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SHOTGUN PLAYERS PRESENT

# *By & By*

A New Play by Lauren Gunderson  
Directed by Mina Morita

**Berkeley**— Science has only begun to reveal the extraordinary possibilities of cloning, and the ethical arguments surrounding it have never been more tumultuous. In the midst of the controversy is Steven, a leading scientist in the arcane world of human cloning. Then there's his best-kept secret: his daughter Denise. This World Premiere by one of America's most exciting young writers is a true sci-fi thriller, full of moral conundrums. *By & By* begins performances **May 22nd and runs through June 23rd at The Ashby Stage.**

Imagine that you're a newlywed and madly in love. Suddenly your partner is killed in a tragic accident. Now imagine you are the leading doctor in the science of human cloning. What might you do? Lauren Gunderson's story is surprising but factually sound— it's sci-fi but soon it will just be science. "Cloning is going to happen" says the playwright, "and I was most interested not in the global ramifications but in the personal ones." The play speaks to our innate fear and curiosity around such science, while the basic chemistry of a father and daughter's relationship hangs in the balance.

Says Gunderson: "I wrote this play to explore strange love and loyalty that crosses time and death and steps heavily down in the future. But the best thing about drama is that throughout time families are still just families. Those relationships are strong and full of tension whether you're an ancient king or a cloned 18-year old. So that's where this play is deeply rooted - family, love, the real stuff between people."

In *By & By* Gunderson lays bare the deepest vulnerabilities of a father and the transformative qualities of loss. This play is raw in all the best ways. Every choice we make is tempered by the past that we know, and the future that we imagine. This emotional landscape is brought to life on stage, and the striking form of the play raises the stakes even more.

*By & By* features Set Design by **Robert Broadfoot**, Costume Design by **Maggi Yule**, Sound Design by **Colin Trevor**, Light Design by **Stephanie Buchner**, & Properties Design by **Shaun Carroll**.

The cast of *By & By* features Michael Patrick Gaffney\*, Lynne Hollander, Jennifer LeBlanc\* and Bari Robinson. (\*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.)

## CALENDAR LISTING

**WHAT:** Science has only begun to reveal the extraordinary possibilities of cloning, and the ethical arguments surrounding it have never been more tumultuous. In the midst of the controversy is Steven, a leading scientist in the arcane world of human cloning. Then there's his best-kept secret: his daughter Denise. This World Premiere by one of America's most exciting young writers is a true sci-fi thriller, full of moral conundrums.

**WHEN:** *By & By* Previews May 22<sup>nd</sup> – May 30<sup>th</sup>. Opens Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Runs Wednesday and Thursday at 7PM, Friday and Saturday at 8PM, Sunday at 5PM through June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**WHERE:** The Ashby Stage, 1901 Ashby Avenue, Berkeley

**TICKET PRICES:** May 22 – 30<sup>th</sup> are Pay-What-You-Can. Regular performance nights \$20 - \$30. Advance reservations strongly advised.

**For more information go to [www.shotgunplayers.org](http://www.shotgunplayers.org) or call 510.841.6500**