JUNGLE THEATER APPOINTS SARAH LUNNIE ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

(Minneapolis, MN – March 27, 2019) – The Jungle Theater is pleased to welcome dramaturg Sarah Lunnie as the organization’s new Associate Artistic Director. In her role, Lunnie will help identify and develop new stories for the stage, as well as contribute to the larger story of the organization through strategic planning, new audience engagement initiatives, and imaginative new models of theater leadership.

Lunnie is based in New York, where she is currently the dramaturg for two shows running on Broadway: Heidi Schreck’s What the Constitution Means to Me, named the #1 play of the year by both New York Magazine and the New Yorker; and Lucas Hnath’s Hillary and Clinton, directed by Joe Mantello and starring Laurie Metcalf, John Lithgow, and Peter Francis James. She is also the dramaturg for the Off-Broadway premiere of The Mad Ones’ Mrs. Murray’s Menagerie, directed by Lila Neugebauer, currently in previews at Ars Nova.

“Sarah Lunnie is revered in our national theater landscape as a visionary thinker,” said Artistic Director Sarah Rasmussen. “I especially admire the way she has helped develop new work like What the Constitution Means to Me that pushes form and challenges intellectually but still connects on a deep emotional level with an audience.”

Lunnie’s position is funded with resources from a BOLD Leadership Circle award. “BOLD is allowing us to both work with the most talented people in the business and to rethink the model of how we create and share theater,” said Artistic Director Sarah Rasmussen. “With the Jungle’s passion for new work, it is so important to have a staff member on the ground in New York with deep connections to artists and the field of American theater.” Lunnie will continue to be based in New York but be in residence at the Jungle multiple times per year.

Lunnie previously was Literary Director at Playwrights Horizons, where she managed the theater’s script submissions and scouted new work, consulted on season programming and new play commissions, and co-produced the theater’s play development workshops and audience education programs. Before that, she was the literary manager at Actors Theatre of Louisville, where she curated and developed new work for the Humana Festival of New American Plays. She has been a company member with The Mad Ones since its formation, providing dramaturgy for numerous shows including the critically acclaimed Miles For Mary. In addition to her work with Lucas Hnath on...
his current Broadway show, she also served as dramaturg for his A Doll's House, Part 2, and the Humana Festival premieres of The Christians, nightnight and Death Tax.

Lunnie has worked as a dramaturg at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Ars Nova, the Bushwick Starr, Clubbed Thumb, Denver Center Theatre Company, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Lark, Ma-Yi Theater Company, New Dramatists, New York Theatre Workshop, the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, the Baltic Playwrights Conference (Estonia), Playwrights Horizons, and the WildWind Performance Lab at Texas Tech.

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