



**ROCK**  
*the*  
**LINE**



Venus Theatre

by Kathleen Warnock  
directed by Deborah Randall  
September 15 - October 9, 2016

# ROCK *the* LINE

by **Kathleen Warnock**

Time: Here and now and every moment that has passed at once

Place: Rock Club in the Rust Belt

A play in two acts with one 15 minute intermission

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## Featuring

Nancy	Rebecca Herron
Lucy	Myrrh Cauthen
Candy File	Amy Rhodes
Joanne	Tamieka Chavis
Kelly	Lida Maria Benson
Leslie	Deborah Randall
Mickey	Patrick Gorirossi
Patti Roxx	Voice of Marni Penning
DJ	Voice of Nancy Blum

Playwright	Kathleen Warnock
Director	Deborah Randall
Assistant Director	Marni Penning
Scenic Designer	Amy Belschner-Rhodes
Lighting Designer	Kris Thompson
Sound Designer	Neil McFadden
Props and Costumes	Deborah Randall
Stage Management	Jenna Lawrence
Fight Choreography	Mallory Shear
Front of House	Lydia Howard and Karen Costanzi
Graphics	Laura Schraven

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# ACTORS

REBECCA HERRON (Nancy) Past Venus shows include several readings at the Kennedy Center's Page-to-Stage (including this show) and some favorite Play Shack productions were *Looking for the Pony* and *Helen of Sparta*. Around the DC area she's done industrial, voiceover, TV and plenty of other theatre work, garnering a Helen Hayes nomination and several Best Acting and Best Ensemble awards at various film festivals. She holds a BFA in Theatre Performance from the University of Miami.

MYRRH CAUTHEN (Lucy) is an actress, songwriter/singer, producer, director, artistic director, music programmer (WPFW), and educator. I don't know what I want to be when I grow up. Delighted to be working with Venus!

AMY RHODES (Candy File) has most recently been seen on the Venus stage as The Woman (and Interviewers) in *Garbage Kids*, a silent Samurai in *We are Samurai*, Boomer in *Ding!*, and in various roles in *731 DeGraw Street Brooklyn*. Additionally, she played the roles of The Girl in *The Stenographer* and Findabair in *Daughters of Molly Maguire* (also with Venus). Amy trained in Theatre at UMBC.

TAMIEKA CHAVIS (Joanne) A DC area actor, Tamioka Chavis is honored and excited to be rockin' out with an amazing ensemble of talented actors! Some of Tamioka's favorite credits include Timon in Shakespeare's *Timon of Athens* (Off the Quill), Second Witch/et al in *Macbeth* (Chesapeake Shakespeare Company), Mother Earth in *Mother Earth & Me* (Smithsonian's Discovery Theater), Mary Swanson in *Middletown* (NextStop Theatre), Rosie/Pam/Annie/Amanda in *Love, Loss, and What I Wore* (NextStop Theatre), Conner in *Bones In Whispers* (Longacre Lea), Lizzy in *The Word and The Wasteland* (Source Festival), Mother Courage in *Mother Courage and Her Children* (dog & pony dc). Tamioka has appeared on television for HBO, Investigation Discovery, and DCTV, as well as in commercials, industrials, and independent films. She is also a teaching artist with Discovery Theater's Tools of Discovery and Arts on the Horizon. Tamioka is a proud graduate of the National Conservatory of Dramatic Arts.  
[www.youtube.com/user/tamiekachavis/videos](http://www.youtube.com/user/tamiekachavis/videos)

LIDA MARIA BENSON (Kelly) credits include, *Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp* (upcoming, Adventure Theatre MTC), *Shelter* (staged reading, Arena Stage), *Tribes* (Vermont Stage Company), *Seminar* (Middlebury Actors Workshop), *The Three Musketeers* (Chesapeake Shakespeare Company), Raver n00b in *The Rave Scenes* (Capital Fringe). *Sketch Comedy: Draw Me Like One of Your French Girls* (The PIT), *Chittenango* (Off-Center), *Rest in Peace*, *Norma Jean* (Off-Center). DC native, University of Vermont alumna. [www.lidabenson.com](http://www.lidabenson.com)

DEBORAH RANDALL (Leslie) is thrilled to be on the boards three times in a row this year. It's unheard of. This show closes the night before her 50th birthday and she thought that after producing for 16 years she would give herself the gift of shows 55, 56, and 57. Deb thanks the amazing artists that fill the house-that-love-built for making this all appear. She sends out love to her husband Alan and to her best girl Jasmine.

PATRICK GORIOSSI (Mickey) This is Patrick's third show with Venus Theatre, his previous shows were *We are Samurai* (Rocky) and *Raw* (Chuck). He also recently directed *An Act of the Imagination* with Bowie Community Theatre, and Assistant Directed *The 39 Steps* with The Collaborative Theatre. Patrick also serves on the Board of Directors for Parlor Room Theater Company.

KATHLEEN WARNOCK (Playwright) is delighted to return to Venus, which previously produced her *Grieving for Genevieve*, and gave *Rock the Line* a reading last fall at the Kennedy Center. A UMBC graduate, Kathleen is a NYC-based playwright, whose work has been seen in New York, London, Ireland (Dublin and Georgia), and regionally. Recent work: *Strivers*, *Astoria Stories*, *APAC*, NYC; *The Further Adventures of...* (TOSOS, NYC and International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival); *Julie Andrews is the Devil*, Women's International Theater Festival, Provincetown. Hostess of the Drunken! Careening! Writers! reading series (since 2004). Ambassador of Love for North America for the International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival. Member of the Dramatists Guild.

DEBORAH RANDALL (Producer/Director) is the founder and visionary behind Venus Theatre. Born in Washington, DC, and raised in Prince George's County, she began directing as a student and president of the Drama Club at Prince Georges Community College. Her first paid acting gig was at Wild World Theme Park in 1986. She later went on to graduate cum laude from UMBC under the guidance of Xerxes Mehta, Wendy Salkind, Sam McCready, Alan Kriezenbeck, and Alice Robinson. She was in Mehta's *Marat/Sade* at UMBC with the Maryland Stage Company and in McCready's *Merry Wives of Windsor* with Shakespeare on Wheels. After college, Randall worked as an actor regularly in Washington, DC, and then began performing her own monologues. She has performed four solo shows, written two, and had one published. She has also written and staged works for multiple casts. She began doing public staged readings of other living playwrights in 2002, which led to cultivating strong relationships with many writers. The works of Randall and Venus have been seen up and down the Eastern seaboard. Venus Theatre began in 1995 as an all female improv troupe called Venus Envy. Venus led *Take Back the Night Marches* and did improvisational games at the House of Ruth as well as other empowerment projects. In 2000, Randall founded Venus Theatre, known for immersion staging and award-winning world premiere work. In 2006 Venus dropped roots in the county where the founder grew up. Venus hopes to bring culture to the community that has given her so much.

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## PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES

Loosely inspired by my (well-spent) years following Joan Jett & the Blackhearts, the play is about what happens during the day while the hardcore fans who get there early wait for the doors to open. (Kind of like *Waiting for Godot*, if *Godot* really came and played electric guitar. And if Pozzo and Vladimir had a knife fight.)

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

It is the mission of Venus Theatre to set flight to the voices of women. After producing and directing *Grieving for Genevieve*, I'm so proud to produce this second script by Kathleen. She is the David Rabe of feminist theatre. She gives voice to blue collar working women and men in ways we hardly see on the American stage. I find this baffling as so many of us are living paycheck to paycheck. It's an incredible opportunity to consider the Goddess of Rock and the impact of fierce and unapologetic leather clad voices of rebellion. Some people work to get in touch with our inner child while others find it useful to make contact with our inner rock star. This journey has been an affirmation of the power of art, of the courage needed to land fearless expression, and of the most essential element - trust, that allows us all to move forward. In this electronic reactive world we have taken on a play that listens, that has time, that celebrates the tribe of love. May you have yours and may we all rock the fuck on!