

The Pen (100%)

Words by Dan Collins (50% or Larger)
Music by Julianne Wick Davis (50% or Larger)

No entity but producers, stars, or pre-approved prior presenters of the Play may receive billing above the title, with only stars receiving larger or more prominent billing than that afforded to Authors.

Character

LAURA - A seemingly typical urban professional who might not stand out from a crowd. Laura is well dressed, tidy and meticulously deliberate in her actions and mannerisms. Fueled by a sort of teetering pluckiness, she tackles the everyday with a military-like dedication to her routine.

Range: Mezzo-Soprano – G below middle C to the second G above middle C. (G3 to G5)

Description

Laura is on her way to work, triple checking that the appliances are turned off and looking for her keys when she discovers a purple pen in her purse. A purple pen that is not her own.

Why is it there? Where did it come from? Who chewed on it!?

As Laura struggles to answer these questions, it becomes evident that she has a compulsive fear of germs, which has been dramatically triggered by this alien pen. Retracing her steps and disinfecting every potentially contaminated corner, Laura is sent into an emotional tailspin as she attempts to restore order and return to her routine. But each action seems to uncover another, greater obstacle as Laura's epic journey to exit her front door brings her to both unexpected depths and revelations.

Originally Directed by Margot Bordelon

Originally Music Directed by Alexander Rovang

Originally Starring Nancy Anderson (*Drama Desk Nomination 2016 – Best Solo Performance*)

Bios

Dan Collins wrote book and lyrics for the musicals *Trevor*, *Southern Comfort* and *The Pen*, all with composer Julianne Wick Davis. *Trevor* received its world premiere at The Writers Theatre Chicago, where it won the Jeff Award for Best New Work. It is set to open Off-Broadway as soon as the NYC theater season resumes. *Southern Comfort* was produced by the Public Theater, following productions at Barrington Stage and Cap21 (NY Times and Time Out Critics Pick). It also received the Jonathan Larson Award, a GLADD Media Award and was a Lucille Lortel, Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk Award nominee. *The Pen* (NY Times Critics Pick) was produced by Inner Voices and received a Solo Performance Drama Desk nomination for its star, Nancy Anderson. Other projects include *Wood* (starring Tony Award © Winner Cady Huffman) and *When We Met* (Eugene O'Neill National Musical Theater Conference; CAP 21). Dan is also currently working in collaboration with Annette O'Toole, Michael McKean and Julianne Wick Davis on a musical adaptation of the documentary *Harold & Lillian*. Dan was selected as a Dramatist Guild Fellow and he received his M.F.A in Musical Theater Writing at Tisch School of the Arts, NYU and his B.F.A. in Playwriting at The Theater School of DePaul University.

Julianne Wick Davis (composer/lyricist) Jonathan Larson Award 2012; Billie Burke Ziegfeld Award, 2018; Fifty Women to Watch in 2020, Broadway Woman's Fund; 2020 Lotte Lenya Competition Songbook Series Award from the Kurt Weill Foundation. *TREVOR* (music), with Dan Collins (book and lyrics) Writer's Theatre, Jefferson Award for Outstanding New Musical; off-Broadway 2021. *SOUTHERN COMFORT* with Collins, The Public Theatre, NY Times Critic's Pick, Lortel and Outer Critics Circle Nominations for Outstanding Musical; 2012 NAMT Convention; Barrington Stage Company; reading at Playwrights Horizons; CAP21 (GLAAD Media Award, TimeOut NYC, NY Times Critic's Pick). *THE PEN* for Inner Voices with Collins, NY Times Critic's Pick. *WHEN WE MET* (music & lyrics), O'Neill Musical Theater Conference,

York NEO Development Series, Broadway Bound Concert Series, CAP21. THE WILLARD SUITCASES (book, music, & lyrics) world American Shakespeare Center 2019, Top Ten 2019 Theatrical Events by the Washington Post, Broadway Bound Concert Series. LAUTREC AT THE ST. JAMES (music) John Dietrich (book and lyrics), NAMT 2019 Conference, Applause Concert Series, Olney Theatre Center in 2021. Currently collaborating with Annette O'Toole and Michael McKean and Collins on a musical adaptation of the documentary *Harold & Lillian*. Dramatist Guild Fellow, Sundance Fellow at Ucross, MFA from NYU's Tisch Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program.

ADDITIONAL CREDITS

The Pen is presented by special arrangement with Premiera Inc.

The Pen was originally commissioned, developed, and presented by Premieres in New York, New York, Paulette Haupt, Artistic Director in 2016.

On the title page of all programs and on posters, either physical or digital, in type of appropriate size in relation to other credits.