



Mailing Address

Lantern Theater Company
P.O. Box 53428
Philadelphia, PA 19105-3428

Theater Address

Lantern Theater Company
At St. Stephen's Theater
10th & Ludlow Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Box Office

215.829.0395

Administrative Office

215.829.9002

Fax

215.829.1161

Email

email@lanterntheater.org

Web

www.lanterntheater.org

For further ticket information:
Lantern Theater Company Box Office
215-829-0395 or lanterntheater.org

For further press information:
Lauren Tuvell
(215) 829-9002 x106

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**PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN LANTERN THEATER COMPANY
AND CHEMICAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION
KICKS OFF WITH DAY-LONG WOMEN IN SCIENCE EVENT**

Launching a partnership between **Lantern Theater Company** and **Chemical Heritage Foundation**, *Women in Science/Science Onstage* will be a thought-provoking event focused on the themes of Lantern's production of the science history play *Photograph 51* and the accomplishments of women in the sciences. **Dr. Rosalind Franklin** ranks first among these women in the history of science. Her work was instrumental to the discovery of DNA's structure, and her story is the subject of playwright **Anna Ziegler's** *Photograph 51*. To explore Franklin's largely unsung contributions to one of the 20th century's major discoveries and to honor the work of the many intrepid women scientists past and present, Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) and the Lantern will combine their organizational strengths to create this unique pairing of science and the arts through storytelling, discussion and hands-on experience.

Women in Science/Science Onstage, scheduled for **Saturday, September 19th at 10:30AM**, will provide a forum for engagement and exploration of the timely topic of women in science. CHF has a proven track record of curating smart, fun events that engage audiences of all ages, and they prioritize telling the story of science - its past, its present, and its future. Similarly, Lantern has a successful history of producing audience enrichment events that complement the work on stage. The Lantern's prior festivals include: *In Arcadia (Celebrating Tom Stoppard's Masterpiece)*; *SpinozaFest*; and *Regency and Revelry (the Jane Austin Festival)*. With this partnership between CHF and the Lantern, *Women in Science/Science Onstage* celebrates the collective aim of both organizations: to tell the story of science as a human endeavor.

The day-long event at CHF (315 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia) will begin with a Science Fair featuring prominent women scientists from the area, representing local companies and universities organized with the local chapter of the **Association of Women in Science**. Attendees will be able to roam the CHF

gallery, connecting with current women scientists and learning about the research and discoveries they are pursuing right now. Over lunch, Lantern theater artists will mingle with attendees while portraying prominent women scientists throughout history. Patrons will also be treated to a talk on the history of several key female scientific figures presented by **Lisa Rosner**, Distinguished Professor of History at Stockton University. Dr. Rosner, Director of the university's Honors Program, specializes in the history of science and medicine, and she has published extensively on topics in the field of historical science and medicine.

After lunch, there will be four breakout sessions in which small groups will explore topics in more detail through fun and engaging activities. Breakout session topics are wide-ranging, and include "Cowboys Vs. Empiricists," "(Women In) Science Jeopardy," "Breaking Out of the Gilded Cage: Jane Marcet," and "A Study in Infamy: Photograph 51." These interactive sessions will enable active audience participation and give attendees a chance to explore CHF's facilities.

A keynote panel will conclude the day, focusing on the intersection between the arts and sciences and exploring several key ideas: What stimulates artists to create credible and compelling work exploring the worlds of science and technology? What role does art play in the scientific process, and how can we challenge the existing stereotypes of scientists and engineers in the popular imagination? Panelists include physicist **Danielle Bassett**, 2014 MacArthur Fellow and celebrated interdisciplinarian at the University of Pennsylvania; **Linsay Firman**, Associate Director for the Ensemble Studio Theatre/Sloan Foundation partnership that commissions and promotes new plays about science; and nationally renowned playwright **Deborah Zoe Lauffer**, who has made a career of science-focused plays including the recent *Informed Consent*, a Sloan commission that will be produced in 2015 by Primary Stages and EST at the Duke Theatre in New York City.

Danielle Bassett is a physicist using tools from network science, the study of how the interactions between individual elements influence the behavior of a connected whole, to understand how different regions of the human brain interact. Bassett is not only revealing new insights regarding learning, disease diagnostics and therapeutics, and treatment of brain injury, but she is also making contributions to disciplines as far-ranging as cell biology, materials science, and social systems. Bassett believes science and art can inform each other in very tangible ways, and last summer she launched the Penn Network Visualization Program, seeking to support the development of new network visualization techniques to enhance scientific research, to increase dialog between artistic and scientific communities, and to optimize educational efforts to teach children about our network life. Bassett received a B.S. (2004) from Pennsylvania State University and a Certificate of Postgraduate Study (2005) and Ph.D. (2009) from the University of Cambridge. She was a postdoctoral associate (2009–2011) and a Sage Junior Research Fellow (2011–2013) at the University of California, Santa Barbara, before joining the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania, where she is currently the Skirkanich Assistant Professor of Innovation in the Department of Bioengineering.

Linsay Firman directed the NY premiere of Anna Ziegler's *Photograph 51* at the Ensemble Studio Theatre, reprised at the 2011 World Science Festival. Linsay is the Literary Manager at EST and the Associate Director of the Ensemble Studio Theatre/Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Science & Technology Project, an initiative designed to stimulate artists to create credible and compelling work exploring the worlds of science and technology and to challenge the existing stereotypes of scientists and engineers in the popular imagination. She began working in new play development as the Associate Director of Soho Rep, where she worked from 1998 – 2004 and founded and ran Soho Rep's renowned Writer/Director Lab. Firman was a member of the 2008-2010 Women's Project Director's Lab, a 2003/2004 Resident Director at New Dramatists, a Director/Dramaturg in The Lark's 2007/2008 Meeting of the Minds writer's group and is an Associated Artist of New Georges. She received her M.F.A. from CalArts.

Deborah Zoe Laufer's plays have been produced at Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Cleveland Playhouse, Geva Theatre Center, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Actor's Theatre of Louisville, Portland Stage, and eighty other theaters around the country, in Germany, Russia and Canada. *End Days* was awarded The ATCA Steinberg citation and appeared at Ensemble Studio Theatre through an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Grant. *Informed Consent*, which was a Sloan commission will be produced in 2015 by Primary Stages and EST at the Duke Theatre in NYC. Other plays include *Leveling Up*, *Sirens*, *Out of Sterno*, *The Last Schwartz*, *Meta*, *The Three Sisters of Weehawken*, *Fortune*, *The Gulf of Westchester*, *Miniatures*, and *Random Acts*. Laufer is a recipient of the Helen Merrill Playwriting Award and the Lilly Award and grants and commissions from The Edgerton Foundation, the NEA and NNPN. She is a graduate of The Juilliard School and a member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop and The Dramatists Guild.

After activities at CHF conclude, attendees are invited to see a performance of *Photograph 51* on the Lantern stage. *Photograph 51* addresses the tension between painstaking research and wild creative leaps, between the creator and the creation, and between inspiration and collaboration. In telling the story of Dr. Rosalind Franklin and her contributions to the discovery of DNA's double helix structure, *Photograph 51* invites its audience to see the major scientific discovery of the 20th century in a new light, for as Dr. Franklin notes in the play, "one sees something new each time one looks at truly beautiful things."

About Lantern Theater Company

Founded in 1994, Lantern Theater Company is committed to an authentic and intimate exploration of the human spirit in its choice of classics, modern, and original works. The Lantern seeks to be a vibrant, contributing member of its community, exposing audiences to great theater, inviting participation in dialogue and discussion, educating audience members about artistic and social issues, and employing theatrical language and techniques to enrich learning in the classroom. The Lantern has received 82 Barrymore Award nominations, winning 15 times including the 2009 Barrymore Award for Excellence in Theatre Education and Community Service for its innovative education program, *Illumination*. Lantern Theater Company has been in residence at St. Stephen's Theater at 10th & Ludlow Streets in Center City Philadelphia since 1996, managing the performance space and developing it into an affordable multi-purpose performing arts venue. For more information, please visit lanterntheater.org.

About the Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF)

CHF fosters dialogue on science and technology in society. Our staff and fellows study the past in order to understand the present and inform the future. We focus on matter and materials and their effects on our modern world in territory ranging from the physical sciences and industries, through the chemical sciences and engineering, to the life sciences and technologies. We collect, preserve, and exhibit historical artifacts; engage communities of scientists and engineers; and tell the stories of the people behind breakthroughs and innovations. For more information, please visit chemheritage.org.

About PHOTOGRAPH 51

A Philadelphia premiere by Anna Ziegler

Directed by Kathryn MacMillan

September 10 - October 11 (OPENING NIGHT – September 16)

London, 1953. The race is on among the world's leading scientists to unlock the secret of life itself: the DNA molecule. The promise of wealth and lasting fame drives the break-neck pace of the research. Then Rosalind Franklin, the one woman in this crowded field of male scientists, makes a break-through. In an environment of desperate ambition, with its shifting rivalries, alliances and betrayals, Rosalind Franklin has the talent and grit to win it all – if she can get in the game.

WOMEN IN SCIENCE/SCIENCE ONSTAGE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM – **Registration and check-in and Women in Science Fair**
featuring local female scientists, organized with the Association of Women in Science

12:00 PM - **Lunch and Presentation on History of Women in Science**

Welcome remarks by CHF and Lantern Staff

Presentation by Lisa Rosner, Distinguished Professor of History, Stockton University

1:30 PM - **Breakout Sessions** (participants choose 3 of 4)

COWBOYS VS. EMPIRICISTS

As evidenced in our Science Fair, scientists work in a variety of ways – but we want to know how you work! Would you rather race to show a model, have it be wrong, and be forced to rework the whole thing from scratch or take the time to cross your t's, dot your i's, and present your theory when the whole team thinks it's ready? Participate a rousing, on-your-feet debate about the battle between leaps of faith and rigorous fact-checking.

(WOMEN IN) SCIENCE JEOPARDY

Will you take Famous Women Scientists for \$300? Throughout the day you've had the opportunity to pick up all sorts of interesting tidbits and facts about women in science. Now, compete with a team in a Jeopardy-style game where science is the subject, women are the focus, and you supply the questions. Prizes will be awarded to the winning team.

BREAKING OUT OF THE GILDED CAGE: JANE MARCET

*When Jane Marcet was born in 1769, it was unheard of that a woman would write a science textbook let alone one for non-expert readers. And yet, in 1806 Jane Marcet did just that, publishing *Conversations in Chemistry* featuring a female teacher and two female pupils. Hear the story of this enterprising woman with Distinguished Professor of History at Stockton College, Lisa Rosner, and catch a performance of one of the chapters of Marcet's famous book.*

A STUDY IN INFAMY: PHOTOGRAPH 51

Just what in the world is x-ray crystallography? When and how did scientists come to practice this lab technique? Join CHF's Institute for Research staff member Jacqueline Boytim for an immersive

tour in the museum, and learn about the people, ideas, and instruments that have allowed us to peer into the world of molecules that lies beyond human vision.

3:30PM - Keynote Discussion

Science as a human endeavor. Danielle Bassett, Physicist and 2014 MacArthur fellow; Deborah Zoe Lafer, Playwright; Lindsay Firman, Associate Director for the Ensemble Studio Theatre/Sloan Foundation

IF YOU GO

Event-Only tickets: \$35 (price includes a box lunch)

Event-and-Show tickets: \$60 (price includes a box lunch and one ticket to 8PM performance of *Photograph 51* at St. Stephen's Theater that evening)

Tickets and Information at www.lanterntheater.org/chf

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