

Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth

presents

Selected Shorts

Santino Fontana

Nikki M. James

Katrina Lenk

Sunday, February 9, 4 pm

Loew Auditorium • Dartmouth College • 2025

Funded in part by the William B. Hart 1934 Trust, the Lewis A. Crickard '35A Visiting Performing Artists Fund, the David E. Skinner II 1942 Fund, the Howard W. 1932 and Dorothy G. Pierpont Fund and the William B. Hart Memorial Fund.

Programmed in partnership with the Dartmouth Climate Collaborative, a campus-wide initiative to accelerate decarbonization efforts.

Program

Approximate duration: 90 minutes

Hosted by Santino Fontana

The Sagebrush Segmented Skink by **Jonas Rosenthal '25**, winner of the Selected Shorts Creative Writing Contest at Dartmouth College
Performed by Nikki M. James

Kerosene by **Simon Rich**
Performed by Santino Fontana

Direction of the Road by **Ursula K. Le Guin**
Performed by Nikki M. James

D Day by **Rachel Khong**
Performed by Katrina Lenk

About the Artists

Santino Fontana is known for his Outer Critics Circle, Drama Desk, and Tony Award-winning portrayal of Michael Dorsey/Dorothy Michaels in the Broadway production of *Tootsie*, and for voicing the character Prince Hans in Disney's Academy Award-winning animated feature *Frozen*. With *Encores!*, he has starred in off-Broadway productions of *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*; *1776*; and *Zorba*. On Broadway, he has starred in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, for which he won a Clarence Derwent Award; *Brighton Beach Memoirs* (Drama Desk Award); *Act One*; *Billy Elliot*; *Cinderella* (Tony nomination); and *Hello, Dolly!* His onscreen credits include the currently airing *Grotesquerie*, as well as *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*, *Sisters*, *Shades of Blue*, *Mozart in the Jungle*, *Submissions Only*, *Off the Menu*, *Fosse/Verdon*, and *Evil*, with forthcoming roles in *Lost & Found in Cleveland* and his film directing debut in *Death Wish*. Fontana recently starred in the Classic Stage Company's revival of *I Can Get it for You Wholesale*, for which he received Lucille Lortel and Drama Desk Award nominations.

Nikki M. James recently starred as Ida B. Wells in the Tony-winning musical *Suffs*, for which she was also nominated for a Tony Award. She originated the role of Nabalungi in the Broadway hit musical *The Book of Mormon*, for which she won the Tony for Best Featured Actress in a Musical. Her favorite theater credits include Tony Kushner's *A Bright Room Called Day* at The Public; Broadway productions of *Les Misérables* and *All Shook Up*; *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin* with *Encores!*; *Romeo and Juliet* and *Antony & Cleopatra* alongside Christopher Plummer at the Stratford Theater; *The Wiz* at the La Jolla Playhouse; *Julius Caesar* and *Twelfth Night* with Shakespeare in the Park; *Bernarda Alba* at Lincoln Center; and *Preludes* with LCT3. Her film and television credits include *The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby*, *Lucky Stiff*, *BrainDead*, *Proven Innocent*, *The Good Wife*, *Modern Love*, *Severance*, and *Spoiler Alert*. As a director, she has helmed episodes of *The Bite* and *The Good Fight*. She served as an assistant director to Michael Arden for the Broadway revival of *Once on this Island* and

A Christmas Carol starring Jefferson Mays. Forthcoming projects include Marvel's *Daredevil: Born Again*.

Rachel Khong is the author of *Goodbye, Vitamin*, winner of the California Book Award for First Fiction. Her latest novel, the *New York Times* bestselling *Real Americans*, was published in 2024. She writes a Substack about short stories called "Short Story Short."

Ursula K. Le Guin (1929–2018) authored 23 novels, 12 volumes of short stories and novellas, 11 volumes of poetry, 13 children's books, five collections of essays, and four volumes of translation over her celebrated career, including the *Hainish Cycle* and the *Earthsea* series. Le Guin's major titles have been translated into 42 languages and have remained in print, often for over half a century. She was honored with the National Book Award, nine Hugo Awards, six Nebula Awards, the Kafka Award, a Pushcart Prize, the Howard Vursell Award of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the National Book Foundation Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters. She was the second woman named a Grand Master of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America. Le Guin is the subject of the documentary *Worlds of Ursula K. Le Guin*. Her final publications included the non-fiction collections *Dreams Must Explain Themselves* and *Ursula K. Le Guin: Conversations on Writing*, both released posthumously.

Katrina Lenk can be seen in a major recurring role in the limited series *Apples Never Fall* on Peacock. Previously, she appeared as a recurring guest star in the final season of Netflix's *Ozark*. She recently starred as Bobbie in the revival of Stephen Sondheim's *Company*, the first woman to play the role on Broadway. She also received acclaim for starring as Dina in *The Band's Visit* on Broadway, for which she earned Tony, Grammy, and Lucille Lortel Awards. She also received nominations from Outer Critics Circle, Chita Rivera Awards, Drama League, Theatre World

Award's Dorothy Loudon Award, and a Clarence Derwent Award (Breakout Female of the Year) for her performance. Additional Broadway credits include the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Indecent* (OCC nomination), *Once, Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*, and *The Miracle Worker*. Lenk's regional theater credits include *Indecent* at the Vineyard, La Jolla Playhouse, and Yale Rep; *iWitness* at the Mark Taper Forum; *Lost Land* with the Steppenwolf Theatre Company; *Caucasian Chalk Circle* at South Coast Rep; and *Lovelace: A Rock Opera* in LA and Edinburgh. Onscreen, Lenk has also been seen in *Little Voice*, *Tommy*, *The Village*, *The Good Fight*, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *The Get Down*, *Elementary*, and *The Blacklist*.

Simon Rich is a frequent contributor to *The New Yorker*. He has written for *Saturday Night Live*, Pixar, and *The Simpsons* and is the creator of the TV shows *Man Seeking Woman* and *Miracle Workers*, which he based on his books. His other collections include *Ant Farm*, *Spoiled Brats*, *New Teeth*, *Glory Days*, and *Hits and Misses*, which won the Thurber Prize for *American Humor*. Rich's play *All In: Comedy About Love* can currently be seen at the Hudson Theatre on Broadway.

Jonas Rosenthal '25 is originally from Denver, Colorado. He is a Middle Eastern Studies and Mathematics major at Dartmouth College. His story, "The Sagebrush Segmented Skink" is the winner of the Selected Shorts Creative Writing Contest at Dartmouth College.

Credits

“The Sagebrush Segmented Skink,” by Jonas Rosenthal. Winner of the Selected Shorts Creative Writing Contest at Dartmouth College. Copyright © 2024 by Jonas Rosenthal. Used by permission of the author.

“Kerosene,” by Simon Rich, from *Glory Days* (Little, Brown and Company, 2024). Copyright © 2024 by Simon Rich. Used by permission of Levine, Greenberg, Rostan Literary Agency.

“Direction of the Road,” by Ursula K. Le Guin, from *The Wind’s Twelve Quarters* (Harper & Row, 1975). First published in *Orbit 12* (G. P. Putnam’s Sons, 1973). Copyright © 1973 by Ursula K. Le Guin. Used by permission of Curtis Brown Ltd.

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Arts in the Curriculum & Community

The Hop joins forces with Still North Books and Bar to sell books related to Selected Shorts before and after the performance. The Selected Shorts Creative Writing Contest at Dartmouth College was a collaboration between the Hop, the Department of English and Creative Writing, and the Selected Shorts team.



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