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A NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

I am humbled to, at long last, bring you Sarah DeLappe’s The Wolves. This Pulitzer finalist has had a long-delayed journey to the PTC “stage” which of necessity is now in your own homes. We are excited for you to discover how this new medium can continue to bring wonderfully written plays into your life, even as we wait for the opportunity to gather again. The play, a Relentless Award and Obie Award-winner features some of the freshest, most authentic dialogue spoken by young people today.

There might not be a more urgent time to delve more deeply into the complexities of difference. In The Wolves, we see - even more clearly now - how individuals with vastly different backgrounds and perspectives can make up a TEAM that shares common goals.

The young women in The Wolves start the play with casual banter that careens from banal to absurd to deeply personal. Hearts are broken, loyalties tested, spirits renewed. When an event occurs that challenges their belief systems, our characters learn to reach out to those they love, or loved, in a new way - even those that have hurt them.

Their triumphant story encourages us to imagine what our own path to understanding might look like. We hope audiences are moved by their capacity for strength, forgiveness, and empathy. It feels like the right time to share these stories of resilience, hope and renewal.

Philadelphia Theatre Company’s mission is to produce, develop, and present entertaining and imaginative contemporary theater focused on the American experience. However, we’ve also been thinking a lot about our core values, as we navigate these quickly changing, highly charged times.

Our core values set the ground rules for all that we do at Philadelphia Theatre Company, so we look to them for guidance, recognizing the importance of being ambitious, joyful, and flexible, and acting with integrity and care.

We are mindful of these pledges when interacting with each other and our community. This year has certainly called for flexibility. We hope our ambitious production of The Wolves will bring you joy.

Thank you for being here.

Paige
In its simplest form, *The Wolves* is a play about gathering. We meet nine young soccer players over the course of six weeks as they share one physical space. The only constant, as they navigate the chaos of their high school worlds, is their return to the field each Saturday.

I’ve spent much of the last eight months thinking about shared space. There is a painful irony in directing a piece about gathering at a time when we are unable to do so. Our own physical spaces—in this case the theaters, not soccer fields—are closed to us.

The pandemic has made me acutely aware, however, that physical space is only one aspect of the formation of community. Many families are talking on the phone more than ever before, neighbors are dropping off food at each other’s houses, and many Philadelphians are thinking about essential workers in our city in ways they never have before.

While it is tempting to believe that the young women in *The Wolves* were brought together by the physical space of the soccer field, in truth, they were brought together by small kindnesses and shared determination. They are brought together in their desire to win, their ferocity, their empathy, and ultimately, in their resilience.

*The Wolves* explores the formation of community, at a time when so many of us feel isolated. The play, and our way of making it, gives me hope that community can transcend our physical spaces. More than twenty people worked on this play, all in our own homes, persevering despite unpredictable wi-fi, interruptions from pets, and the occasional siren in the background. We were never in the same physical space, but like the characters we meet here, we were on the same team.

The process has shown me that it was never the physical spaces themselves that created community; it was up to us all along.

-Nell Bang-Jensen

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THE WOLVES
by Sarah DeLappe

PLACE: An indoor soccer field somewhere in suburban America.

CAST

#13.................................................................Annika Cowles
#7...............................................................Hanna Gaffney
#46..............................................................Emma Lenderman
#25..................................................................Tori Lewis
#11.................................................................Donovan Lockett
#8.................................................................Margaret Morgan
#2......................................................................Alison Ormsby
#14..................................................................Iraisa Ann Reilly
#00.....................................................................Michelle Tsai
#Soccer Mom.........................................................Leah Walton

PRODUCTION

Project Manager.......................................................Shelby North
Sound Editor & Re-Recording Mixer.........................Josh Samuels
Properties Master..................................................Shannon O'Brien
Wardrobe Supervisor..............................................Danielle Joh
Photographer ........................................................Max Grudzinsky
Assistant to the Project Manager..........................Abigail VandenBrul

Actor fees for The Wolves are generously supported by
The Charlotte Cushman Foundation.

Kilroys@PTC new play initiative is supported by The CHG
Charitable Trust & Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation

World premiere produced by The Playwrights Realm (Katherine Kovner, Artistic Director | Roberta Pereira, Producing Director) on September 8, 2016 and remounted on December 5, 2016 by special arrangement with Scott Rudin and Eli Bush.

Originally presented by New York Stage and Film and Vassar in the Powerhouse Season, Summer 2016.

Playwrights Horizons Theater School produced a workshop of The Wolves in 2015 in association with Clubbed Thumb, where the play had been developed previously.
We know what art can do — how it can change perspectives, and even change lives. That’s why the PNC Foundation developed PNC Arts Alive, a multi-year, multi-million-dollar initiative that supports the arts in local communities. Through this initiative, we continue to challenge visual and performing arts organizations to put forth their best, most original thinking while expanding audience participation and engagement. Because when art thrives, everybody benefits.

To learn more, go to pncartsalive.com

**Annika Cowles (#13)** is so stoked and thankful to be making her professional debut in PTC’s production of The Wolves. Annika recently received her BFA in acting from UARTS (’19). Love to my family, friends, and this amazing team for their continuous love and support!! Check out annikacowles.com (she/her)

**Hanna Gaffney (#7)** is pleased to be making her PTC debut with this wonderful cast! Regional credits include Nancy in Oliver (Barrymore Nominated) and One Man Two Guvnors (Quintessence: Theatre Group), Little Red Robin Hood: Panto (People’s Light), Spamalot (Resident Theatre Company, Big Red Sun (11th Hour), Fishskin Trousers (Ins Nua Theatre Company), Ragtime (Eagle Theatre). Proud graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point BFA Acting Program. Much love to my sweet Sir Lancelot: HannaGaffney.com @hgaff862. (she/her)

**Iraisa Ann Reilly (#14)** is a Jersey-born, New York-based theatre artist with artistic roots in Philadelphia. She recently appeared in PTC’S virtual production of Days of Re-Creation with Live & In Color. Selected Acting Credits: 154 Revisited (Revolution Shakespeare), Water By The Spoonful (South Camden Theatre Company), The 12 Dates of Christmas (Cape May Stage), A Beginner’s Guide to Interpreting Aphasia (written and performed for Solow Fest). Writing: Good Cuban Girls (Teatro Del Sol). Left Midfield for Holy Spirit High School’s Women’s Soccer Team. B.A. Univ. of Notre Dame. MFA (Dramatic Writing) NYU (’21). Thanks to PTC for this opportunity, and as always, mi familia. iraisaannreilly.com (she/her)

**Emma Lenderman (#46)** is a 2019 graduate of the Texas State Musical Theatre Program. Regional: A Doll’s House Part 2 (Emmy) at NC Stage, The World According to Snoopy (Patty/Sally us) at TUTS. TXST: Ragtime (Emma Goldman), A Chorus Line (Judy). As always, for Mom, Dad, and Mom Mom. Extra special gratitude and love to the ladies of the HFC ‘96 white team and the JV Asheville High School women’s soccer team of 2011. (she/her)

**Tori Lewis (#25)** is very excited to be making her PTC debut in The Wolves! She is a local Philly-based actor and teaching artist. Credits include: People’s Light (Cinderella, Little Red Robin Hood, Aladdin), Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival (Les Misérables, Pericles, Rapunzel, Hamlet), Delaware Theatre Company (Honk!). Training: DeSales University. Instagram: @tori_a_dor (she/her)
Donovan Lockett (#11) proudly hails from New Orleans but has made Philly her artistic home! Selected credits: Significant Other (Mauckingbird Theatre Co); All’s Well That Ends Well (PAC); Troilus & Cressida (Revolution Shakespeare); Measure for Measure (Scranton Shakespeare); White (Theatre Horizon); A Christmas Carol (Walnut Street Theatre); Oedipus (Hangar Theatre); Trigger Warning (Prime Theatre Syndicate). To all my POC and those working to tackle oppressive power structures. BFA: Ithaca College. Donovanlockett.com (she/her)

Margaret Morgan (#8) is a New York-based actor originally from Waterford, Michigan. She is thrilled to be a part of a show about female friendship! Select credits include: The Winter’s Tale (Indianapolis Shakespeare Company), ...A Brief History of Helen of Troy, and The Great God Pan. Margaret received her BFA in Acting from Ball State University. Love to Mom, Dad, Zachary and Elliott. (she/her)

Alison Ormsby (#2) is elated to be making her PTC debut in The Wolves! It is a true favorite story of hers and she is overjoyed at the opportunity to tell it with her fellow teammates. Alison is a recent graduate from the University of the Arts (2018) and National Theater Institute (Fall 2017). Recent credits include: SHIP (Azuka Theater), Boycott Esther (Azuka Theater), This Is On Record (Applied Mechanics), and Now More Than Ever (Philadelphia Fringe). Currently, she is assistant directing The Boy Project which will run at FringeArts this spring. She would like to thank the team at PTC, friends, and family for their loving support. (she/her)

Michelle Tsai (#00) Off-Broadway: Comfort Women (Playwrights Horizons). NYC: Anya/Irina in Mr. Chekhov and Mr. Porter (Medicine Show Theater); Isabelle in Amour, Brigadoon, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Brianna in Good Kids (NYU); Cabaret (Uproar Theatre Corp.). Regional: Taming of the Shrew and Soundpainting: This is All Very True (Powerhouse Theatre). Education: NYU (B.M. in vocal performance and math, currently studying physics). Special thanks to her family, friends, teachers, and bird. michelle-tsai.com, IG @michellelikesbirds (she/her)


Sarah DeLappe (Playwright) Sarah’s critically acclaimed play The Wolves (The Playwrights Realm/NY Stage & Film/Lincoln Center Theater) was a co-winner of the Relentless Award and a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, and the Yale Drama Series Prize. It is currently slated for over 50 productions worldwide. Other honors include the Page One Fellowship at the Playwrights Realm and the Sky Cooper New American Play Prize. Fellowships and developmental support include The MacDowell Colony, The Ground Floor, LCT3 Playwright in Residence, Ars Nova Play Group, Clubbed Thumb, SPACE on Ryder Farm, and Sitka Fellows Program. She holds an MFA from Brooklyn College.

Nell Bang-Jensen (Director) is a Philadelphia-based director and creator and the newly appointed Artistic Director of Theatre Horizon. She previously served as Associate Artistic Director of Pig Iron Theatre Company and Artistic Associate of the Wilma. Her passion for making art outside of the usual theatrical circles guides much of her original work. The Caregivers premiered at Pig Iron last year and was made with Philadelphians who work as home health aides and hospice workers. Her upcoming Boy Project, a play made with 12-15 year old boys about masculinity, will premiere at FringeArts in May as part of the High Pressure Fire Service Festival and was awarded a 2019 National MAP Fund grant. Nell is the recipient of a Next Stage Director’s Fellowship from the Drama League (2019), a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship (2012), and a participant in Theatre Communication Group’s Leadership U: One-on-One program, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by Theatre Communications Group; a national fellowship given to individuals TCG believes are the core and future of theater. Nell is also a Co-Founder of HATCH, an arts residency in Harrisville, New Hampshire providing female-identifying and non-binary artists with time and space to create new theater. Graduate Swarthmore College, New Georges Affiliated Artist and a proud member of SDC. (she/her)

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Chris Swetcky (Director of Production) is the Assistant Professor of Technical Theatre and Technical Director at Penn State. Before coming to Penn State, Chris worked for American Repertory Theater in Cambridge, Massachusetts as Associate Technical Director. While at A.R.T. Chris worked on numerous productions, world premieres, and several Broadway hits, including *Porgy and Bess*, *Pippin*, *All the Way*, and most recently *Finding Neverland*. Chris received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Fairfield University and then went on to earn his M.F.A. in Technical Design and Production from Yale University's School of Drama. Chris's primary area of research is focused in automation and electronic control systems, and in theatrical machinery, including motors, hydraulics, and pneumatics. Chris is a proud member of United States Institute for Theatre Technicians (USITT). (he/him)

Maiko Matsushima (Costume Designer) is a Japan-born, Philadelphia-based visual artist, costume/scenic designer and theater faculty at Bryn Mawr College. Her designs have been seen at Philadelphia's The Wilma Theater, Arden, BalletX, Headlong, Pig Iron Theater Co. as well as Broadway productions such as *Spring Awakening*, *Radio Golf*, *Lestat*, *Assassins*, *Good Body* and *Pacific Overtures* as an associate costume designer. After working as a theatrical designer in Tokyo, NYC and regional theaters around the U.S. for over two decades, Matsushima is now joined with David Brick, a co-founder of Headlong, in creating publicly engaged art. Their most recent collaboration was The Quiet Circus, http://thequietcircus.com/ a 15-month residency at the Washington Avenue Green. (she/her)


Josh Samuels (Sound Editor & Re-Recording Mixer) is a New York City based sound designer creating work that is immersive, engaging, and unexpected. His work has been heard on Broadway, Off Broadway, in regional theatres, concert stages, headphones, and front porches across the country. He one day aspires to own a dog, but has settled for an apartment full of guitars and synthesizers. Proud member of USA 829, and the TSDCA. He holds a degree in theatrical design from Ithaca College. (he/him)

Matthew Roach (Soccer Coach) Matthew is the Varsity Girls’ Soccer Coach and English Department Chair at The Peddie School in Hightstown, New Jersey. A former all-state goalkeeper in Delaware, Matthew has won 4 Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) titles as a high school soccer coach. In 2016, he earned a Master’s Degree in English Literature from the Middlebury Bread Loaf School of English, where he specifically focused on Shakespearean and American Theatre. He is thrilled to be a part of this production. (he/him)

Shelby North (Project Manager) Shelby is delighted to be back at the Philadelphia Theatre Company! She is a Philly-based Stage Manager whose previous credits include: *Christmas Carol*, *Outside Mullingar* (Delaware Theatre Company), *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Private Lives* (Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival), *The Bridges of Madison County* (Philadelphia Theatre Company), *Oliver!* (Quintessence Theatre Group), *Ghost* (Alliance Theatre), *Assassins*, *Father Comes Home from the Wars* (Yale Repertory Theatre), *The Petrified Forest*, *Church and State*, *Fiorello!*, *Constellations*, and *Million Dollar Quartet* (Berkshire Theatre Group). Shelby is a graduate of Yale School of Drama with an MFA in Stage Management. Love and thanks to Matt and her family! (she/her)

The following designers created work for our canceled stage production:

Carolyn Mraz (Scenic Designer) is a Brooklyn-based designer. Favorite designs include: *Spaceman* (Loading Dock), *I’ll Never Love Again* (Bushwick Starr), and *Porgy and Bess* (Spoleto Festival USA). Carolyn is an associated artist of Target Margin, Clubbed Thumb, and the Detroit-based A Host of People. She teaches at the UArts, where she designed *Guys and Dolls* and *The Elementary SpaceTime Show*. Carolyn is an Oberlin College alum with an MFA in design from NYU/Tisch. (she/her)

Mike Inwood (Lighting Designer) Mike is happy to return to PTC, where he previously designed the lighting for *Small Mouth Sounds* and *Rizzo*. Mike’s designs have been seen in New York (Playwrights Horizons, Signature Theatre, BAM, Ars Nova, Cherry Lane, Clubbed Thumb, The New Ohio), Philadelphia (The Arden Theatre, Opera Philadelphia, Curtis Opera, The Bearded Ladies Cabaret, Theater Horizon, FringeArts, Lantern Theatre Company, Azuka Theatre, People’s Light), and regionally (Boston Lyric Opera, Long Wharf, The Magic Theatre, Portland Opera, Perseverance Theatre). Awards: 2010 Emmy Award (NBC Sports - Vancouver Winter Olympics), 2009 J.S. Seidman Award for Design Excellence, Barrymore nominee *(Peter and the Starcatcher)*. www.mikeinwood.com (he/him)
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