

SPECIAL THANKS

Ann Boyd	Susan Padveen
Ashton Byrum	Jackie Penrod
Peter Carpenter	Kevin Rolfs
Marc Chevalier	Joanie Schultz
Nykol DeDreu	Steve Scott
Andrea J	Jen Sloan
Dymond	Josef Szaday
Heather Gilbert	John Thomasson
Glenese Hand	Amy Uhl
Tom Kieffer	David Woolley
Tracie Kunzika	
Michael Maddux	
Tom Mula	

Next Up in Studio 404:

26 Miles

Directed by Amanda Blake

March 14-16

DYING FOR IT

STUDIO 404

BY **MOIRA BUFFINI**

FREELY ADAPTED FROM
THE SUICIDE
BY NIKOLAI ERDMAN

RUNTIME: 2 HOURS WITH A 10 MIN INTERMISSION

DIRECTED BY
SEAN MARBURGER

FEB 28TH TUESDAY 6:30

MAR 1ST WEDNESDAY 8:00

MAR 2ND THURSDAY 1:30

Reservations: colum.edu/directingprojects | Questions: (312) 369-3649

CAST

Semyon Semyonovich Podsekalkinov-
Will Nicholson
Maria Lukianovna “Masha”-
Lili McLaughlin
Serafima Ilyinichna-
Rebecca Whittenhall
Alexander Petrovich Kalabushkin-
Leo Gleiss
Margarita Ivanovna Pervesvetova-
Katy Campbell
Yegor Timoveivich-
Joe Guritz
Aristarkh Dominikovich Grand-Skubik-
Colby Carlson
Kleopatra Maximovna “Kiki”-
Molly Beckett
Father Yelpidy-
Stephen Johnson
Viktor Viktorovich-
Kyle Ferris
Stepan Vasilievich/Beggar-
Danny Junkel
Oleg Leonidovich/Beggar-
Audrey Simon

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The arts are an opportunity to express what we think, what we feel, what we love and hate, what we hope, what we want to change, and what we want from the future and admire from the past. Arts are about celebrating and remembering the diversity of human expression. Without a creative outlet, humans become restless, resentful and irritable. Painting, sculpting, building, singing, dancing, writing and creating are all valid expressions of thought. Just as a journal can help a person gather their thoughts through a great or tough time in their life. It is important that we know our history. We learn the important dates, people and places from our past, and we even learn why and how they occurred. Art gives us a different avenue into our history with story telling. It shows us how those events impacted the people living through them. In art, we see the hopes and the dreams, or the fears and regrets of the past. In art, we gain a better understanding of how the events throughout history have shaped us into what we are today.

TIME AND PLACE:

Late 1920s in an Urban Slum

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director- Sean Marburger

Asst. Director- Kass Ferland Haroun

Production Stage Manager- Izzy French

Asst. Stage Managers- Bailey Davis and
Jackson Dougherty

Choreographer- Kat DiAire

Dance Captain- Katy Campbell

Fight Choreographer- Chloe Gingold

Fight Captain- Molly Beckett

Dialect Coach- Adam Goldstein

Set Designer- Oreum Chang

Properties Designer- Austen Harmon

Costume Designer- Annaliese Voci

Hair & Makeup Designer- Carolanne Conwell

Lighting Designer- Here Perkowitz

Sound Designer- Daniel Hosfield

Technical Director- Zach Pudlo

Poster Designer- Alie Jackson

Crew- John Miller, Spencer Fritz, Maddox Schnur

Goodbye, my friend, goodbye

*Goodbye, my friend, goodbye
My love, you are in my heart
It was preordained we should part
And be reunited by and by
Goodbye: no handshake to endure.
Let's have no sadness -
Furrowed brow.*

*There's nothing new in dying now
Though living is no newer.*

-Sergei Aleksandrovich Yesenin

THE SUICIDE, by Nikolai Erdman, was written between 1928. The Suicide suggested not only that Russians should take back control of their lives, which had been ceded to the communist state, but also that they should do this in the only way possible, a final declaration of independence. His close friend and artistic partner, **VSEVOLOD MEYERHOLD**, was set to direct the political satire. However, after a private viewing for party officials before opening night Stalin sent a letter banning the play two days before opening night. Erdman was exiled after he continued to write with a political agenda against the **COMMUNIST PARTY**. Things were even worse for Meyerhold, he was eventually banned from working, tortured into saying he was a spy and then executed in 1940.

SERGEI ALEKSANDROVICH YESENIN

was one of the most popular and well-known Russian poets of the 20th century and was known for his anti-communist writings. In Late December 1925, he used his own blood to write his final words “In this life there is nothing new about dying. But then again there is nothing new about living.” He then proceeded to hang himself from the heating pipes of his room in the famous **LENINGRAD HOTEL ANGLETERRE**. His death triggered a wave of copycat suicides with intentions of challenging the **COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT**. The communist authorities, who viewed Esenin’s poetry with suspicion for its individualism reacted strongly, and his books were banned for many years after his death.

This is a Level IV directing project. The director and production team are given a black box and must build from there.