*This page serves as a virtual playbill.*

IOWA STAGE THEATRE COMPANY

IOWA STAGE VIRTUAL THEATER

PROUDLY PRESENTS

# EXIT STRATEGY

*by Ike Holter*

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Kay Myers
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Trudy Hurd
*Designer Underwriter*

C. Dean Carlson
*Designer Underwriter*

Harry and Pam Bookey
*Actor Underwriter*

## CAST AND CREW

* Resident Artist Company
† Cloris Award winner

ERIC OLSON
Ricky

JAMES SERPENTO*
Arnold

DAVIDA WILLIAMS†
Pam

HUGO PEREZ LOA
Luce

RAE DAVIS FEHRING*
Sadie

SOPHIA MONTOYA-SUSON
Jania

EMMETT PHILLIPS
Donnie

MATTHEW MCIVER
Director

IKE HOLTER
Playwright

LAUREN DURSKY*
Stage Manager

STEPHANIE WILBER
Costume Designer

G. THOMAS FURGERSON
Lighting Design

JOSH JEPSON*†
Sound Designer

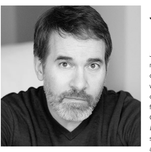
MEDIA G
Videography

Run time approx. 100 minutes.

## BIOGRAPHIES

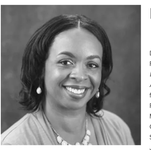
### ERIC OLSON

ERIC OLSON was recently seen in *Adore Us! Line* and *Company* with Iowa Stage Theatre, and *Private Passage* with Kingman Row and ISTC Launch. He was also seen in *Rumors* and *Oleanna* with Tallgrass Theatre Company, the latter of which earned him a Cloris Award nomination. He was also seen in *Around The World in 80 Days* with the Des Moines Playhouse. Other credits include *Monty Python's Spamalot* with the Coronado Playhouse and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Desert Ensemble Theatre Company.



### JAMES SERPENTO

JAMES SERPENTO is a Resident Artist with ISTC and one of the founding members of Kingman Row Entertainment. James has worked as an actor, director, writer and educator across the U.S. for more than three decades, with several hundreds of productions for stage and screen to his credit, many of them award-winning. As an actor, James has worked extensively in theatre, film, commercials, with his favorite roles including de Stogumber in *St. Joan* at Chicago's Bailiwick Repertory, Teach in *American Buffalo*, Eddie in *Fool for Love* and several roles at Chicago Dramatists. He has written many plays and screenplays, most recently co-authoring *Every Cottage Home*, and the book and lyrics for a new musical version of *The Bacchae*, as well as several adaptations for a collection of Chekhovian short plays found on Iowa Stage Theatre's Patreon. James is the proud daddy of gamer-extraordinaire Samuel.



### DAVIDA WILLIAMS

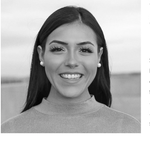
DAVIDA WILLIAMS was most recently seen as Kamala Harris in Robert John Ford's *Adore Us! Line* at Iowa Stage Theatre, and was seen in various roles in *Lost Girl* with Des Moines Young Artists Theatre and Esther in *Intimate Apparel* with Pyramid Theatre Company, for which she earned a Cloris Award for Best Actress. She was also featured in *Dead Dog Park* with Open Door Rep and *Rumors* with Tallgrass Theatre Company. Born and raised in Des Moines, she's been on stage since the age of 14. Davida studied theatre at Grandview University and has done countless industrials and voice work. Some of her favorite roles include *Claire* in *Rumors*, *Lady Capulet* in Romeo & Juliet, and her beloved Esther in *Intimate Apparel*.

### HUGO PEREZ LOA

HUGO PEREZ LOA was born in Monterrey, Mexico, and lives in Storm Lake, Iowa. Hugo is twenty-three years old and a graduate from Iowa Central Community College and Iowa State University. He has received his Associate of Arts and his Bachelor's of Liberal Arts and Studies. Currently providing services as a social worker, he hopes to bring assistance to LGBTQ+ Latinx individuals in the future. He would like to thank his friends and chosen family for believing in him and to never stop dreaming. Hugo Perez Loa made his ISTC debut as Luce in *Exit Strategy*.

### RAE DAVIS FEHRING

RAE DAVIS FEHRING is a new member of the Resident Artist Committee with Iowa Stage Theatre Company and plays Sadie in *Exit Strategy*. She returned to the stage after a 20 year hiatus to play Big Al in the production of *Fun Home*. In the fall of 2021, Rae will return to her role in *The Cake*; the show was postponed due to the pandemic. Her previous roles include: Ayah in *The Secret Garden*, Gymnasia in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way To The Forum*, and Lucia in *Black Coffee*. While studying voice at Central College, Rae performed in scenes from such operas as *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, and *The Medium*. She looks forward to returning to her role as lead singer of the local jazz-funk group The Tighten Up.



### SOPHIA MONTOYA-SUSON

SOPHIA MONTOYA-SUSON is from Parker, Colorado. She graduated from Drake University with her BFA in Musical Theatre in May 2021 and is so excited to be working with Iowa Stage Theatre Company. Some of her favorite past credits include *Into the Woods* (Florinda/Witch Understudy), *Singin' in the Rain* (Zelda/Dance Captain), *Time Stands Still* (Mandy), and *Pippin* (Ensemble). Sophia would like to thank her family for their endless support.

### EMMETT PHILLIPS

EMMETT SAAH PHILLIPS JR. was raised in Des Moines and is a multi-disciplinary artist, educator, and activist with a passion for community

engaged practices. He has starred in plays such as *A Raisin In The Sun* with Pyramid Theatre Company and *Akeelah and the Bee* with Des Moines Young Artists Theatre. He performs his original brand of hip hop and spoken word poetry all over Iowa and across the country. Emmett founded Speak Your Peace LLC as a way to convert his various creative skill sets and years of dedication to arts, scholarship, and community into hands-on innovative educational services and experiences that intend to boost self-confidence, self-awareness, and self-expression.

### MATTHEW MCIVER (Director)

MATTHEW MCIVER is a writer, director and actor and the Artistic Director of Iowa Stage Theatre Company. Matthew arrived in Des Moines with his wife Julie in 2008 to co-found the multidisciplinary arts venue that is the current home of ISTC, the Des Moines Social Club (DMSC). He served as Founding Artistic Director there for five years, overseeing theater and a wide range of other programming, including jazz, wrestling, belly-dancing and more. Matthew was also the project lead, co-writer and director for the CoLab Project, creating original theater (The Mother Davis Project, MathLab) from Iowa stories. An Equity member since 1997, Matthew is a Resident Artist with Iowa Stage Theater Company, and for Iowa Stage Theatre and its predecessor companies has directed *The Crucible*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *A Christmas Carol* and *August: Osage County* (Cloris Award for Best Play). Locally, he's directed for DMSC (*The Twelfth Labor*, *Blackbird*, *The Last Five Years*, etc.) and Mooncoin Entertainment (*The Beauty Queen of Leenane* and *The Cripple of Inishmaan*) as well as independent productions (*Shadley Grei's Marshall's Law*, Robert John Ford's *My Dinner with Andrew*). He has served on the boards of several local arts organizations, including the Pyramid Theatre Company for whom he directed *A Soldier's Play* (Cloris Award for Best Play). He lives in Des Moines with his patient and supportive wife *Julie*, and their daughters, Vaughn and Flynn.

### LAUREN DURSKY (Stage Manager)

Lauren Dursky is a member of ISTC's Resident Artist Company and serves as Director of Production. She has stage managed *It's A Wonderful Life*, *The Christians*, *A View From The Bridge*, *The Flick*, *Company*, *A Doll's House*, and a variety of others. She previously worked with Repertory Theatre Company, StageWest, Iowa State University, and The Des Moines Playhouse, with previous credits including *Taming of the Shrew*, *August: Osage County*, *Broadway Bound*, *The Magic Flute*, and *Les Miserables*.

### JOSHUA JEPSON (Sound Design)

Josh Jepson is a Cloris Award -winning sound designer and a proud member of the Resident Artist Company at Iowa Stage Theatre. Josh has worked on every show since the founding of the company, has worked freelance, and works in sound & lights design at Hoyt Sherman Place.

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