovely Sunday for Creve Ceour* and Murphy in *Suite Surrender* at Belhaven University. Ashlyn would like to thank her friends and family for her constant support.



Mahri McLean (Emilie) is a 2023 graduate of Belhaven University's theatre performance program. Favorite credits include *When We Were Young and Unafraid* (Mary Anne), *Cinderella* (Fairy Godmother), and *The Spitfire Grill* (Shelby Thorpe). Mahri currently works here at New Stage Theatre as the Box Office Manager, and is eternally grateful for the opportunity to both work in and perform in live theatre full time. Thank you to my wonderful partner Corey for his constant encouragement and support.

Up next in the Unframed series:

The Trail to Oregon!

by Jeff Blim, Nick Lang, and Matt Lang

Directed by Jacob Tate Heuer and Don Waller

May 2 and 3, 2025 at 7:30pm

May 4, 2025 at 2:00pm

Join our All-American family as they journey down the The Trail to Oregon!

Up next in New Stage's 59th Season:

Little Women, the Broadway Musical

by Allan Knee, Jason Howland, and Mindi Dickstein

March 25-29, 1, 3-5, 2025 at 7:00pm

April 2, 2025 at 1:00pm

March 30 & April 6, 2025 at 2:00pm

Based on Louisa May Alcott's life, *Little Women* follows the adventures of sisters Jo, Meg, Beth, and Amy March, each determined to live life on their own terms. *Little Women* embodies the complete theatrical experience, leaving audiences filled with a sense of adventure, joy, heartache, and a lifting of the spirit! The powerful score soars with the sounds of personal discovery, heartbreak, hope, and everlasting love – the sounds of a young America finding its voice. Recommended for ages 11+.

Unframed Special Event: A one-night staged reading

Pass Over by Antoinette Nwandu

Directed by Keith Allen Davis, Jr.

April 7, 2025 at 7:00pm

The Hewes Room - 1100 Carlisle Street

A provocative riff on *Waiting for Godot*, *Pass Over* is a rare piece of politically charged theater by a bold new American voice.

Special thanks

MF Dickie for use of the gorgeous chair

Belhaven University for use of the door frames

CSI for use of their parking lot

New Stage Theatre

The Jane Reid-Petty Theatre Center

1100 Carlisle St.

Jackson, MS 39202

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newstagetheatre.com