



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ArtsWest Announces *ATHENA* by Gracie Gardner**

**SEATTLE, WA** (March 12, 2025) – **ArtsWest presents *ATHENA* by Gracie Gardner, directed by Kathryn Van Meter.** The cast features Anteia DeLaney (Mary Wallace) and Allison Renee (Athena). *ATHENA* performs at ArtsWest from April 10 – May 4, 2025. Tickets are available online at [artswest.org](http://artswest.org) or by phone at (206) 938.0963.

**Mary Wallace and Athena are both seventeen-year-old fencers training for Nationals.** Mary Wallace lives in a house in New Jersey, loves marine biology and practices at home. Athena lives in an apartment in New York City, takes acne medication and Athena is not her real name. **Follow their journey from competitors to confidantes** as they form a bond navigating the milestones of adolescence, training together only to learn the future is only certain for one of them.

**During ArtsWest's 2024 – 2025 Season, the company presents five productions that are THEATER PLUS;** theater plus something unexpected, something out of the ordinary, something you can't experience anywhere else.

**ArtsWest's fourth production of the season, *ATHENA*, is theater plus live fencing.** In order to stage *ATHENA* with authenticity, ArtsWest is presenting *ATHENA* in collaboration with Salle Auriol Fencing Club. Salle Auriol is a non-profit fencing club located in Interbay. Their mission is to train participants in the sport of modern Olympic fencing and to provide a venue for fencers to develop those skills towards participation in local, regional, national and international competition. Salle Auriol is recognized and respected as a nationally and internationally competitive club with activities and programs designed for fencers of all experience levels and ages.

"We're thrilled to be partnering with the team at Salle Auriol to bring Gracie Gardner's gorgeous play to life," says Producing Artistic Director, Mathew Wright. "Our audiences love theater that is intimate and emotionally athletic, so producing something that is both a metaphorical and literal sparring match is such a natural fit. Watching these two young women navigate growing up in our culture while smack in the middle of live fencing matches is such unique and exciting theater."

*ATHENA*'s cast features two recent Cornish College of the Arts graduates, Anteia DeLaney (*Spring Awakening, The 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Theater*) and Allison Renee (*The Two Gentleman of Verona, Seattle Shakespeare*). In this **action-packed production that centers female friendship**, actor Allison Renee shares, "Anteia and I not only went to college together, but we played opposites in a production my first year, we were roommates, and we were in Cabaret together my third year— that was also directed by Kathryn Van Meter! It's quite the full circle moment!"

ArtsWest will present *ATHENA* Thursday through Saturday at 7:30pm and Saturday through Sunday at 3pm.

## **CAST**

Anteia DeLaney ... Mary Wallace

Allison Renee ... Athena

Alanah Pascual... Jamie

## **CREATIVE TEAM**

Kathryn Van Meter ... Director

Rebecca K. Hsia ... Stage Manager

Parmida Ziaei... Scenic Designer

Anna Shih ... Lighting Designer

Andi Villegas... Sound Designer

Nova Dobrev... Costume Designer

Alanah Pascual ... Assistant Director

Kundry Haberkern... Salle Auriol General Manager

Sarah Lippai... Salle Auriol Coach

## **About the Production**

*Athena* by Gracie Gardner and directed by Kathryn Van Meter plays April 10 – May 4, 2025 at ArtsWest (4711 California Ave SW, Seattle WA 98116). Tickets (ranging from \$15 - \$46) may be purchased online at [www.artswest.org](http://www.artswest.org), by phone at 206.938.0339, or at the Box Office Thurs. - Sat. 2:00 - 7:00pm, Sundays 11:00 am-3:00 pm.

## **Press Information**

Press tickets are available Opening Weekend, April 10 -13. Please contact Rachel Ewen at [rachele@artswest.org](mailto:rachele@artswest.org) to arrange. Press & Production photos available by request to Corinne Park-Buffelen – [corinnep@artswest.org](mailto:corinnep@artswest.org) . Photo Credit John McLellan. Full production photos available by April 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **About ArtsWest**

ArtsWest is a vibrant center for both theater and visual arts located in the West Seattle Junction. This 149-seat theatre provides a unique setting for audiences and artists as stories of human emotion unfold in an intimate space. Winner of the American Theatre Wing's National Theatre Company Award, and winner of multiple Gregory Awards, ArtsWest has produced work by such varied playwrights as Dominique Morisseau, Henrik Ibsen, Annie Baker, Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Taylor Mac, and David Henry Huang. ArtsWest produces artistic events that provoke conversation, incite the imagination, and use live theater as a powerful agent of change. [www.artswest.org](http://www.artswest.org)

**For Calendar Editors:**

**Who:** ArtsWest

**Where:** 4711 California Ave SW Seattle, WA 98116

**What:** *Athena* by Gracie Gardner and directed by Kathryn Van Meter

**When:** April 10 – May 4, 2025, Thursday – Saturday at 7:30pm, Saturday and Sunday at 3:00pm

**Tickets:**

General Admission: \$46 | Senior: \$41 | Inclusion: \$15

Tickets online at [www.artswest.org/theatre/buy-tickets/](http://www.artswest.org/theatre/buy-tickets/) by phone at 206-938-0339, and at the box office, 4711 California Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98116 , Thursday - Saturday 2 - 7pm, Sundays 11am - 3pm.