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For Immediate Release

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Yale Repertory Theatre
presents the world premiere of

falcon girls

By Hilary Bettis

Directed by May Adrales

October 10–November 2

Yale Repertory Theatre (James Bundy, Artistic Director; Florie Seery, Managing Director) opens its 2024–25 season with the world premiere of ***falcon girls*** by **Hilary Bettis**, directed by **May Adrales**, October 10–November 2, at Yale Repertory Theatre (1120 Chapel Street). Opening Night is Thursday, October 17, which is also press night.

The production features scenic design by **Beowulf Boritt**, costume design by **Micah Ohno**, lighting design by **Kyle Stamm**, sound design by **Joyce Ciesil**, projection design by **Christian Killada**, hair and wig design by **Krystal Balleza** and **Will Vicari**, production dramaturgy by **Amy Boratko** and **Lara Sachdeva**, technical direction by **Tom Minucci**, vocal coaching by **Julie Foh**, fight and intimacy direction by **Kelsey Rainwater**, casting by **Calleri Jensen Davis**, and stage management by **Josie Cooper**.

The cast of *falcon girls* includes **Annie Abramczyk**, **Teddy Cañez**, **Juan Sebastián Cruz**, **Angela Lanza**, **Alexa Lopez**, **Sophia Marcelle**, **Alyssa Marek**, **Gabrielle Policano**, and **Anna Roman**.

More About *falcon girls*

This is a true story. It's the 90s in rural Falcon, Colorado. Six teenage girls on the FFA horse judging team are determined to make it to nationals come hell or high water. But to do that, they must grapple with jealousy, rivalries, sex, Jesus, AOL chat rooms, impossible expectations, and rumors of a serial killer. Hilary Bettis's *falcon girls* is an achingly funny and brutally honest

coming-of-age memoir—and a love letter to the girls she grew up with and the horses who saved their lives.

Development and production support for *falcon girls* is provided by Yale’s Binger Center for New Theatre.

falcon girls is the recipient of a 2024 Edgerton Foundation New Play Award.

Ticket Information and Performance Calendar

Tickets are \$15, \$30, and \$35 (all previews), \$15 and \$50 (weeknights), and \$15 and \$65 (weekends and matinees). Student tickets are \$15 for all performances. Tickets are available online at yalerep.org, by calling (203) 432-1234, and in person at the Yale Rep Box Office (1120 Chapel Street).

Thursday, October 10	8PM	Preview
Friday, October 11	8PM	Preview, Post-Show Discussion
Saturday, October 12	8PM	Preview, Post-Show Discussion
Tuesday, October 15	8PM	Preview
Wednesday, October 16	8PM	Preview
Thursday, October 17	8PM	Opening Night
Friday, October 18	8PM	
Saturday, October 19	2PM	
Saturday, October 19	8PM	
Tuesday, October 22	8PM	
Wednesday, October 23	2PM	Pre-performance Discussion
Wednesday, October 23	8PM	
Thursday, October 24	8PM	
Friday, October 25	8PM	
Saturday, October 26	2PM	Audio Description; post-show Talk Back
Saturday, October 26	8PM	ASL
Tuesday, October 29	8PM	
Wednesday, October 30	8PM	Spanish Captioning
Thursday, October 31	8PM	
Friday, November 1	8PM	
Saturday, November 2	2PM	Open Captioning
Saturday, November 2	8PM	

CREATIVE TEAM

Hilary Bettis (Playwright) was raised by her Chicana mother and Southern Methodist father on a farm in rural Colorado. Her plays have been developed and produced all over the U.S. and Mexico, including at Roundabout Theatre, New Georges, The Sol Project, Yale Rep, Miami New Drama, Studio Theatre, Alley Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, La Jolla Playhouse,

amongst others. She's currently under commission at Roundabout Theatre, Miami New Drama, Untitled Theatricals, and is writing a musical with Grammy-winning composer Julio Reyes Copello. Bettis won the 2019 Writers Guild of America Award for her work on the Emmy Award-winning FX series *The Americans*. She wrote for the Emmy-nominated Hulu miniseries *The Dropout*, is currently writing on a new Apple series starring Anya Taylor-Joy, and has multiple television shows in development. She's an alumnus of the Sundance Institute Episodic TV Lab, a graduate of The Juilliard School, a board member of New Georges, and proud member of the WGAEast. She's represented by CAA and Brillstein.

May Adrales (Director) is a director, artistic leader, teacher, and mother; she has directed over 30 world premieres. Her work has been seen most recently at Manhattan Theatre Club (*Qui Nguyen's Vietgone* and *Poor Yella Rednecks*, Felicia Anchuli King's *Golden Shield*, Rajiv Joseph's *Dakar 2000*), Second Stage (Rajiv Joseph's *Letters of Suresh*), Signature Theatre, LCT3, MCC, Atlantic Theater Company, The Public Theater, WP, New York Theatre Workshop, The Huntington Theatre Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Seattle Rep, Guthrie, Two River Theater Company, Milwaukee Rep, and South Coast Rep. She was awarded the prestigious Ammerman Award at Arena Stage and Theater Communications Group's Alan Schneider Award for freelance directors and was a finalist for the Zelda Fichandler SDCF Awards. She is a Drama League Directing Fellow, Van Lier Directing Fellow, WP Lab Director, SoHo Rep Writers/Directors Lab and New York Theatre Workshop directing fellow, TCG New Generations Grantee, SDC Denham Fellowship, and Paul Green Directing Award. She served as an Associate Artistic Director at Milwaukee Rep, Artistic Associate at The Playwrights Center, Artistic Associate at The Public Theater, and Director of Artistic Programs and Artistic Director at The Lark. She served on the board of Theater Communications Group. May has directed and taught at Juilliard, Harvard/ART, ACT, Fordham, NYU, and Bard College. May has served on faculty at David Geffen School of Drama and Brown/Trinity MFA program. M.F.A., David Geffen School of Drama. She is currently an Assistant Professor and the Director of the Theatre Program at Fordham University. mayadrales.net

Beowulf Boritt (Scenic Designer) 31 Broadway designs include the Tony Award-winning sets for *New York, New York* and *Act One*; the Tony-nominated sets for *The Scottsboro Boys*, *POTUS*, *Thérèse Raquin*, and *Flying Over Sunset*. Also on Broadway: *The Piano Lesson*, *Come from Away*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Rock of Ages*. 100 Off-Broadway shows include Shakespeare in the Park (*Hamlet*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Coriolanus*); *The Last Five Years*, *The Connector*, and *Miss Julie*. He has designed for New York City Ballet, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, and around the world in England, Russia, China, Australia, and Japan. He received a 2007 OBIE Award for sustained excellence. Beowulf is the author of *Transforming Space Over Time: Set Design and Visual Storytelling with Broadway's Legendary Directors* and the founder of The 1/52 Project which provides grants to early career designers from historically excluded groups.

Micah Ohno (Costume Designer) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at David Geffen School of Drama, where credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Measure for Measure*.

Kyle Stamm (Lighting Designer) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at David Geffen School of Drama and is originally from Framingham, Massachusetts. Select lighting design credits include *Cactus Queen*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Julius Caesar* (the Geffen School); *Arlington*, *The Royale* (Yale Cabaret); *the betrayal project* (Yale Summer Cabaret); *for the honey, you gotta say when* (NYTW, Frances Black Projects); *Phantom of the Opera*, *Something Rotten*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *Indecent*, *Metamorphoses*, *The Wolves* (Weston Drama Workshop); *The Wizard of Oz*, *In the Heights* (Framingham High); *Rent*, *Trojan Women* (Ithaca College). Kyle graduated from Ithaca College with a B.F.A. and was most recently Co-Artistic Director of Yale Cabaret, Season 56. kylestammdesign.com

Joyce Ciesil (Sound Designer) Originally from the suburbs of Chicago, Joyce is a Jeff Award-nominated sound designer and a third-year M.F.A. candidate at David Geffen School of Drama, where her credits include *Uncle Vanya*, *littleboy/littleman*, and *Hamlet*, *Princesa de Dinamarca*. This past summer, Joyce was the Resident Sound Designer for the National Playwrights Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center and a guest faculty member at the National Theater Institute. Selected design credits include *Hurricane Diane* (Theater Wit), *Seven Days at Sea* (Light and Sound Productions), and *SPAY* (Rivendell Theatre Ensemble).

Christian Killada (Projection Designer) is an Egyptian transmedia designer and a third-year M.F.A. candidate in projection design at David Geffen School of Drama, where his credits include *Pearl's Beauty Salon*. He holds a degree in set and costume design. His research is dedicated to exploring the synergy between technology, interactive media, and live performance arts. Chris's selected credits include *De la cave au grenier* (French Cultural Center, Egypt, projection designer), *Fantasia* (Alhosabir Theater, scenic designer), and Gymnastics World Challenge Cup 2021 (Cairo Stadium, 3D video designer). @cnwk122

Krystal Balleza (Hair and Wig Designer) Previously at Yale Rep: *the ripple, the wave that carried me home* and *Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles*. Opera: Opera Theatre of Saint Louis 2023–24 season. Off-Broadway: *Orlando* (Signature Theatre); *The Connector* (MCC); *Good Bones*, *The Tempest* (The Public Theater); *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *At the Wedding* (Lincoln Center); *Americano!* (New World Stages). Regional: *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Barrington); *Angels in America, Part One* (Arena Stage); *Real Women Have Curves* (ART). Krystal is the Hair and Makeup Department Head at *Six: The Musical* on Broadway. Krystal holds a B.F.A. in wig and makeup design from Webster Conservatory and is co-owner of The Wig Associates with her design partner, Will Vicari. @thewigassociates

Will Vicari (Hair and Wig Designer) Previously at Yale Rep: *the ripple, the wave that carried me home*. Broadway: *Yellowface* (Roundabout), *Parade* (2023 revival), *Harmony*, and *Spamalot* (associate wig and makeup design). Opera: Opera Theatre Saint Louis 2023 and 2024 seasons. Off-Broadway: *The Connector* (MCC); *At the Wedding* (Lincoln Center); *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *Candida* (Gingold Group). Regional: *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Barrington Stage Company), *Angels in America, Part One* (Arena Stage). Will holds a B.F.A. in wig and makeup design from Webster University and is co-owner of The Wig Associates with his design partner, Krystal Balleza. @thewigassociates

Amy Boratko (Production Dramaturg) is the Senior Artistic Producer at Yale Rep and previously has served as dramaturg on the Yale Rep productions of *Wish You Were Here*, *The Brightest Thing in the World*, *The Plot*, *Girls*, *Cadillac Crew*, *Good Faith*, *Field Guide*, *Mary Jane*, *Imogen Says Nothing*, *peerless*, *Indecent*, *War*, *The Fairytale Lives of Russian Girls*, *Dear Elizabeth*, *The Realistic Joneses*, *Good Goods*, *Belleville*, *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*, *Compulsion*, *Notes from Underground*, and *Eurydice*, among others. Other credits include dramaturging new play workshops at New Dramatists, the Acting Company, and Voice and Vision's ENVISION Retreat. She is a lecturer at David Geffen School of Drama at Yale. B.A., Rice University; M.F.A., David Geffen School of Drama.

Lara Priya Sachdeva *she/her* (Production Dramaturg) is a second-year M.F.A. candidate at David Geffen School of Drama, where she most recently worked on Lorraine Hansberry's *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*. Before coming to Yale, she attended the University of Chicago, where she earned undergraduate degrees in political science and theater & performance studies. She has previously worked with the Goodman, Court, and Lookingglass theaters.

Tom Minucci *he/him* (Technical Director) Originally from New Jersey, Tom is a second-year M.F.A. candidate at David Geffen School of Drama, where his credits include *Hamlet* (properties manager) and The Carlotta Festival (2024, co-production electrician). He was also an assistant technical director for *The Salvagers* at Yale Rep last season. Prior to Yale, he served as the Technical Director for DeSales University and Barrington Stage Company. Other credits include Technical Director for the Berkshire Theatre Group, Assistant Technical Director for the Virginia Opera Association, and an engineering intern at Hudson Scenic. B.F.A., Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University.

Julie Foh *she/her* (Vocal Coach) is a voice, text, and dialect coach and is an Associate Professor Adjunct of acting at David Geffen School of Drama. Previous coaching credits include *Escaped Alone* and *the ripple, the wave that carried me home* (Yale Rep); *All My Sons* and *The Winter's Tale* (Hartford Stage); *A View from the Bridge* (Long Wharf Theatre); *As You Like It*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Othello*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *The Tempest*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Measure for Measure*, *Henry V*, *Twelfth Night*, *Coriolanus* (Next Chapter Podcasts); *As You Like It*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *And a Nightingale Sang*, *The Caretaker*, *A Child's Christmas in Wales* (Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey); *Belfast Girls* (Irish Rep); *Mlima's Tale* (Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and Westport Country Playhouse); *Ride the Cyclone: The Musical*, *Sleuth* (McCarter Theatre Center); *Wolverine: The Lost Trail* (Marvel podcast); *As You Like It*, *King Charles III* (Colorado Shakespeare Festival); *Sherwood* (Cleveland Play House); *Pygmalion* (BEDLAM); *Familiar* (Woolly Mammoth); *Trans Scripts*, *Cardenio* (American Repertory Theater); *The Tallest Tree in the Forest* (Tectonic Theater Project); and others. She is an Associate Teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework, a Master Teacher of Knight-Thompson Speechwork, and co-author of *Experiencing Speech: A Skills-Based, Panlingual Approach to Actor Training*.

Kelsey Rainwater (Fight and Intimacy Director) is an intimacy coach, fight director, and actress based out of the ancestral lands of the Quinnipiac people. Kelsey's work was recently seen in the premiere of *Sally & Tom* at the Guthrie. Some of her other credits include *In the Southern Breeze* at Rattlestick, The Public Theater's *Measure for Measure* and *White Noise* by Suzan-Lori Parks, directed by Oskar Eustis; *Blues for an Alabama Sky* with the Keen Company; Bess Wohl's film, *Baby Ruby*; *Wish You Were Here*, *A Raisin in the Sun* (canceled due to COVID-19), Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles*, and *the ripple, the wave that carried me home* at Yale Rep. She is a Lecturer in acting at David Geffen School of Drama, co-teaches stage combat and intimacy, and is a Resident Fight and Intimacy Director for Yale Rep.

Calleri Jensen Davis (Casting Director) is a creative casting partnership among James Calleri, Erica Jensen, and Paul Davis of over 20 years. They began their collaboration with Yale Rep in 2023 with *Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles* and *the ripple, the wave that carried me home*. Broadway credits: *The Piano Lesson*, *Topdog/Underdog*, *for colored girls...*, *Thoughts of a Colored Man*, *Burn This*, *Fool for Love*, *The Elephant Man*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Venus in Fur*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *33 Variations*. Television: *Love Life*, *Queens*, *Dickinson*, and *The Path*, to name a few. [callerijensendavis](#).

Josie Cooper she/her (Stage Manager) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at David Geffen School of Drama. Select stage management credits include *The Salvagers* (Yale Rep); *for the honey, you gotta say when*. (New York Theatre Workshop/Frances Black Projects, the Geffen School); *rent free*, *Grand Concourse*, *Color Boy*, *Julius Caesar*, *Esme* (the Geffen School); *Mean Girls*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, Mary Zimmerman's *Metamorphoses*, *Spring Awakening* (Weston Drama Workshop); *She Kills Monsters* (Mount Holyoke College). Josie holds a B.A. in theater arts with a minor in mathematics from Mount Holyoke College.

THE CAST

Annie Abramczyk she/her (Rebecca) is making her Yale Rep debut! She is a recent honors graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, where she studied at the Experimental Theatre Wing and the Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute. Annie also earned a journalism degree from NYU's Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute. She has worked with the International Theatre Workshop Amsterdam, The Prep NY, and the Verbatim Performance Lab. She is on staff at The Juilliard School. Represented by Rebel Creative Group and Take3Talent. [@annieabramczyk](#)

Teddy Cañez he/him (Mr. K.) Broadway: *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Off-Broadway: *Tiny Beautiful Things*, *ToasT* (The Public); *Chimichangas and Zoloft* (Atlantic Theater Company); *Post No Bills* (Rattlestick). Regional: *Tiny Beautiful Things*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *Mister Roberts*, *Our Lady of 121st Street*. Film: *Jules*, *Naked Singularity*, *Shelter*, *Now You See Me*, *Frances Ha*, *Tracers*, *Sleepwalk with Me*, *Enduro*. Television: *Hello Tomorrow*, *Up Here*, *Bull*, *Tales of the City*, *Chicago PD*, *Blindspot*, *Dietland*, *The Detour*, *Elementary*, *Invisible*, *Person of Interest*, *Madam Secretary*, *The Blacklist*, *Blue Bloods*, *Mob Doctor*, *Smash*, *Law & Order*, *Law & Order: SVU*, *Law & Order: C.I.*, *Conviction*, *The Wire*. [TeddyCanez.com](#)

Juan Sebastián Cruz (Dan) Theater credits include *The Odyssey*, *A Christmas Carol*, *72 Miles to Go...*, *The Winter's Tale* (Alley Theatre); *falcon girls*, *Torera*, *72 Miles To Go...* (Alley All New Festival); *Tamarie's Texas Toast* (Catastrophic Theatre); *Panto Alicia in Wonderland*, *My Mañana Comes* (Stages Repertory); *Guys and Dolls* (Theatre Under the Stars); *Beatbox: A Raparetta* (The Ensemble Theatre); *Between Riverside and Crazy* (4th Wall); *Fandango for Butterflies and Coyotes* (La Jolla Playhouse); *My True Selves* (La Mama Studios). B.A., Rice University. ¡Gracias ma!

Angela Lanza (Beverlee) is a dynamic performer with a rich background in theater and film. Her notable stage credits include *Overtime* at the Old Globe, *Arts and Leisure* at Playwrights Horizons, and *The Man That Could See Through Time* opposite Richard Dreyfuss. On screen, she has appeared in a dozen films including *Fools Rush In* with Matthew Perry and Salma Hayek, *The Perez Family* with Marisa Tomei, and most recently in *Cold Dark Hollow*, for which she received two Best Actress awards. Angela is honored to make her Yale Rep debut and is grateful to her husband, family, friends, Luedtke Agency, and her daughters, Genna and Kara.

Alexa Lopez she/her (April) is ecstatic to be making her Yale Rep debut. Alexa is an actress, singer, and proud Cuban-American born and raised in Miami, Florida. Regional theater credits include *Ride the Cyclone*, *Lizzie* (Beck); *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812* (Idaho Shakespeare/GLT); *West Side Story* (Porthouse); *RENT* (Cain Park); and *Perpetual Sunshine and the Ghost Girls* (5x15 Festival/Beck, 2021 ASCAP award winner, 2020 NAMT winner). Alexa holds the 2022 Cleveland Critics Circle Theater Award for Best Actress in a Musical and is a recipient of the 2024 Presser Foundation Undergrad Scholar Award. Alexa is a recent graduate of Baldwin Wallace, B.M., music theater. The warmest, biggest thank you to her family and team at A&R and Lasher.

Sophia Marcelle (Jasmine) is an Asian-Latina artist from Houston, Texas, where she was born and raised. She gravitates toward stories that foster community and characters with passion and resilience that can inspire and comfort her audiences. She graduated with her BFA from The University of Houston School of Theatre & Dance. She's worked with the Alley Theatre, Stages, and played major roles in Rec Room Arts' *Dance Nation* and *Put Your House in Order*. Last Summer, she played Juliet *Romeo and Juliet* with the Houston Shakespeare Festival. One of her proudest achievements, aside from working with Yale Rep, is when she collaborated with her fellow UH alumna Brenda Palestina to produce and act in *Cloud Tectonics*. She holds gratitude in her heart for all those who have loved and supported her. Instagram: @sophiaa.marcellee www.sophiamarcelle.com

Alyssa Marek (Carly) is thrilled to be making her Yale Rep debut. Alyssa is grateful to return to this show after having workshopped it at the Alley Theatre in 2023. Selected regional credits: *The Play That Goes Wrong* (A.D. Players); *Present Laughter*, *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley*, *Enemies* (Main Street Theatre); *Crimes of the Heart* and *The Game's Afoot* (Unity Theatre). She also does voice-over work with Houston-based anime company, Sentai Filmworks. Alyssa holds a B.F.A. in acting from the University of Houston. In her free time, she enjoys

training gymnastics, dance, and acrobatics. Forever thankful to Hilary and May for the opportunity to return to such a formidable show and time in life. All my love and gratitude to family and friends.

Gabrielle Policano *she/they* (H) is a New York-based actor who most recently starred opposite Maggie Siff in *Breaking the Story* at Second Stage. A recent graduate of Boston University's B.F.A. acting program, their other theater credits include *Let the Right One In* (Berkeley Rep) and *The Welkin* (Atlantic Theater Company), as well as workshops with New York Stage and Film and the Williamstown Theatre Festival. She recently shot a supporting role opposite Nicole Kidman and Antonio Banderas in the A24 film *Babygirl*. Gabrielle is also an award-winning spoken word poet, having performed regularly with the Nuyorican Poets Cafe.

Anna Roman *she/her* (Mary) is in her final year as an M.F.A. candidate at David Geffen School of Drama, where she has been seen in *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Fucking A*, and *How to Live on Earth*. Other credits include *Romeo + Juliet* (Sketchbook Theatre), *Escaped Alone* (Yale Rep, understudy), *the dreamer examines his pillow* (Tampa Repertory Theatre), *cannabis passover* by Sofya-Levitsky Weitz, and *Pride and Prejudice* (both at Chautauqua Theater Company). She has a B.F.A. in theater performance from the University of Florida. She is thrilled to make her official Yale Rep debut alongside this beautiful team.
annaroman.com | @a.rom

ABOUT YALE REPERTORY THEATRE

Yale Repertory Theatre, the internationally celebrated professional theatre in residence at David Geffen School of Drama, has championed new work since 1966, producing well over 100 premieres—including two Pulitzer Prize winners and four other nominated finalists—by emerging and established playwrights. Seventeen Yale Rep productions have advanced to Broadway, garnering more than 40 Tony Award nominations and ten Tony Awards. Yale Rep is also the recipient of the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre. Established in 2008, Yale's **Binger Center for New Theatre** has distinguished itself as one of the nation's most robust and innovative new play programs. To date, the Binger Center has supported the work of more than 70 commissioned artists and underwritten the world premieres and subsequent productions of nearly 40 new plays and musicals at Yale Rep and theaters across the country—including this season's *falcon girls* by Hilary Bettis; Nikolai Gogol's *The Inspector*, newly adapted by Yura Kordonsky; and *Notes on Killing Seven Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Board Members* by Mara Veléz Meléndez.

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