

TRIAL

BY
ASHLEY GRIFFIN





A young woman waiting for her own judgement in the bureaucratic system of the afterlife finds herself in the role of judge and jury to determine the eternal fate of the man responsible for her death. Dealing with issues of abuse, TRIAL is ultimately a story of justice verses mercy. - Inspired by a true story.



LORI PETTY

Director

After her break out starring role in POINT BREAK, Lori Petty quickly achieved celebrity status in Hollywood starring in A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN, TANK GIRL and others. Most recently she has become the fan favorite star of ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK and GOTHAM. Lori made her directorial debut with the feature film THE POKER HOUSE – (Jennifer Lawrence’s first film) which Lori co wrote. THE POKER HOUSE is the story of Lori’s experiences growing up in an abusive household, making her the perfect director for Ashley Griffin’s autobiographical play TRIAL, which also deals with growing up in an abusive household. Lori has a huge fan base who are very excited for her theatrical directorial debut.

“The writer contacted me to direct this piece and I jumped at the opportunity. I had directed film and TV before, so this fits my trifecta. It’s a play of loss and forgiveness and a lesson on judgement and right and wrong. We sold out every night and are currently looking for a bigger space. It’ll happen. It’s a special piece.”

- Lori Petty discussing TRIAL when asked about her favorite play
On My Culture Radar

ASHLEY GRIFFIN

Writer

Ashley Griffin is a Broadway writer/performer most well known as the first person in history to be nominated for a major award for both playing and directing HAMLET for a theatrical production. Her work has been produced/developed at New World Stages, MTC, Playwrights Horizons, La MaMa and more. She won the WellLife Network Award and a county commendation for her play TRIAL and has been nominated for six NYIT Awards across multiple categories. Ashley's work has made national news and been praised by MTV, E! EW and others. She has worked as a Broadway ghost writer and dramaturg, written for T.V. and film and is a two time best-selling novelist. As an actress, Ashley has performed on and off Broadway as well as in L.A. and London (in theater, film and television). You may have seen her on HOMELAND or in THE GREATEST SHOWMAN starring Hugh Jackman.

www.ashleygriffinofficial.com





Kate Siegel

Siegel began her career acting in theater in the D.C. area after graduating from Syracuse University. While performing with the Ensemble Shakespeare Theater Company she started working in film and television with projects such as Oculus and Mob City. She had her breakout role starring in Hush which Stephen King praised as: "How good is Hush? Up there with Halloween and, even more, Wait Until Dark." She has since become a household name with her tour de force performances as Theodora Crain in The Haunting of Hill House, Erin Greene in Midnight Mass and most recently Camille L'Espanaye in The Fall of The House of Usher (among other notable roles.)

CAST

February 2024 Reading



Callum Blue

Blue received his theatrical training at Mountview Drama School in London. He quickly landed the starring role of Mason on the Showtime series Dead Like Me acting along such greats as Mandy Patinkin and Jasmine Guy. A transformative actor, he followed his run as the angsty addict Mason with a 180 performance in the starring role of sweet, highborn Duke Andrew Jacoby in The Princess Diaries 2 opposite Julie Andrews and Anne Hathaway. Blue has gone on to play everything from Anthony Knivert on The Tudors to General Zod on Smallville.



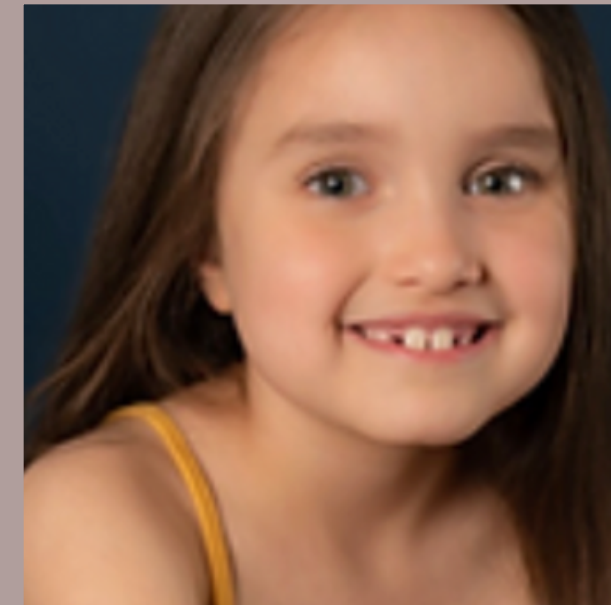
Steven Hauck
"The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"



Jennifer Bareilles
"The Thanksgiving Play"



Ashley Griffin
"Hamlet"



Stormie Treviño
"Fiddler on the Roof"



Malcolm Stephenson
"1883"

Production History

2011 - Two Readings with Dreamcatcher Entertainment in NYC

2014 - Reading with the Red Fern Theater Company in NYC featuring Finn Wittrock (American Horror Story) and Steve Hauck (The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel)

2016 - Staff Sponsored Reading at MTC featuring Geneva Carr (Tony nomination, Hand to God), Xanthe Elbrick (Tony nomination, Coram Boy), Oona Laurence (Tony award, Matilda), Steve Hauck (The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel) and Ray Virta (Betrayal, An Enemy of the People), directed by Lori Petty

2018 - Limited production off-Broadway at the American Theater of Actors featuring Jennifer Bareilles (The Thanksgiving Play), Malcolm Stephenson (1883), Jeté Laurence (Pet Semetary), directed by Lori Petty

2019 - Ashley Griffin and Lori Petty win the WellLife Network Award for TRIAL

2019 - Ashley Griffin receives a county commendation for the advocacy impact of TRIAL

Reviews

“If this play were on Broadway it would win the Pulitzer” - Showscore

“The heart and truth of this incredible story lies in this quote: ‘Trials will, in the best circumstances, bring what is purest, truest, most beautiful to light.’...the play is crafted so well...under Lori Petty’s direction, the actors succeed in portraying the darkest and brightest elements of humanity...Ashley Griffin’s performance is driven and impassioned...while handling two very relevant and challenging topics, Ashley Griffin’s play...leads to where human hearts must go for complete healing: Forgiveness. Though its run is finished, I hope and expect that Trial will soon have another production.” – **Times Square Chronicles**

“Trial...delivers an intense and inimitable theatergoing experience...There is, I believe, ample evidence already of Ashley Griffin’s consummate storytelling abilities...what strikes me as most prominent, though, is her ability to create worlds. Owing to a rich heritage of stories past and present, Griffin’s work reflects the best elements of storytellers past and combines them in her own style. Just enough detail for the imaginations of her audience to take over.” – **Paper Tiger Reviews**

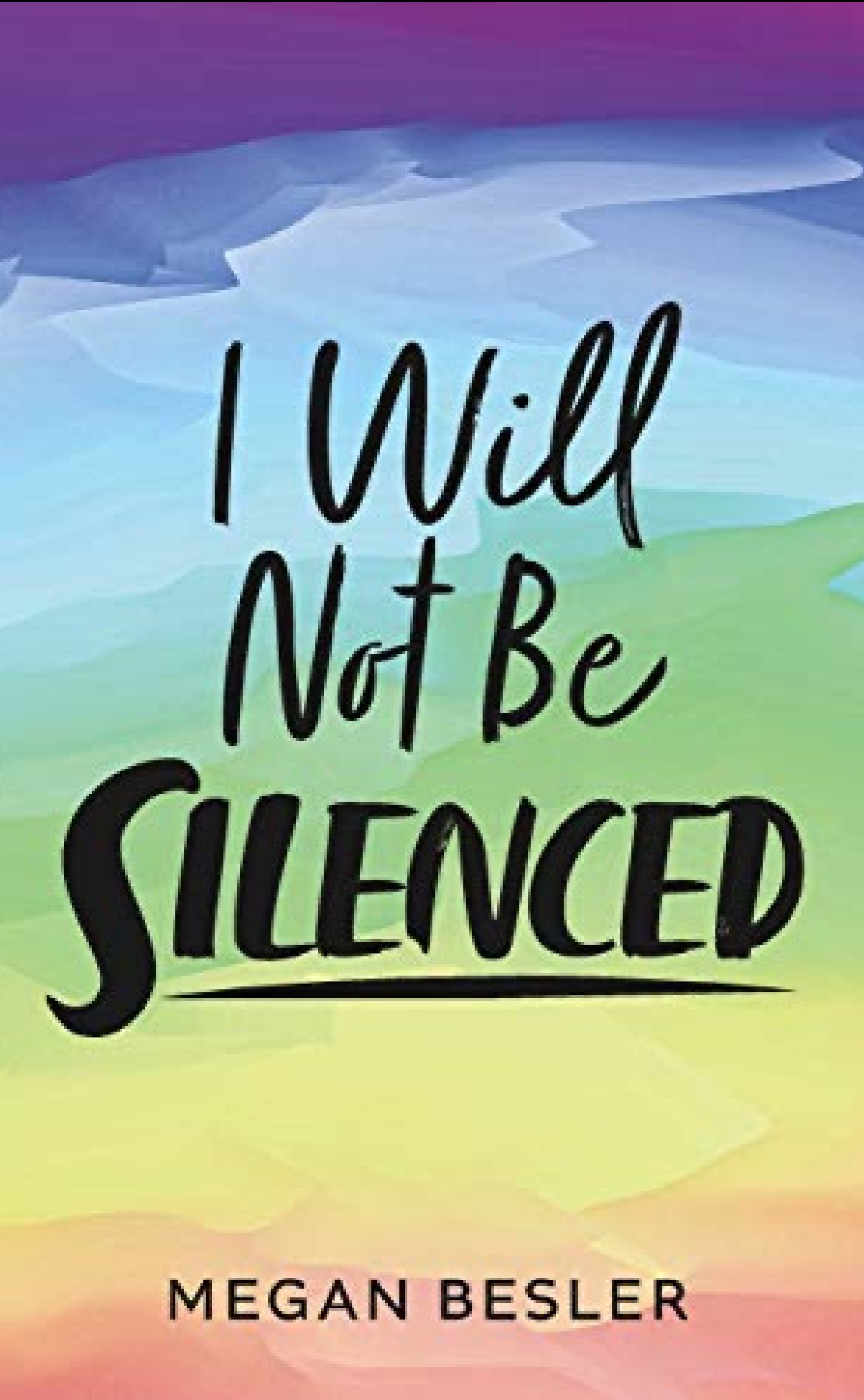
“Exposing situations of integrity, justice and their opposites, Trial demands answers surrounding the human condition. Griffin has written a tour-de-force unveiling an age-old travesty. She has her finger on the pulse of the psychological woes of abuse....Lori Petty knew less is more...allowing for full character development, Petty then turned up the flames, the passions of each thespian scorching us towards awareness.” – **Living Novellas**

“Masterful...Profound...See it if you want an evening of what theater is supposed to be – high art that will affect your heart, soul and spirit.” - **Showscore**

Effect

At every reading and stage of development almost every audience member has come up to Ashley and shared a story of how they, a family member, or friend experienced something similar to the main character Kay and shared that they were grateful that Ashley was talking about this issue – which often gets ignored in commercial art for being dark and difficult subject matter. Both the show's director Lori, and creator, Ashley, have personal experience with these issues, giving a unique power and energy to the story and the themes. TRIAL is uniquely positioned as it has a built in fan base already due to audience connection to the material. The entire ATA run sold out in less than 24 hours. To this day, Ashley receives messages asking when the show will be up again, as many who wanted to weren't able to see it due to the run selling out so quickly.





I Will
Not Be
SILENCED

MEGAN BESLER

TRIAL was featured in Megan Besler's best selling book,
"I Will Not Be Silenced"

"Last night was one of the purest, most freeing moments of my life. I've never felt so empowered...than I did last night watching (TRIAL.)... When this play opened...I wanted to make it to New York so bad because of the story behind it...I knew I had to go no matter what...Last night was that play. I got so moved by these situations that by the end of the play I was in tears...because it truly was SO heavy to hear. It touched me so deeply and (Ashley Griffin's) speech afterward...it felt like she was speaking right to me...I needed this night more than I can ever explain."

- Megan Besler, "I Will Not Be Silenced"

For more information about getting
involved in our next steps contact

Fred Rohan-Vargas

fred@miuprod.com

(917) 648 - 3817

miuprod.com



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PITCH DECK BY



incontrera
consulting