

PER
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Half Straddle / Tina Satter

Seagull (Thinking of you)

January 9 - 26

Commissioned by PS122

Co-presented with New Ohio Theatre

Written & Directed by Tina Satter

**Performed by Jess Barbagallo: Treplov, Eliza Bent: Masha,
Becca Blackwell: Peter, Emily Davis: Nina, Julia Sirna-Frest: Polina,
Susie Sokol: Arkadina**

Set Designer Andreea Mincic

Lighting Designer Zack Tinkelman

Sound Design / Original Music Chris Giarmo

Production Manager Liz Nielsen

Stage Manager Randi Rivera

Costume Designer Enver Chakartash

Intern Maev Lowe

Make-up and Wardrobe Naomi Raddatz

Assistant Stage Manager Aldora Neal

Assistant Director Chip Rodgers

**Russian translation assistance provided by Tom Coiner, Kate Marvin, Olga
Okuneva, and Maxim Tumenev**

Original sound design conceived of by Chris Giarmo and Bobby McElver.

Aesthetic collaboration and photography provided by Michael De Angelis.

COIL



COIL is PS122's
annual winter festival of
contemporary performance.
January 3-19

ps122.org

Half Straddle is a New York-based company that makes plays, performances, videos and music written and directed by Tina Satter. The company includes composer Chris Giarmo, designers Zack Tinkelman and Andreea Mincic, and performers Jess Barbagallo, Eliza Bent, Emily Davis, Erin Markey, and Julia Sirna-Frest.

Tina Satter, Half Straddle artistic director, was described as an "emerging experimental star" by The New York Times and named a "2011 Off-Off Broadway Innovator to Watch" by Time Out New York, who noted her "sparky brilliance." Her play *In the Pony Palace/FOOTBALL* was named a Top 10 Show of 2011 by PAPER Magazine, among other honors, and *FAMILY* was named a Top 10 show of 2009 by Time Out New York. Tina attended Mac Wellman's graduate playwriting program at Brooklyn College, received a B.A. in English from Bowdoin College, and an M.A. in Liberal Studies from Reed College. Upcoming projects include a company commission from Soho Rep; a commission from Richard Maxwell and the New York City Players; and ongoing development of the Half Straddle project "Ghost Rings" at Mt. Tremper Arts in summer 2013.

Jess Barbagallo (Treplov) performs with Big Dance Theater, Theatre of a Two-Headed Calf and The Builders Association. Jess is a founding member of Half Straddle, Red Terror Squad and the Dyke Division of 2HC. Other credits include *Fiabe Italiane* (John Turturro), *An Oresteia* (Paul Lazar/Brian Kulick), and *MilkMilk-Lemonade* (Josh Conkel). Jess has written the plays *Grey-Eyed Dogs*, *I'll Meet You in Tijuana*, *Saturn Nights*, *Men's Creative Writing Group* and *Good Year for Hunters*. Jess has been a guest artist/teacher at Brown and New York University. Jess was named a 2011/2012 Queer Arts Mentorship Fellow to write an essay on queer/trans grieving and is the co-creator of GLBTQ film review site www.homoflix.wordpress.com. Most recently, Jess was selected for the 2012-13 BAX AIR program to develop a new work - *Without Me I'm Something*, featuring under-recognized comic Karen Davis. Jess is also a close affiliate of erotic poet Joe Ranono, last seen at The Poetry Project's Marathon Reading and as host of the Prelude 2012 Afterparty at The Gershwin Hotel. Video/Web: *Comrades of Time* (Andrea Geyer), *Gay's Anatomy: Season 2* (Karina Mangu-Ward/Bobby Hodgson). MFA: Brooklyn College.

Eliza Bent (Masha) is a performer/playwright/journalist. Recent original credits include a showing of *Blue Wizard / Black Wizard* at Prelude 2012, *Karma Kharms* (or yarns by Kharms) as part of the Target Margin Lab series at the Bushwick Starr, *Toilet Time with Eliza Bent* (Catch! 50, Great Plains Theatre Conference, "Little Theatre" at Dixon Place), *Trumped!* (Solo Nova Ones at Eleven) and *Pen Pals Meet* (Iranian Theatre Festival at the Brick). With Half Straddle: *In the Pony Palace/Football*, *Nurses in New England*, *Sliding Whores*, *Family* and *The Knockout Blow*. Bent is a MacDowell Colony fellow, a Bay Area Playwrights Finalist and a New Georges affiliated artist. Her play *The Hotel Colors* will premiere at the Bushwick Starr in May and *Blue Wizard/Black Wizard*, with music by Dave Malloy, will premiere at the Incubator Arts Project in Dec. 2013. Bent is an associate editor at American Theatre magazine, a company member of Half Straddle and lives in Brooklyn. MFA in playwriting from Brooklyn College, BA in philosophy from Boston College. elizabeth.wordpress.com.

Becca Blackwell (Peter) is a NYC-based performer. Most recently, Becca has collaborated with Lisa D'Amour, Young Jean Lee's Theatre Company, Half Straddle, Jennifer Miller's Circus Amok, Theater of the Two-Headed Calf, Sharon Hayes, Michelle Handelman, and Erin Markey. Becca is a regular on the web series' *Gays Anatomy* and 2010 New York Television Festival's Best Web Series *Jack In A Box*.

Emily Davis (Nina) is a performer in theater and film. With Half Straddle: *Away Uniform*, *Here You Go*, *In the Pony Palace/FOOTBALL*, *Nurses in New England*, *GIRL DETECTIVES*, *FAMILY*. Emily has developed work and performed at Mass MoCA, The New Museum, Sundance Theater Lab at White Oak, The Watermill Center, NYC SummerStage, Walker Art Center.

ARTIST BIOS CONTINUED

Julia Sirna-Frest (Polina) is a founding member of Half Straddle and was most recently seen in workshops of *Seagull* (*thinking of you*) at Prelude and Abrons Art Center. Other productions with HS include: *In the Pony Palace/Football* (Bushwick Starr) *The Knockout Blow* (Ontological & HERE), *Family* (Ontological), *Nurses in New England* (Ohio). Other favorites: *Edible* (Jeanette Yew), *The Magic Flute* (Target Margin), *Rocky Philly* (Van Cougar). Julia is also a member of Doll Parts a Dolly Parton cover band and a teaching artist. Upcoming: *Del Mar* a film written and directed by Julia Jarcho, Upcoming: *Edible* at LaMama by Jeanette Yew..

Susie Sokol (Arkadina) is a second-grade teacher at St. Ann's School in Brooklyn where she has taught for fifteen years. Susie began performing with Elevator Repair Service in 1992. Since then, she has appeared in all ERS productions. She has also worked with theater artists Katherine Profeta, Sibyl Kempson, and Tina Satter.

Enver Chakatash (Costume Designer) is a company member of The Wooster Group. He recently costumed and performed in their collaboration with New York City Players; *Early Plays*, directed by Richard Maxwell.

Chris Giarmo (Sound Design / Original Music) is an artist and designer living in Brooklyn. He is Half Straddle's resident composer, having created music and sound for every piece the company has produced since 2008. He has also performed with and composed music for Big Dance Theater since 2005 and assisted choreographer Annie-B Parson on many projects including David Byrne's 2010 world tour and string quartet ETHEL's *Wait for Green*. He recently co-directed *Good Year for Hunters* with Jess Barbagallo at Ice Factory 2012, sound designed Faye Driscoll's *You're Me*, and co-sound designed Young Jean Lee's *Untitled Feminist Show*. He plays accordion and sings with Heather Christian & the Arbournauts and has his own solo music called *Boys Don't Fight*. chrisgiarmo.com

Andreea Mincic (Set Designer): previously with Half Straddle: *"Away Uniform"*, *"In the Pony Palace/Football"*, *"Nurses in New England"*, *With Hoi Polloi: "Shadows"*, *"Three Pianos"*, *"Urinetown"*, *"Murder in the Cathedral"*; with 31 Down: *"Here at Home"*, *"Red Over Red"*, *"The Assembler Dilator"*; with Yoav Gal: *"3 Weeks"* Opera, Moshe—a videOpera. Andreea also designs for The Builders Association, Susan Marshall & Company, John Gould Rubin, Buro Fur Off Theater, MAD, Theater Without Borders.

Liz Nielsen (Production Manager) is a Brooklyn-based stage/production manager and designer. Recent credits include *Tube* (Van Cougar), *Homo the Musical* (Moustache Ride/Royal Family), and *The Ring Cycle Parts 1-4* (PL115). She will be working with Object Collection on their upcoming international project in 2013.

Randi Rivera (Stage Manager) is a director/designer/stage manager/native New Yorker. She holds a BA in Theater and Hispanic Studies from Hamilton College, studied Technical Theater at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, and studied Production Management at Universidad San Pablo (CEU) in Madrid, Spain. Randi is currently the Technical Director for Faye Driscoll Group and has proudly worked with many performing arts organizations both in NYC and on the road. Most recently, she's been stage managing for and touring with Phantom Limb's 69°S, Keigwin + Company, and Sidra Bell Dance. Her NYC directing debut, *The Geographical History of America* by Gertrude Stein, was named Critic's Pick by Backstage Magazine in 2009. Randi is delighted to be a part of the Half Straddle team. All of her work is for her family.

Chip Rodgers (Assistant Director) is a director, writer, and technician. His design and directing work has been seen at 3LD, The Access Theater Gallery, Incubator Arts, Gavin Brown's Enterprises, Prelude '12 and regionally in North Carolina where two of his plays have been noted Best of the Year by The Independent Weekly for 2012. He has interned for The Wooster Group, Elevator Repair Service, New York City Players, Big Dance Theater, and is currently the Facilities Manager of Soho Rep. <http://chip-rodgers.com>.

Zack Tinkelman (Lighting Designer) has worked with Sarah Michelson, Moisés Kaufman, Ruben Polendo, Paul Lazar, Andy Paris, Sheron Wray, Red Terror Squad, and Target Margin. His designs have been seen at the Whitney Museum of American Art, The Kitchen, City Center, Incubator Arts Project, Ohio Theatre, HERE Art Center, Chocolate Factory, Skirball Center, Teatr Maty in Warsaw, and the ICA in London. With Half Straddle, Zack has designed *The Knockout Blow*, *Family*, *Nurses in New England*, *Football*, and *Away Uniform*. Zack is currently the Production Manager at The Kitchen.

This project was supported in part by generous donations from the following: 600 Highwaymen, Anna Brenner, Andr  Callot, Amy Gironde, Anna Kuhn, Anne Sears, Antje Oegel, Ardis Markarian, Barbara Giarmo, Becca Blackwell, Ben Gassman, Bess Rowen, Bill Mazza, Bob Satter, Bobby McElver, Brian Frest, Buzz, Caitlin O'Connell, Caleb Hammons, Caroline, Casey Llewellyn, Casey York, Chelsea White, Chris Giarmo, Christen Clifford, Corina Copp, Corinne Sirna, Dalton Bentley, Dan Pfau, Daniel Brunet, Daniel Manley, Danny Wolohan, David Herskovits, Di Glazer, Dianne Jenkins, Dorit Avganim, Neighborhood Productions, Duncan Cutler, Ellen Flaherty, Ellery Marshall, Emkay Walraven, Eric Shethar, Erin Markey, Ethan Zolt, Eva Peskin, Federico Rodriguez, Francis Rabkin, Frank Boudreaux, Franklin Boyd, Gary Wilmes, Hank Willenbrink, Hannah Bos, Hilary Clark, James Bewley, Jamie Peterson, The Paper Industry, Jan Di Palma, Jesper Sorensen, Jessie Paddock, Jessica Del Vecchio, Jo lampert, Joan Satter, Joe Walraven, John Del Gaudio, John McElver, Jonathan Satter, Joshua Conkel, Judy and Dick Hampe, Julia May Jonas, Julia Sirna-Frest, Kate Benson, Kate Scelsa, Katherine Josleyn, Kevin Frest, Kevin Lau, Kevin Lawler, Kourtney Rutherford, KScharhon & DMorgan, Laura von Holt, Leslonicle, Lindsay, Frantz Field, Lisa Reynolds, Liz Maestri, Lucien Zayan, Lucy Alibar, Mac Wellman, Maggie Robinson, Mallery, Marisa Wallin, Mark Sitko, Marty Correia, Matthew Marden, Meghan Finn, Megan Hill, Micah Bloomberg, Michael Cyril Creighton, Mio Nakamura, Mount Tremper Arts, Murphey Wilkins, Natalie Kuhn, Nicholas Vaughan, Nick Zeig-Owens, The Operating Theater, Pamela Sukhum, Rachel Anderson-Rabern, Rachel Chavkin, Rachel Silverman, Rebecca Frank, Rebecca Warner, Rebecca Wright, Richard Maxwell, Richard and Kathy Satter, Ricky Price, Ryan Anthony Hatch, Sam Goodman, Sandy Burke, Sara Farrington, Shonni Enelow, Steve Moore, Sunita, Susan Z Rogers, Susie, Suzanne McCourt, Tatiana Pavela, Three Sciences, Timothy Zraggen, Travis Chamberlain, Trish Harnetiaux, Vallejo Gantner, William, Wolf Medicine, Lesonicle

Very special thank you to the following:

Bobby McElver, Antje Oegel, Michael De Angelis, Greg Zuccolo, Jeso O'Neill, Caleb Hammons, Mac Wellman, Travis Chamberlain, Duncan Cutler, Paul Lazar, William Burke, Sue Killem, Meghan Robertson, Keith Nogueira, Eric Enderle and the staff at MASS MoCA, Frank Hentscher, Corrine Sirna, Ilan Bachrach, Andre Callot, Noel Allain, the Bushwick Starr, Jay Wegman, Crista Alfante, Mike Cacciatore, Lena Moy-Bergen, Shane Chapman, Matt Bogdanow, Erin Markey, Jessica del Vecchio, Dixon Place, Shonni Enelow, Amy Rogoway, Vallejo Gantner, Derek Lloyd, Sean Bauer and PS122 staff, Marc Weitz, Robert Lyons, James Woodward, Brendan Regimbal, Banana Bag and Bodice, International WOW, Tei Blow, Nathan Lemoine, Curtis D. Wells, Eben Hoffer, Jamie McElhinney, Dave Malloy, Tom Coiner, Soho Rep, Alla Fishko, Kai Parrot-Wolfe, Brian, Luke and Pete at the Pencil Factory, Eleanor Russel, Andre Callot, Aaron Treat, Peter Ksander, The Chocolate Factory, Megan Roller, Juliana Beecher, Chris Masullo

Seagull (*Thinking of you*) was made possible with commissioning support from PS122 and the Jerome Foundation. *Seagull* was developed in residencies at MASS MoCA (December 2012), the New Museum (September/August 2012), and Abrons Art Center (April 2012). Early stages of the work were show at Prelude Festival (October 2011).

New Ohio Theatre serves the vast community of independent theatre artists and companies in New York City and the audiences who love them. As a two-time OBIE Award-winning company with a twenty-plus year history, we have deep roots in, and an intimate understanding of, the downtown theatre community. We believe the best of this community operates at the core of the contemporary theatre conversation (about both content and form) and acts collectively to expand the boundaries of the public imagination. With our move to Christopher Street, we aim to establish a high-profile platform for new work that reestablishes the West Village as a destination for mature, ridiculous, engaged, irreverent, gut-wrenching, frivolous, sophisticated, foolish, and profound theatrical endeavors. For more information on the New Ohio, visit www.NewOhioTheatre.org, and join the conversation on Twitter using the handle @IceFactoryFest.



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