

Upcoming Theater

Dramashop's *In the Heart of America* directed by Michael Ouellette. Auditions February 19, 20. Performances April 10 - 18. Contact skelch@mit.edu.

Shakespeare Ensemble's *Twelfth Night* directed by Kortney Adams. Performances March 13 - 22. Contact kcameron@mit.edu.

Musical Theater Guild's *The Full Monty*. Performances April 25 - May 3.

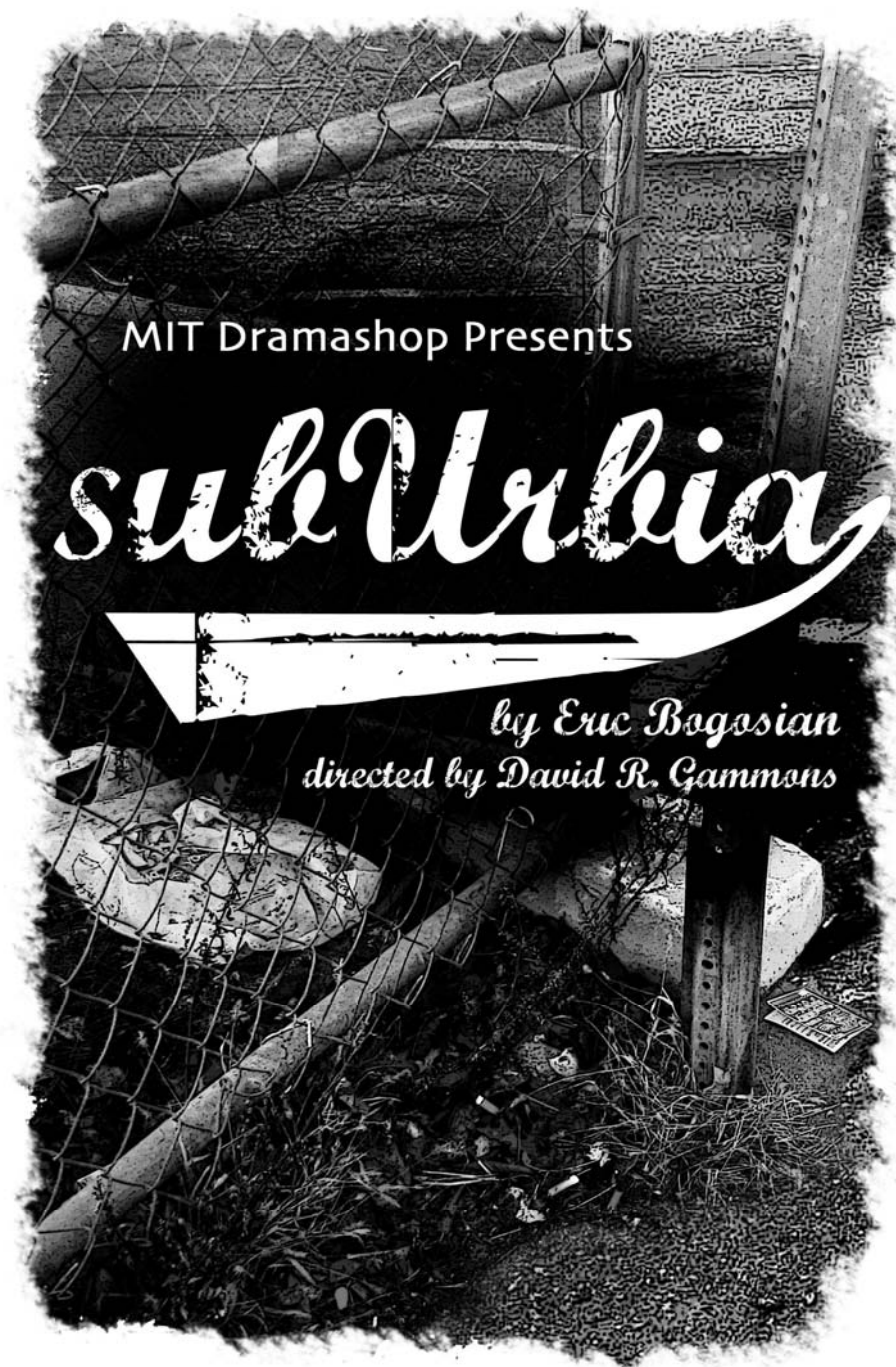
Gilbert and Sullivan's *Ruddigore* directed by Garry Zacheiss. Performances May 2 - May 10.

Acknowledgements

In no particular order, we would like to thank:

The Campus Activities Complex
MIT Music and Theater Arts
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The Dramashop Officers

MIT A/V
Shahriar Khan
Norman Magnuson
LaVerde's
Matt Russell
Dugan Hayes
Katie Olsen
Rae Zucker
Maura Cordial



Performing February 7-9, 14-16 at 8PM in Kresge Little Theater
Produced by special arrangement with the Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

MIT Audio Visual Services

Director's Note:

Eric Bogosian's *subUrbia* is a searing portrait of existential angst in the contemporary American vernacular: a kind of "Hamlet" or "The Seagull" or "No Exit" retrofitted with I-Pods, Oreos, Blackberries, and Budweiser. Although it takes place in the contemporary moment, the play has a powerful resonance for multiple generations of Americans who have found themselves in their own personal *subUrbia* at the age of 21: a limbo state between adolescence and adulthood, between the security of endless housing developments and the dangerous allure of The Big City, between tantalizing hope and crushing despair. For playwright Eric Bogosian it was the late Sixties and early Seventies in Woburn, Massachusetts; for me it was the late Eighties and early Nineties in Yardley, Pennsylvania; for our cast it is the immediate present in a convenience store parking lot in fictional Burnfield, USA. But while the specific details – the soundtrack, the brand names, the fads and fashions -- shift over the years, the potency of underlying malaise, simmering fury, and pending disaster transcend time. The characters in *subUrbia* face the same forces of opposition that Hamlet soliloquized about and Treplev and Nina argued over: inertia versus action, the past versus the future, freedom versus enslavement, individuality versus conformity, the possibility of artistic imagination and output versus the deadening misery of a mundane, everyday life. By struggling through this complex, contradictory landscape we all forge our identity and blaze a path toward our true selves. The characters in *subUrbia* seek their identities in a physical landscape that is similarly dichotomized: part glittering oasis and part devastated wasteland. The characters search for contact, completeness, and creative expression by reaching out for anything that might fill, at least temporarily, the terrifying void they discover in their center. Food, sex, alcohol, drugs, violence, art, and music all serve to momentarily sate the appetite, but ultimately prove unsatisfying. Like their Chekhovian predecessors, the characters speak in circles while the truth of their existence roils beneath the surface, inchoate and inexpressible. And like a Chekhov play, the moniker tragedy or comedy cannot easily be attributed the world of *subUrbia* is both hilarious and heartbreaking. Ultimately, these characters seek redemption in a human connection with each other and the world: some will succeed, and some will fail. I hope you will enjoy spending the night with these amazing people: a motley crew of brave, beautiful, damaged, desperate souls seeking meaning to their existence. My work on this production is dedicated to Pierce Backes and Andrew Simonet, who spent a lot of time with me at the 24-hour WaWa in our own suburban hometown. I miss you guys.

-David R. Gammons



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David R. Gammons, Director

David R. Gammons (Director) is a director, designer, theatre educator, and visual artist. He is the recipient of the 2007 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Director for his production of *Titus Andronicus* with Actors' Shakespeare Project. Recent directing projects include a revival of Arthur Kopit's *Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Mamma's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feelin' So Sad* as the inaugural production at Harvard University's New College Theatre, and *Romeo and Juliet* at The Boston Conservatory. Upcoming work includes directing *My Name is Rachel Corrie* at The New Rep and designing *The Tempest* for ASP. His work as a director, designer, and creator of original performance material includes collaborations with The American Repertory Theatre, Headlong Dance Theater, Spencer/Colton Dance, Pig Iron Theatre Company, Phantom Theater, Theatre Offensive, and SpeakEasy Stage, to name a few. David is a graduate of both the Directing Program at The A.R.T. Institute for Advanced Theatre Training, and the Visual and Environmental Studies Department of Harvard University. He has been Director of the Theatre Program at Concord Academy since 2000, where he will conceive and direct the upcoming world premiere original work *The House of Oudh*.

MIT Dramashop

... is a co-curricular student theater organization open to all members of the MIT community. With an intense commitment to excellence in the performance arts, MIT Dramashop is at once a producing organization and a community dedicated to the creation and perpetuation of a space for personal exchange and artistic development through a sustained interaction with the theater. In addition to producing celebrated events each year, such as Playwrights in Performance, the fall festival of student-written, student-directed one-act plays, and two large-scale faculty-directed mainstage productions, MIT Dramashop organizes film viewings, field trips to local theatres, workshops and readings. In the broadest of terms, MIT Dramashop offers an open door to all members of the academic community with a desire to interface with the performing arts at MIT, in Cambridge, Boston and the beyond.

We offer many unique opportunities for individuals interested in acting, directing, stage management, producing, writing, and design in all fields: sound, light, costumes, objects, scenery, video and more... Contact us at: <http://web.mit.edu/dramashop> or email ds_officers@mit.edu. If you would like to be placed on our publicity email list, ds_fans@mit.edu, please let us know as well.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The show will run approximately two hours with a ten-minute intermission.
- The intermission will feature a live performance by *Space Faces*.
- Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices.
- Exits are located at the back of the theater and the doors at the front right of the audience.
- This production contains profanity, racist language, sexual references, and partial nudity, and may not be appropriate for all audiences.

This performance is supported by funds from the DeFlorez Fund for Humor and from Music and Theater Arts.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND THE PLAY

Eric Bogosian is a writer, actor, and solo performer. His plays and monologues have been performed all over the country, garnering Obie and Drama Desk awards for their off-Broadway runs. He is best known for his scathing portraits of American men in "Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll" and "Pounding Nails in the Floor With My Forehead." His play "Talk Radio" was made into a film by Oliver Stone. He can currently be seen on "Law and Order: Criminal Intent." Bogosian grew up in Woburn, Massachusetts, where his experiences shaped the conception of the play "subUrbia."

Eric Bogosian's "subUrbia" was originally workshopped with students at the ART Institute in Cambridge in 1989, and then again at Julliard in 1992. In 1994 it premiered at the Lincoln Center in New York under the direction of Robert Falls. It was adapted and made into a screenplay for the 1996 film directed by Richard Linklater, starring Steve Zahn and Ajay Naidu. Recently, "subUrbia" was revived with an updated script by the author, and performed in the Second Stage Theater in New York City. It was directed by Bogosian's wife and collaborator, Jo Bonney, and featured performances by Jessica Capshaw, Gaby Hoffman, and Keiran Culkin.

The Cast

Jeff **Brian Ross '11**
Buff **Brian Cass '11**
Tim **Jonas Kubilius '08**
Sooze **Erika Bakse '08**
Bee-Bee **Sally Peach '09**
Norman **Vinith Misra '08**
Pakeesa **Hui Ying Wen '08**
Erica **Kelly Thomas '08**
Pony **Yoni Gray '10**

Design Team

Director **David R. Gammons**
Scenic Design **Eric Levenson**
Lighting Design **Karen Perlow**
Costume Design **Leslie Cocuzzo Held**
Sound Design **Peter Whincop**
Fight Choreography **Ted Hewlett**
Pony's Songs Composer **Matt Moskwa**

All music in this production is performed by MIT bands:

carrie okie band: Carrie McDonough, Harold Cooper, Okie Jon Williams, Katherine Dalis

Dress Rehearsal Rag: Ravi Amaratunga, Charles Amick, Greg Tibbs

Free Parking: Keith Brown, Andy Richter, Alan Gardner, Jayson Paulose, Sam Ribnick

The Lemon Squares: Matt Moskwa, Katherine Dalis, Usman Akeju

Limited Slip: Matt Robertson, Alex Sanchez, Jeremy Kuempel, Chris Becker

Off White Noise: Barry Kudrowitz, Marty Skelton, Alex Romaniuk

Space Faces: Gilberto "GB" Abram, Dugan Hayes, Rian Hunter, James Sannino

Sound Recording by: The bands and Peter Whincop

Kelly Thomas, '08, Biology

Kelly (**Erica**) is happy to have a role where people are actually forced to listen to her speak alone instead of trying to ignore her voice amongst a multitude of others in various musicals. She has had a lot of fun rehearsing for this and is particularly happy that she gets to act with the one and only Sally Peach (the bestest roommate ever). For the record, she prefers her Matthew to any other guy, onstage or off, and though she doesn't deny it in the show, she is not available in a horizontal and wet way.

Hui Ying Wen, '08, Aerospace Engineering and Theater

Hui Ying (**Pakeesa**) has appeared on the MIT stage in approximately 14 productions (Dramashop, Dance Theater Ensemble, Shakespeare Ensemble, "The Vagina Monologues," Underground Railway Theater) - and hopes to get a few more in before graduation. After graduation, she will be joining NASA Jet Propulsion Lab as an aerospace engineer. Graduate school is in the future. Hui Ying has greatly enjoyed meeting and working with the cast and crew of "SubUrbia."

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Based on the Poem by Joseph Moncure March, Partially Developed and Received Readings at The O'Neill Theater Center during the 1997 National Music Theatre Conference. Originally Produced in New York City by the Manhattan Theatre Club.
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Phone: 212-644-4844 www.mti.com

Ashley Micks, '09, Aerospace Engineering and Theater

This show needed over 30 cases of "beer" for the whole run, and Ashley (**Properties Manager**) had to get it. She went to a liquor store for the first time in her life to buy the non-alcoholic beer for the initial food run- through, and bought cigarettes for the first time so the actors could have the boxes as props, all while making clear to anyone in the store who might be watching that "These are PROPS--they're NOT FOR ME. I'd like some NON-ALCOHOLIC beer. DRUGS ARE BAD."

Vin Misra, '08, Computer Science and Electrical Engineering

Vin (**Norman**) is single. 510-449-1480.

Sally Peach, '09, Biology

Formerly an ensemble character in many musical theatre productions, Sally (**Bee-Bee**) is quite satisfied with leaving the world of happiness and song for the world of cigarettes, booze, and death. Many thanks to: Kelly Thomas for being the bestest roommate ever, Jonas for variations on "Oh snap!", mattwp for introducing me to Jack Daniels, and Mike for everything else. Also, Brian Ross is a dildo.

William Pickeral, '11

William Pickeral (**Production Stage Manager/ASM**) asked not to have a bio because he is too lazy to write one.

Yuri Podpaly, G, Nuclear Science and Engineering

Yuri (**The Producer**), a three year Dramashop veteran, hopes he has survived the craziest month of his life. He would like to personally thank Ashley, Avril, and Sarah for making this month a little less insane.

Brian Ross, '11

Brian Ross (**Jeff**) is excited to "strip naked and fart in the wind" in his first Dramashop show.

Production Staff

Technical Director	Mike Katz
Costume Shop Manager	Diane Brainerd
Producer	Yuri Podpaly G
Assistant Producer	Avril Kenney '11
Rehearsal Stage Manager	Sarah Gumlak '11
Assistant Stage Manager	William Pickeral '11
Assistant Technical Director	Michael Shields '07
Master Carpenter	Hanna Kuznetsov '09
Master Carpenter	Hiroyuki Yamada '11
Master Painter	Nicolina Akraboff '08
Master Painter	Kelly Casteel '11
Assistant Lighting Designer	Danbee Kim '09
Assistant Sound Design	Harrison Bralower '11
Properties Manager	Ashley Micks '09
Properties Assistant	Vinith Misra '08
Technical Assistant	Kellie Young '11
Vocal Coach	Jennie Israel
Language Consultant	Hareem Ahmad '10

Run Crew

Production Stage Manager	William Pickeral '11
Lighting Board	Avril Kenney '11
Sound Board	Harrison Bralower '11
Run Crew	Sarah Gumlak '11
	Mike Shields '07
	Kellie Young '11



Cast and Crew Bios

Erika Bakse, '08, Mathematics

Erika (**Sooze**) is tremendously excited to be a part of SubUrbia. As a small town girl with dreams of making it in the big city, she has had a tough time getting into character. Smile, baby, smile!

Brian Cass, '11, Aerospace Engineering

A 2011 planning to major in 16 and 24, Brian (**Buff**) has been a member of theatrical endeavors for six years. He competed in all of the interpretation events on his High School and Middle School Speech teams, and started transitioning to theatre his Senior year. He enjoys obscure quotations, heart-jerking tales, and long walks on sandy shores.

Yoni Gray, '10, EECS and Theater

Yoni Gray (**Pony**) likes rigatoni, mocking Sloanies, swinging his giant ba—sorry, let's try again. Yoni Gray (Pony) has a fondness for puns (and, it would seem, rhymes), to the chagrin of anyone who's made the mistake of letting him speak for more than two and one third minutes. Yoni's an actor... I guess you could say it's his thing. But wait, let's not start on the equipment jokes again, there's quite enough in this play. Who knew how many uses there were for the word piece? In any case, this is the first piece he's done with Dramashop, but he's soiled goods: MTG stole his MITheater virginity long ago. Shakespeare Ensemble's had their go, too. But he's had a whole semester with no such fun and he's just ready to burst with jittery excitement at working with this amazing cast and crew. Extra special thanks to Matt for the music, his mom because she said to, and to Emily for reading this and letting him use it anyway.

Sarah Gumlak, '11, Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Sarah Gumlak (**Rehearsal Stage Manager/Run Crew**) believes that her Stage Managing powers will only reach their height when she can speak in a flawless Lithuanian accent. She also congratulates Sally on surviving the fourth act. It is not for the faint of heart.

Avril Kenney, '11, Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Avril Kenney (**Assistant Producer/Light Board**) did various types of tech work in high school, mostly involving the construction of questionably stable set pieces. This is her first time being a producer.

Danbee Kim, '09, Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Danbee Kim (**ALD**) loves tomatoes, basil, and being a ladder monkey. Many hugs to Karen for putting up with me and letting me learn from the best!

Jonas Kubilius, '08, Mathematics and Physics

This is Jonas's (**Tim**) ninth production at MIT. Hopefully, his fans will witness a significant improvement since his first one (The Demolition Downtown), if not in acting, then at least in diminished accent (thanks to his vocal coach, Jennie Israel).

Hanna Kuznetsov, '09, Biology

Hanna (**Master Carpenter**) is here on a short visit from the Shakespeare Ensemble, because she likes Rinaldi. And power tools. Among other things. She helped build that shiny set you're staring at right now. She hopes the actors won't break anything.

The food for these performances has kindly been provided by:

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