

THE TANK 

PRESENTS



Love Alone
elegies for Rog

A Play for World AIDS DAY

adapted and performed by
Jonah Scott Mendelsohn
from the poetry of Paul Monette
Directed by Floyd Rumohr
December 3rd, 4th, & 5th, 2022

312 W 36TH ST, 1ST FL, NEW YORK, NY 10018
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Sweet Pea Chamber Theater in association
with THE TANK presents
Love Alone: elegies for Rog

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TIME/PLACE

October 1986 – spring 1987, Los Angeles, California.
Love Alone: Elegies for Rog runs 90 minutes without an intermission.

CAST

Paul – Jonah Scott Mendelsohn
Spirit / Geigers – Hisa Viscovich, Juan Guajardo
Rog – Zaire Baptiste
UCLA Nurse – Shelley Wyant

CREW/CREATIVES

directed by Floyd Rumohr
rehearsal coach, Ben Mehl
set designed by Peter Harrison
sound and projections designed by Zaire Baptiste
lighting designed by Josh Martinez-Davis
assistant lighting designer, Andrea Nagua
production stage manager, Ali Walensky

The first half of Love Alone was presented on December 10th, 2020, in a workshop performance directed by Shelley Wyant at the Streb Lab for Action Mechanics, presented by the Brooklyn Community Pride Center.

About Paul Monette

Memoirist, poet, and gay rights activist Paul Monette was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts, and earned a BA at Yale University. He taught at Milton Academy and Pine Manor College before moving to Los Angeles with his longtime partner, Roger Horwitz, in 1977, where he became active in the city's gay rights movement.

Frequently elegiac, Monette's poems narrate the trauma and pain of the AIDS crisis. His poetry collections include *West of Yesterday*, *East of Summer: New and Selected Poems 1973-1993* (1994), *Love Alone: 18 Elegies for Rog* (1988), and *The Carpenter at the Asylum* (1975). Monette is also the author of the memoirs *Borrowed Time: An AIDS Memoir* (1988) and *Becoming a Man: Half a Life Story* (1992), which won the National Book Award. His novels include *Halfway Home* (1991) and *Taking Care of Mrs. Carroll* (1978).

Monette died at his home in Los Angeles of AIDS complications in 1995. The Monette-Horwitz Trust, which he and Horwitz founded, offers awards to individuals working to eradicate homophobia. Monette's papers are archived at the University of California, Los Angeles, library.

Scene List

- | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| I. | October 22nd, 1986 | Here |
| II. | December 13th | Your Sightless Days |
| III. | November 22nd | Gardenias |
| IV. | December 7th | The Worrying |
| V. | December 13th | Your Sightless Days |
| VI. | January 3rd, 1987 | Three Rings |
| VII. | January 15th | The Very Same |
| VIII. | January 22nd | Current Status 1/22/87 |
| IX. | January 29th | Manifesto |
| X. | February 5 th | The House on Kings Road |
| XI. | February 12 th | Readiness |
| XII. | March 22 nd | Brother of the Mount of Olives |

Our deepest thanks to who all who helped with this production

David Groff and Paul Bresnick, literary executors
The staff at the Alliance of Resident Theaters / New York
The staff at The Tank

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Gary Hillborn	Shelley Wyant -
Michelle Karlsberg -	http://www.shelleywyant.com/
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Jonah Scott Mendelsohn, Paul and Playwright Jonah Scott Mendelsohn is an actor, singer, and writer based in New York City. He grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and studied at Vassar College and the O'Neill Theatre Center in Waterford Connecticut. His stage work spans new plays in New York City, and lead roles in regional theaters, including Stuart Gellman in Tony Kushner's CAROLINE, OR CHANGE (Astoria Performing Arts Center, AUDELCO winning production for Best Revival of a Musical); Pete, a pregnant man, in TUMOR by Sheila Callaghan; Paul in COMPANY (Philipstown Depot Theatre), and the killers in Shakespeare's RICHARD II (Walking the dog Theater).

Hisa Viscovich, Spirit / Geiger Born in Kyoto, Japan. Actor/dance instructor / choreographer. Member of Village Playback Theatre. Currently Studying Acting at HB Studio..

Juan Guajardo, Spirit / Geiger Currently studying acting at HB Studio.

Floyd Rumohr, Director Directing experience off-Broadway and off-off Broadway: CYRANO DE BERGERAC, THE VOCAL LORDS, KING LEAR (OBR Award), THE GOOD LOVER, DESDEMONA: A PLAY ABOUT A HANDKERCHIEF, BABY WITH THE BATHWATER, ROMEO AND JULIET, DOROTHY PARKER: JUST A LITTLE ONE. Executive producer: THE ODYSSEY, LABERINTOS/LABYRINTHS, THE TROJAN WOMEN. HÔTEL DES DEUX MONDES (U.S. premiere), DON JUAN, and WE WON'T PAY! WE WON'T PAY! Acting credits: FILM: POPCORN MAN (festival awards from Melbourne International Film Festival, and Hiroshima International Film Festival), and PHILLY FLASH. STAGE: THE CHERRY ORCHARD, BABY WITH THE BATHWATER, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, THE ODYSSEY, and Alan Ayckbourn's SISTERLY FEELINGS. MFA acting, Temple University. In recent years, Floyd has worked as a transformational leader for several nonprofits focusing on education, arts, youth and children, health and human services, and L.G.B.T.Q.+ communities. His leadership has been recognized by AMNY Metro, PoliticsNY, Gay City News, and City and State New York.

Ben Mehl, Rehearsal Coach Ben Mehl is an actor and teacher living in New York. He has taught and directed at the NYU Graduate Acting Program, where he received his MFA and completed a teaching mentorship. He teaches at the New York Film Academy, HB Studio, and has also taught at The Public Theater, Red Bull Theater, Vim Vigor, Clown Gym, the Refugee Youth Summer Academy, the New School and as a private coach. He is a member of The Actors Center and a volunteer at the 52nd Street Project. Acting credits: TV: YOU, THE GOOD WIFE, SUPERNATURAL INVESTIGATOR. Film: VIRAL BEAUTY, THE FLY ROOM, OFF-DUTY. Off-Broadway: THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR, SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL; (Red Bull Theater); PERICLES, COMEDY OF ERRORS (Public Theater). Regional: THE CRUCIBLE, YENTL (Cleveland Playhouse); TROUBLEMAKER (Berkeley Repertory Theatre); SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION (Williamstown Theatre Festival); HENRY V (Two River Theater); LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST (Chautauqua Theater Company). Other New York: DANNYKRISDONNAVERONICA, JULIUS CAESAR (Wheelhouse Theater); AT THE TABLE (Fault Line Theatre); HABIT (P.S. 122).

Peter Harrison, Set Design Peter designs for opera and theatre in NYC, nationally, and internationally. Design credits include New York City Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Juilliard, Manhattan School of Music, and Opera Nordfjord in Norway. He recently designed the premiere of "Winnie: the Opera" in Pretoria, South Africa. He has served as resident designer for Alabama Shakespeare Festival, NJ Shakespeare Festival, the Academy of Vocal Arts, and Pioneer Theatre Company.

Josh Martinez-Davis, Lighting Design is a Latino NYC and LA based Lighting Designer. Recent Off Broadway, Regional Theatre, and other work includes, OUR TOWN (Baltimore Center Stage), A BURNING CHURCH (New Ohio), RICHARD III (The Flea), TWELFTH NIGHT (The Flea), and INEGRO (New Ohio). MFA Lighting Design from NYU. Josh's work with light aims to create a meaningful connection between the art and the audience. He believes the lighting designer is a tour guide of emotion and direction

www.joshmartinezdavis.com @did_someone_say_lights

Zaire Baptiste, Sound and Projection Design, and Voiceover (Rog) Zaire is an award-winning multidisciplinary creative, producing content in the music video, narrative, branded, and experiential markets. Zaire's work in film and television, have led to a 2018 Telly award and a 2019 Davy Award. As a creative, Zaire is 1/3rd of the founders of The Spot for Art, a Brooklyn art gallery that uses Art Therapy and color theory in its work. He was a member of the Streb Extreme Action Company for 15 years. @zairebaptiste @thespotforart.

Ali Walensky, Stage Manager Production Manager: Piper Theatre; National Tour: FLAMENCO VIVO – Carlota Santana; Production Stage Manager: CANDLELIGHT by John Patrick Shanley, TRAILS (reading, Dir. Lorin Latarro), Eight productions (sixteen total plays) for Polaris North; Stage Manager: THE WORLD IS LIT BY LIGHTING, winner of Best Play, Best Direction, and Best Actors at The Secret Theater's Act One: One Act Festival; LOVE ALONE: ELEGIES FOR ROG; LITTLE RAPES (New Group); THE DRILL (LIU-Brooklyn)..

Andrea Nagua, Assistant Lighting Designer Andrea is delighted to be a part of Love Alone as an assistant lighting designer. She is a freelance technician in New York. Credits include: ANIMAL FARM THE MUSICAL, TWELFTH NIGHT, CANDLELIGHT, TO CATCH A FOX, CHARLOTTE LUCAS IS 27 AND NOT DEAD, MARISOL, and EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT

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Sarah Baglio
Karen Greenberg-Perkus
Addi Greer
Lenka Pichlíková

Joshua Brook
Enrica Dal Zio

We have reached 60% of our fundraising goal of \$12,000 to cover artist payments for this production. To contribute, please visit <https://www.lovealone-play.org/>





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