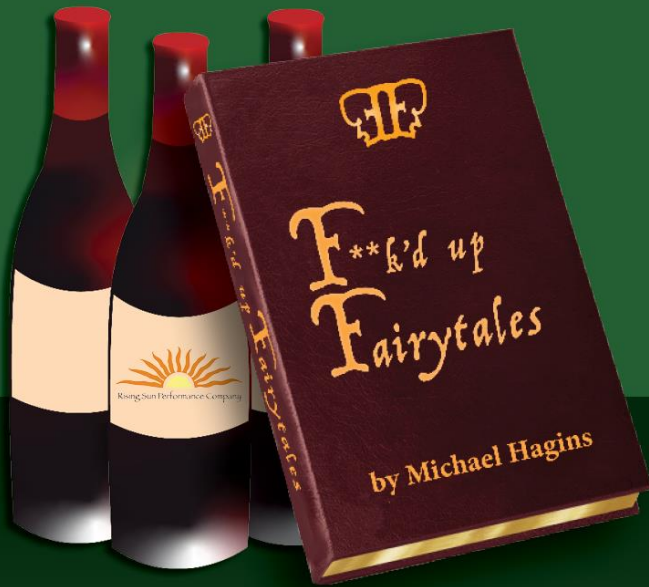




Presents



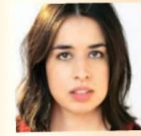
F**k'd up Fairytales



Becky Saunders



Eric Parness



Lluvia Almanza



Maggie Kissinger



Jennifer Iris Rivera



Julia Geromin



Michael Pichardo



Samantha Simone



Sam Neagley



Rick Benson





Drinking Rules

Royalty enters the screen

We start a fight scene

We trip on a line

Technical glitches

Someone dies

The Witch cackles

We say 'fuck!'

We say 'motherfuck-er!'

We travels to and fro

We make a deal

A Note from the Playwright:

Writing these fairy tales was at one point a challenge. I created Hansel and Gretel first, and from there I wanted to see what I could do with other Grimm stories. It was so much fun to write these stories, but I never knew what to do with them or where to submit them. Luckily and thankfully, Rising Sun was there to encourage me to continue editing and revising, and Chelsey has been amazing with her direction for the show. And in these times, I'm so happy that my plays can be a solace to the tragedy that is happening around us. Thank you for watching and supporting the arts, and please recommend this play and any others you enjoy at <https://newplayexchange.org/users/2039/michael-hagins>.

A Note from the Director:

*F***ed Up Fairytales* is a modern retelling of some classic Grimm fairytales. For me, fairytales have always been about the universal human emotions we experience in the face of animosity. Often in fairytales (and in life) "f***ed up" things happen seemingly without rhyme or reason. This year has been exceptional in the sheer amount of animosity that we have all been facing: illness and job loss among a global pandemic, the unjust loss of black lives due to police brutality, extreme political unrest, bushfires, floods, locust swarms - just to name a few. In times of animosity, the resilience of humankind shines through. In this show, each fairytale in has its own unique themes, but the through line is that, despite everything being a little "f***ed up," we are all in this together. Were it not for each other, we would have never been so resilient. A stronger sense of community has been one of the most beautiful things to come out of this year - and I'll definitely drink to that.

Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin by acknowledging the Indigenous Peoples of all the lands that we are on today. While we gather today on a virtual platform, we would like to take a moment to acknowledge the importance of the land, which we each call home. We do this to reaffirm our commitment and responsibility in improving relationships between nations and to improving our own understanding of local Indigenous peoples and their cultures. From coast to coast to coast, we acknowledge the ancestral and unceded territory of all the First Nations people that call this nation home. Please join us in a moment of reflection to acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and to consider how we are and can each, in our own way, try to move forward in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration and undoing of harm.

We encourage you to do your own research about the communities that are indigenous to the stolen land that you are on : <https://native-land.ca>

RSP's work is made possible in part by the generous support of Fractured Atlas, Horse Trade Theater Group, Alliance of Resident Artists, David Anthony Photography, N-K Photography, Trust for Governors Island, The LIT Fund, Creative Solutions, LLC, Material for the Arts, NYC Dept. of Cultural Affairs, Molloy College and our AMAZING 2020 individual donors : Anne Schellekens, Jill Miersch, Maera Hagage, Wendy Payne, Regina & John Richards, Maureen Serri, Rebecca Saunders, Michael Pichardo, Joan Kane, Cecilia Benson, Linda Dowling, Toby Latham, Gregory Harden, & Nicole Garick. A Special Thanks to our Patreon Donors: Elizabeth Burke, Michelle Schellekens, Leo Blais, Jamie Weisberg & Richard Damaso, Judd Silverman, Emmy Tomes



We are proud members of The League of Independent Theatres, Fractured Atlas and Alliance of Resident Theatres/NY.

DONATE TODAY

Rising Sun Performance Company is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit arts service organization. Contributions for the charitable purposes of Rising Sun Performance Company must be made payable to Fractured Atlas only and are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

<http://www.risingsunnyc.com/support-us>

Health Advisory: Rising Sun Performance Company does not condone or promote excessive drinking. Our drinking performers are working under close safety protocols and procedures and are being closely monitored at all times. Drinking in moderation can be fun. Drinking to excess can be dangerous. We promote responsible drinking.

Please note that this event does not require any actor or audience member to participate in the consumption of alcohol. You can enjoy this production with non-alcoholic beverages as well. If you are 21 and Older, you take full responsibility to control your intake of legal and regulated substances. Rising Sun Performance Company assumes no responsibility and all audience members participate at their own risk.

F'kd Up Fairytales

by Michael Hagins
Directed by Chelsey Smith
Stage Manager Justin Hsu
Production Manager Rachael Langton
Closed Captioning Rebecca Kane

Cast of Characters (in order of appearance):

The Narrators:

Wilhelm Grimm: Michael Pichardo
Jacob Grimm: Rick Benson

Hansel and Gretel:

Hansel: Samuel Neagley
Gretel: Jennifer Iris Rivera
The Father: Eric Parness
The Stepmom: Maggie Kissinger
The Witch: Lluvia Almanza

The White Snake:

The Servant: Samuel Neagley
The King: Eric Parness
The Princess: Samantha Simone *
The Animals: Julia Geromin

Rumpelstiltskin:

The Detective: Samantha Simone *
The Daughter: Lluvia Almanza
The Miller: Becky Saunders*
The Queen: Maggie Kissinger
Rumpelstiltskin: Jennifer Iris Rivera

Little Red Riding Hood:

Little Red Riding Hood: Maggie Kissinger
Mom: Jennifer Iris Rivera
The Wolf: Eric Parness
Grandma: Becky Saunders*
The Woodsman: Julia Geromin

All Cast & Crew are Ensemble members of Rising Sun Performance Company

* Denotes Member of Actors Equity Association

RSPC Staff:

Founding Artistic Director	Akia
Associate Artistic Director	Anna Hogan
New Media & Marketing Manager	Rachael Langton
Literary Manager	Rick Benson
Environmental Sustainability Director	William Serri
Social Media Manager	Jennifer Iris Rivera
Legal Counsel	Traci Marquis
Emeritus Executive Director/Co-Founder	David Anthony

The RSPC Ensemble:

Akia Squitieri, Andrew Gonzalez, Anna Hogan, Ashleigh Herndon, Ayesha Salah, Ashleen Rowan, Bailey Bass, Becky Saunders, Chelsey Smith, Chris Jumper, Chris Goodrich, Crystal Edn, Corianne Stein, Danielle Bee Smotrich, Desiree Pinol, Donna Latham, Deanna Alexandra, Eric Parness, Federica Borlenghi, , Ita Korenzecher, Jackie McKenna, Jenna Atickinson, Jennifer Iris Rivera, Joan Kane, Josephine A. Pizzino, , Julia Geromin, Justin Hsu, Laura Lamberti , Kassime Fofana, Kevin Eubanks Jr, Kevin Rabbits, Leka Makenzie, Lluvia Almanza, Luana Seu, Luna G. Reiley, Maya Jasmin Kurokouchi, Michael Hagins, Maera Daniel Hagage, Maggie Kissinger, Michael Pichardo, Nadia Duncan, Nathan Siever, Nicole Harley, Rachel Langton, Rebecca Kane, Sam Neagley, Samantha Simone, Stephanie Barney, Raiane Cantisano, Rick Benson, Sara Dove, Susan Goodell, Sven Trygve Haabeth, Valerie David, William Serri & Yashebadar Roker

Our Mission:

Committed to the principle of ensemble process and performance through the collaboration of a company of actors, directors and playwrights, Rising Sun Performance Company's mission is to advance the vitality and diversity of American theater by nurturing artists, encouraging repeatable creative relationships, and contributing new works and revitalized pre-existing work to the national canon. Rising Sun Performance Company realizes this goal by providing a safe artistic home which stimulates risk-taking without limits of genre or agenda. **Learn more at [www. risingsunnyc.com](http://www.risingsunnyc.com)**

We wish to express our gratitude to the Performers' Unions:

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS
AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS
SAG-AFTRA

through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in permitting the Artists to appear on this program.



Michael Pichardo (Wilhelm Grimm) is a Lower East Side native and graduated with an associate degree at Queensborough Community College. He has been an ensemble member of Rising Sun since 2017. Past Rising Sun credits: The Glory of Living, Child's Play, and Eléphant. Other theatre credits: Our Lady of 121st Street (Heights Players), Dante (JME Entertainment Productions), Scyrorax: Queen of Qamara (Ego Actus), Straight Up, and Punk Grandpa (Frigid NYC). He made his feature film debut in the drama "Trapped" which won the Angel of Action award for Best Feature at the Urban Action Showcase.

Rick Benson (Jacob Grimm) is a proud member of the Rising Sun ensemble. He has performed such roles as Cyrano de Bergerac, Alceste in The Misanthrope, and the Old Man in The Chairs. He was last on stage with Rising Sun in the short play, Vultures, where he played Kevin Carter. He also loves performing in children's theater. Rick is looking forward to a very busy and exciting 2020 season with Rising Sun.

Samuel Neagley (Hansel and Servant) is an actor and musician based in NYC. After graduating from Dickinson College with a degree in theater arts and spanish, he studied acting and improv comedy in Los Angeles and now New York. Having worked as an actor, director, composer and writer, Samuel founded Blue Otter Theatre as a means to produce his own work and the work of his very talented friends. His most proud productions include A Self Help Guide To Killing Your Boss, Tween Souls as part of Hollywood Fringe Festival, and The Cigar Lounge as part of Brick Theater's 'Unstageable Festival.'

Jennifer Iris Rivera (Gretel, Rumpelstiltskin, and Mom) is a Latinx NYC based Actress and Costume Designer. She received her Bachelors in Theatre Performance and Costume Design from Marymount Manhattan College. Most recent work includes various virtual work with her ensemble company, Rising Sun Performance Company. As well, she is the Social Media Manager for Rising Sun. This past year she has also interned with Spellbound Theater as their Family Engagement intern and most recently joined the company full time. Past credits include 12 Angry Women (AlphaNYC Theater Company), A Child is Born (Theatre 315), and Stalled (web series from Gal Pals Presents). For more information on her career, visit www.jenniferirisrivera.com.

Eric Parness (Father, King, and Wolf) is a theatre teacher, director, and performer, serving as Professor of Acting and Directing at Westfield State University. He has performed in RSP's productions of HELVETICA, THE GLORY OF LIVING, and ÉLÉPHANT, and has directed several readings and workshops. As Artistic Director of Resonance Ensemble, he has produced and/or directed 20 new plays and classics. Eric has worked extensively Off-Broadway for companies such as Jean Cocteau Repertory, IATI, Oberon Theatre Ensemble, Boomerang Theatre, and Vital Theatre. He has directed educational theatre for Marymount Manhattan College, Brooklyn College, Marist College, Stern College, Brandeis University and Dean College. He is a graduate of Brandeis University (BA) and Brooklyn College (MFA) and a member of the Lincoln Center Theatre Directors Lab. www.ericparness.com

Lluvia Almanza (Witch and Daughter) Off-off Broadway: Why Me? (Maria), Mother Moon: The Play (Sarah), Stay With Me (Charlotte) at Hudson Guild Theatre, The House of Bernarda Alba (Angustias) at Cherry Lane Theatre, Difficult Conversations on Race, Gender and Power (Mass Transit Theatre Company) (Woman) at HB Studios, Riqueño (Madre/Ana), Reveries: An Immersive Theatrical Experience (Girl) at The Tank. Staged Readings: Return to Sender and Itzel: The Pirate Queen at the Provincetown Playhouse. Film: The Switch, Saints and Words, Cleo y Los Cabrones. TV: "Dead of Night." Almanza is originally from El Paso, Texas. El Paso strong!

Samantha Simone* (Princess and Detective) is so excited to be a part of her first Rising Sun performance! Samantha is an actor, dancer, voice over artist, and teacher based in Brooklyn NY. Past favorite credits include : Nina in "The Seagull", Amy in "Nothing Human", and Julie in "Miss Julie." She can be seen on CBS "Blue Bloods" as McKenna and on the workout show "The Daily Burn 365." www.samanthanicolesimone.com for updates!

Julia Geromin (Voices and Woodsman) is a transplant from Michigan. She moved to New York, where she attended and graduated from The American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Since then she has worked in both New York and regional theater, acting across the East coast. She has been a member of The Rising Sun Performance Company since 2017. Recent credits include Sebastian in "The Tempest" (Hudson Theater Company, New Jersey Tour), The Duchess of Milan in "Two Gentlemen of Verona" (Theater Under The Stars, New Hampshire tour), Carol in "The Glory of Living" (Rising Sun Performance Company, Planet Connections Theater Festival), Juliet in "Romeo and Juliet" (All The World's A Stage, Stratford Theater Festival, Stratford, Ontario). Thanks to her family for their endless support, especially her sisters who run lines with her, and are generally her best friends, greatest supporters, and never fail to have her back completely. www.juliageromin.com

Becky Saunders* (The Miller and Grandma) has been living her life backwards lately and is excited to be a part of the New York theatre scene as a resident member of the Rising Sun Performance Company! A lifelong professional singer and actor she intends to drop dead (many years from now, of course) either performing, directing or stage managing. From Las Vegas to the Micronesia Islands, Canada to Tahiti, onstage, on vinyl or on celluloid she has proudly paid her dues and crafted a career. Early training included a scholarship to the Los Angeles Civic Light Opera Association, classes with Estelle Harmon, Michael Holmes and the adult conservatory at South Coast Repertory. New York credits: Madame Armfeldt in *A Little Night Music* (Theatre 2020) and on tour Company/Stage Manager for *Freedom Train* (TheatreWorksUSA). A few favorite roles in regional theatre have been Dotty Otley in NOISES OFF, Lily Harrison in SIX DANCE LESSONS IN SIX WEEKS, Nurse in ROMEO AND JULIET and Beverly in THE SHADOWBOX. Director credits: *Always...Patsy Cline*, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, *Church Basement Ladies: Away in the Basement, Away in the Manger: A Church Basement Ladies Christmas*, and *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. All shows produced by Sierra Repertory Theatre

Maggie Kissinger (Stepmom, King, and Little Red) has been a proud Rising Sun ensemble member since 2014 after completing the Dramaturgy and Literary Management internship. She served as the Literary Manager for three years and now focuses on acting and casting pursuits within the company. Previously, she performed the role of Christiane in the world premiere of Elephant by Eva MeiLing Pollitt, presented by Rising Sun Performance Company at the Planet Connections Festivity in 2018. She looks forward to another fulfilling year with RSP!

Michael Hagins (Playwright) is an African-American Playwright, Director, Fight Director, Actor, and Producer. Michael is a Member of Dramatists Guild and an Advanced Actor-Combatant for the Society of American Fight Directors. Michael was born in Brooklyn, New York, but raised in a small town in Florida for his childhood. He has used the racism and prejudice he dealt with at an early age to fuel his writing, which he has done so since the age of 9. Michael is an avid lover of Shakespeare (he has done every play in the Shakespeare Canon) and has performed, directed and taken part in over 1,000 plays and films over his artistic career. Off-Broadway: *The Long Rail North* (Soho Rep, FringeNYC). New York Productions: *Basement* (Roly Poly Productions), *The Quest of the Hero* (Planet Connections Theatre Festivity); *Michael is Black* (Planet Connections Theatre Festivity); *The Renaissance Dueling Plays* (Planet Connections Theatre Festivity); *The Vengeance Room* (FRIGID Festival). Regional/Other: *Hit and Match* (Chicago Fringe, Johannesburg Fringe). Outstanding Playwriting - *Hit and Match*, 2013; Outstanding Overall Production of a Solo Show - *Michael is Black*. Artistic Director, C.A.G.E. Theatre Company

Chelsey Smith (Director) is a queer, female, stage director and theater maker. Her most recent works include *Same* by Logann Grayce and *172 Push-Ups* by Scott Mullen. Both *Same* and *172 Push-Ups* are now published, and she is listed as the original director for both productions. She also recently directed a selection from *Spike Heels* by Theresa Rebeck as part of a directing showcase at The Drama League. She is particularly proud of *Something by Tolstoi*. She co-created and developed this show over the course of a year and it had sold out each night. She also directed the premiere productions of *The Social Drama Play* by Ivan Faute and *Conversion and Make Believe* by Erica Magrin. She has also assisted under Jessi D. Hill and Jean Randich. chelseysmithnyc.com

Justin Hsu (Stage Manager) is a Stage and Production Manager who has been a proud member of the Rising Sun family since 2016. Justin lives for the art of creating live theatre and establishing a creative, collaborative, and innovative working environment in every project he works on and always approaches new tasks with a "can do" and "make it work" attitude. Justin is currently contracted with Norwegian Cruise Lines as a stage manager travelling the world while working with and supporting Rising Sun from afar. Justin has worked on numerous RSPC projects over the years with some of his favorites including *Once Upon A Midnight Dreary*, the 48 Hour Play Festival, *Speakeasy*, and more. Recent stage management credits outside of RSPC include *Happy Hour Prohibition* (NCL/Happy Hour Entertainment), *Wine Lovers The Musical* (NCL/Happy Hour Entertainment), *Kinky Boots* (NCL), *Jersey Boys* (NCL/Dodger Properties), the New York Innovative Theatre Awards, and *May Day* (NewYorkRep).

Rachael Langton (Production Manager) is a New York based director. Select New York directing credits include *Graduation* by Eugene Grygo, performed in the International Human Rights Festival, *Fable from An Unstable Table* by Susan Goodell, performed at The Rising Sun Performance Company, and *a/in/the/of*, which won the 2018 Sugartown Shorts Festival of 10-minute plays. Rachael is also the Digital Marketing Associate at Classic Stage Company. Education: BA Theatre Studies, Ithaca College. View her work at RachaelLangton.com. Follow @Rachael_Langton.

Akia Squitieri (Founding Artistic Director) is an award-winning Producer, Director, and Arts Administrator. She is the Founding Artistic Director of Rising Sun Performance Company and Company Manager for the Innovative Theatre Foundation, where she has also served on the honorary awards committees and as an at large judge. She served as the Company Manager for the international sensation, *Blue Man Group* at the Astor Place Theater for 10 years. Akia has received critical praise for her direction of multiple productions including "Hellcab", "Goodnight Lovin' Trail", "The Last Supper", "Crapshoot", "Bug", "The Glory of Living" & "Elephant". Past notable credits include working on staff at Horse Trade Theatre Group, serving as General Manager for FRIGID New York's inaugural year, and returning in multiple positions for each subsequent year; as Production Coordinator for nationally acclaimed Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre, overseeing the playwrights' unit and INSIGHT 13 production series and on the Advisory board of the Paul Butterfield Fund & Society. She has been on staff at Dance Entropy, Form Theatricals, *The Book of Merman*, *The Play Company* and *Drunk Shakespeare*. She is a recipient of the New York Innovative Theatre Awards "Founders Award" for her contributions to the organization and Off-Off Broadway Community and Two Time "Congeniality" and "Outstanding Director" Award Winner from the Planet Connections Theatre Festival. She is an anti-sexual harassment advocate and the founder of "creating safe spaces"- the first theatrical based anti-harassment training program in the US. When not absorbed in theatre, she is an avid traveler and scuba diver. You can learn more about her work here at www.akiasquitieri.com and www.risingsunnyc.com

Anna Hogan (Associate Artistic Director) is a theatrical director and actress based in New York City. Anna's passion lies in developing new work, working closely with playwrights, and creating accessible live theatre for modern audiences. Her directing experience spans large ensemble musicals like *Urinetown: The Musical* (Duke's Eye Productions, The Peoples Improv Theater), avant-garde new works that dabble in magical realism like *Friendly's Fire* (NYC Premiere, Rising Sun Performance Company with the Theatre at the 14 St Y), and intimate, semi-immersive ensemble pieces like *Éléphant* (Co-Director, Rising Sun Performance Company, "Outstanding Direction" Winners, The Flamboyán Theater, Encore at the Kraine Theater). Anna has assistant directed over 40 union/nonunion productions with many established NYC directors - including her most recent endeavour with Obie winning playwright and Oscar Nominee José Rivera on his World Premiere of *Lovesong, Imperfect*. Anna received a BA in musical theater from West Texas A&M University. She continued her acting education under the mentorship of The Juilliard School of Drama alumnus Joseph Muzikar with an emphasis on classical texts and styles. As Cassie Flowers in the NYC premiere of *The Long Rail North*, Anna was reviewed as "... A beautiful powerhouse of whom the grey and blue are unworthy"- *Theatre is Easy*. This production received an extension and transferred Off-Broadway to The Soho Playhouse. Anna also received a nomination for "Best Lead Actress" from the Nice International Film Festival for her work in *My Name is Leigh*. As a producer & arts administrator, Anna interned under the administrative director of The League of Professional Theater Women and assisted on their Oral History Project at Lincoln Center and the Theater Women Awards. Currently, Anna serves as the associate artistic director of Rising Sun Performance Company, a pillar of the NYC indie theater community for the last 19 years.