

21 + 22 SEASON

FORUM
THEATRE

\$10 STUDENT | \$15 COMMUNITY

MAR. 3-5 @ 7:30PM

LIVE!



theatre

EVERYBODY

BY BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS

DIRECTED BY DANIEL JÁQUEZ

UC San Diego
ARTS AND HUMANITIES
Theatre and Dance

theatre.ucsd.edu

Everybody

by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins
directed by Daniel Jáquez

CAST

Audience Member/Love	Josiah Rey Cajudo
SB3/Kinship/Mind/‘B’	Iris (Liting) Feng
SB2/Cousin/Strength/‘A’	Sabrina Liu
God (voice over)	Colby Muhammad
SB5/Friendship/Senses/‘D’	Ellen Nikbakht
SB4/Stuff/Beauty/‘C’	Kat Peña
Everybody	Natalia Quintero-Riestra
Usher/Understanding	Morgan Nicholas Scott
Evil	Mia Van Deloo
Girl/Time	Lisette Velandia
Death	Frida Alejandra Villeda Torres

CREATIVE TEAM

Scenic and Projections Designer	Elizabeth Barrett
Costume Designer	Daniella Toscano
Lighting Designer	Shelby Thach
Sound Designer and Composer	Salvador Zamora
Choreographer	Frida Alejandra Villeda Torres
Associate Video Designer	Harrison Foster
Dramaturg	EmmaJo Spencer
Production Stage Manager	Allison Bailey
Assistant Directors	Raina Rose Duncan, Mia Van Deloo
Assistant Costume Designer	Grace Wong
Assistant Lighting Designer	Elba Emicente
Assistant Scenic Designer	Tess Jordahl
Assistant Stage Managers	Stephanie Diana Carrizales, Hannah Gallagher
Production Assistant	Angela Park

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A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dying is something humanity has wrestled with since the beginning of civilization. It is a journey all must take. However, each one of us decides how and when we take this journey. Is Life part of the preparation for the journey? Some say life on earth is only but a moment in the soul's existence. Others believe there is time enough on our deathbed for reconciliation between what we know is coming and what we will leave behind.

Branden Jacobs-Jenkins brings us this important adaptation of the morality play *Everyman*. In it, he addresses the richness and complexity of contemporary humanity and redefines who Everybody is. Powerful work, still, I feel the storytelling is that of a western morality play. So, for our process, I let the inspiration of the Aztec myths of creation lead me to some choices, both in the way we worked in the rehearsal room with our fantastic cast and crew, and the selection of the work to be presented in the *Danse Macabre*, a three-minute interlude granted by Jacobs-Jenkins to interpret what happens to us when we die. There is no Camille Saint-Saens, no Swedish rock band, nor our famous José Guadalupe Posada's *Calaveras*. I attempted to take us into the myth behind the Day of the Dead celebration, the journey to Mictlán. A journey that takes four years to complete. To this day believers gather in families to pray the Rosario regularly for four years, thus helping their loved ones on their journey. The four-year journey comprises of nine stages, each of which prepares the soul to release all that keeps us attached to this world. It is a rugged journey but once completed, Souls are forever joined with the essence of the universe. I share with you a poem in Spanish by Nezahualcóyotl, originally written in Nahuatl.

*Yo Nezahualcóyotl lo pregunto:
¿Acaso de veras se vive con raíz en la tierra?
Nada es para siempre en la tierra:
Sólo un poco aquí.
Aunque sea de jade se quiebra,
Aunque sea de oro se rompe,
Aunque sea plumaje de quetzal se desgarra.
No para siempre en la tierra:
Sólo un poco aquí.*

Forever thankful to the amazing designers and crew that created the world you will experience.

SPECIAL THANKS

*A special thank you to Jada Owens, Jade Power Sotomayor,
Angelica Cardona, Robert Castro*

THE DIRECTOR

Daniel Jáquez is a Director, Theater-Maker, and Translator of plays. He is a co-founder of San Diego's TuYo Theatre and one of the inaugural Classical Directing Fellows at The Old Globe. Jáquez serves on the Latinx Theatre Commons Advisory Committee, and was adviser for Lark's U.S./México Playwright Exchange. He serves as an Artistic Trustee of Diversionary Theatre and is a proud member of SDC. In New York City, Jáquez was Director and co-founder of Unit52, Intar Theatre's acting company and Director of Intar/Jerome Foundation NewWorks Lab, a festival producing four new plays by emerging Latinx playwrights annually. Jáquez spent a year in Portland, Oregon serving as Interim Artistic Director of Milagro where he directed several productions in Spanish and English and received Portland's DRAMMY award for outstanding direction. Jáquez earned an M.F.A. in Directing from Institute for Advanced Theater Training at Harvard University/Moscow Art Theatre, and a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Texas. www.danieljaquez.com

THE CAST

Josiah Rey Cajudo (Audience/Love) is a first-year MFA student. He is from Menifee, CA and holds a BA in Theatre, Film, and Digital Production with a concentration in Acting, as well as a minor in Music from UC Riverside. Select credits: *Sound of Music* (La Sierra University), *Can't Dance Crew* (DTH Pictures), *The Little Mermaid* (Performance Riverside) UC Riverside credits: *20:20 Vision*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Birthmark*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Two Mile Hollow* (staged reading).

Iris (Liting) Feng (SB3/Kinship/Mind/'B') is a first-year MFA student born in China and educated in the US. She previously trained at RADA and Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Credits include *Romeo and Juliet* (Guildhall), *Blank* (Guildhall), *Cymbeline* (RADA), *Aloha Attire* (Kumu Kahua Theatre), *Sganarelle* (Hawaii Shakespeare Festival). Iris holds a BA in psychology from Harvard College.

Sabrina Liu (SB2/Cousin/Strength/'A') is a second-year MFA student. She is originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and holds a BA in government and psychology with minors in inequality studies and theatre from Cornell University. Regional Credits: *Electra* (National Women's Theatre Festival). New Play Development: *Exotic Deadly: Or the MSG Play* (Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center), *In Every Generation* (San Diego Repertory Theatre). UC San Diego credits: *Twelfth Night*, *End Days*, *Town Hall*. Cornell credits: *The Wolves*, *Tartuffe*, *The Awakening of Spring*, *Bad Jews*, *Baltimore*, *Eurydice*, *Two Truths and Allie*.

THE CAST *cont.*

Colby Muhammad (God [voice over]) is a first-year MFA student from Richmond, VA. She graduated cum laude from Howard University with a BFA in Musical Theatre. UC San Diego credits: *In The Red and Brown Water*. Other select credits: *Anything Goes*, *Spunk!*, and *Fabulation, or the Re-Education of Undine*. Film credits: *Centerfold*, *Transcend*, *Doing it Wrong*.

Ellen Nikbakht (SB5/Friendship/Senses/'D') is a first-year MFA student. She was born in Memphis, TN and holds a BFA in Studio Art with a minor in Theatre from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Select credits: *Fun Home* (KC Rep); *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Urinetown*, *Candide*, *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play*, *The Threepenny Opera* (Clarence Brown Theatre); *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Les Misérables* (Playhouse on the Square); *Walls: A Play for Palestine* (FringeNYC).

Kat Peña (SB4/Stuff/Beauty/'C') is a first-year MFA student. She's a Dominican plant-mom from the Bronx. Select credits: *Water by the Spoonful* (Yaz, Cahill Theater/Regional); *Dracula* (Sullivan, Actors Theatre of Louisville); *To The Moon* (Creede Repertory Theatre); *A Skeptic and A Bruja* (Remy, staged reading, Urbanite Theatre/San Diego Rep); *Big Green Theater* (The Bushwick Starr); *Eight Tales of Pedro* (Escolastica, The Secret Theater), and Michelle in award-winning short comedy, *Reina*.

Natalia Quintero-Riestra (Everybody) is a third-year MFA candidate. Originally born and raised in Miami, FL, she graduated with a BFA in Performance from Florida International University. Natalia credits her passion, warmth, and joyful personality to her Cuban, Colombian, and Spanish roots. UC San Diego credits: *Backwaters* (WNPF '21), *Town Hall*, *Letters from Cuba* (Enriqueta), *Orestes 2.0* (Nurse 3). Regional credits: *Ten Minute Taste Festival* (The 4208 Group); *New Powers New Voices Festival* (The Old Globe); *WOW Festival* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Summer Shorts* (U/S, City Theatre). FIU credits: *The Suicide* (Masha Lukianovna), *A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings* (Elisenda), *She Kills Monsters* (Evil Gabby).

Morgan Nicholas Scott (Usher) is a second-year MFA student. He is from Chicago, IL, but grew up in Montgomery County Maryland, a suburb of Washington, D.C. He holds a BA in Theatre from The University of Maryland. UC San Diego credits: *Twelfth Night*, *End Days* (WNPF '21), *Uncle Vanya*. Regional credits: *Bonnie & Clyde The Musical* (Monumental Theatre Company); *Amazing Grace The Musical* (Museum of the Bible); *PYG, or The Misedumacation of Dorian Bell* (Studio Theatre); *Little Shop of Horrors* (Constellation Theatre Company); *The Snowy Day* (Adventure Theatre). National Tour: *Amazing Grace The Musical* (1st National Tour).

THE CAST *cont.*

Mia Van Deloo (Evil; Assistant Director) is a second-year undergraduate theatre and history double major from the Bay Area. UC San Diego credits: *winterWORKS*, *Backwaters* (WNPF '21). Other select credits: *Big Fish*, *Project Symphony* (Muir Musical).

Lisette Velandia (Girl/Time) is a second-year undergraduate theatre and psychology double major. She has studied at the British American Drama Academy's Midsummer Conservatory Program and at Sacramento Theatre Company's YPC. UC San Diego credits: *Sotoba Komachi*, *As You Like It*. Other select credits: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Tempest*, *A Christmas Carol* (Sacramento Theatre Company), *Doll* (Company 157).

Frida Alejandra Villeda Torres (Death) is a second-year undergraduate transfer student and theatre major. She received her AA in Theatre Arts from MiraCosta College. She was a partner finalist for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in 2019. Select credits: *The School for Scandal*, *All My Sons*, *Love/Sick*, *Henry V*.

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Allison Bailey (Production Stage Manager) is a third-year MFA candidate. She earned her BA in political science with minors in theatre arts and French from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, IA. Following graduation, she received a Fulbright Grant to Bulgaria. UC San Diego credits: *End Days* (PSM), *Town Hall* (PSM), *winterWORKS '21* (PSM), *As You Like It* (PSM), *Orestes 2.0* (ASM), *Man in Love* (ASM). Regional Credits: *to the yellow house* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Hair* (The Old Globe), Other select credits: *Spring Open Artist Showcase*, *Burlington Fringe Festival* (Off Center for the Dramatic Arts), *Victor/Victoria*, *Grey Gardens*, *Evita* (Revival Theatre Company), *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Blithe Spirit* (Coe College).

Elizabeth Barrett (Scenic Designer) is a third-year MFA candidate. Originally from Washington, she earned her BA in theatre with a concentration in scenic design from Western Washington University. She has a wide range of experience working in many facets of theatre including carpentry, welding, and scenic art alongside her design work. UC San Diego credits: *Men on Boats* (Scenic Designer), *Letters from Cuba* (Production and Video), *winterWORKS '20*, *Orestes 2.0* (Projection), *Elektra* (ASD), *Man in Love* (ASD). Other select credits: *Cyla's Gift* (SD, Taproot Theater), *Queer Mama Crossroads* (SD, Annex Theater), *American Idiot* (PD, UC Irvine), *Lines Ballet* (APD, Alosno King Ballet), and *Valley of the Heart* (APD, Center Theatre Group).

THE CREATIVE TEAM *cont.*

Stephanie Diana Carrizales (Assistant Stage Manager) is a first-year MFA student from Clovis, CA. She earned her BA in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Tech and Design from California State University, Fresno. UC San Diego credit: *Men on Boats* (ASM). CSU Fresno credits: *Dark of the Moon*, *Anonymous*, Contemporary Dance Ensemble's: *Moving Through the Static*, *Just Like Us*, *Lydia* (ASM), *Native Son* (ASM). Other select credits: *So You've Think You've Seen Dance* (SM, Lively Arts Foundation 2018), *The Little Mermaid* (ASM, Centerstage Clovis 2019).

Raina Rose Duncan (Assistant Director) is a third-year theatre major from Arizona. UC San Diego credits: *Peerless* (Dramaturg/Directorial Team), *Trojan Women: A Version* (Andromache). Other select credits: *24-Hour Theatre Festival* (AD, Prescott Center for the Arts); *Learned Ladies* (AD/PSM, Idyllwild Arts Academy), *You Can't Take It With You* (Essie, IAA).

Elba Emicente (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a first-year MFA student. She was born in Mexico and holds a BA (Dance) from Universidad de las Américas Puebla (UDLAP). In 2010, she founded her own lighting company, Iluminicente, in the City of Puebla, Mexico. Since then, she has participated in several national and international festivals such as *Performatica* (Mexico), *Festival Internacional de Teatro México* in Montreal (Canada), *Festival Internacional Cervantino* (Mexico), *The Bates Dance Festival* (USA), among others. Throughout her career, she had the opportunity to impart some lectures in Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) and Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain). In recent years, she worked as a Head of Logistics and Lighting Designer in Cultural Activities at UDLAP, and also as a Technical Director of the dance company "Ballet Incluyente." UC San Diego credits: *51Barrio*, *Sotoba Komachi* (ALD).

Harrison Foster (Associate Video Designer) is a third-year MFA candidate. He holds a BFA from Point Park University in Pittsburgh. UC San Diego credits: *51BARRIO*, *Sotoba Komachi*, *Town Hall*, *Letters from Cuba*, *Orestes 2.0* (ALD), *Man in Love* (ALD). Other select credits: *Red Hot Patriot* and *Abandoned Way Out West* (Creede Rep); *Cornell Vet Dance Collective 2019* and *Empire Burlesque Festival 2019* (Hangar Theatre); *Winter Dance Concert* (Pittsburgh Playhouse) Assistant credits: *The Who's Tommy* (Pittsburgh Playhouse).

Hannah Gallagher (Assistant Stage Manager) is a second-year undergraduate theatre major. UC San Diego credits: *Peerless* (PA), *Dainty* (staged reading, ASM).

THE CREATIVE TEAM *cont.*

Tess Jordahl (Assistant Scenic Designer) is a third-year undergraduate Studio Art Major and Theatre Minor. UC San Diego credits: *Trojan Women: A Version* (Scenic), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (ASD), and *The Nether* (ASD). Other credits: Muir Musical's *A Chorus Line* (Scenic).

Angela Park (Production Assistant) is a second-year undergraduate theatre major. She is currently the Publicist for Company 157. UC San Diego credit: *End Days* (PA, WNPF '21). Other credit: *The Tempest* (Fairplay Company).

EmmaJo Spencer (Dramaturg) is a fourth-year undergraduate student double majoring in theatre and communications. UC San Diego credits: *Sotoba Komachi* (ASM), *New Directions '21* (ASM), *Antikoni* (PSM).

Daniella Toscano (Costume Designer) is a third-year MFA candidate from Las Vegas, NV. She graduated from UNLV in 2012 with a BA in Studio Art and Theater, and worked in the field locally and regionally. She has extensive experience in costume drafting and has worked in a variety of costume shops and other behind-the-scenes areas. UC San Diego credits: *Heap, An Object, Screaming, Elektra, The Gradient* (WNPF '19), *The Misanthrope* (ACD), *A Beautiful Day in November on the Banks of the Greatest of the Great Lakes* (ACD). Other select credits: *Don Giovanni, Midsummer's Night Dream, La Boheme, The Marriage of Figaro* (UNLV Opera Theater); *A Bomb-itty of Errors, A Christmas Carol* (Nevada Conservatory Theater); *She Loves Me, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Super Summer Theater).

Shelby Thach (Lighting Designer) is a second-year MFA student from San Gabriel, California. She received her BA in Drama with honors in Lighting Design and Technology from UC Irvine. Throughout her undergraduate and freelance careers, Shelby has worked on a variety of shows, ranging from plays, musicals, and dance concerts. UC San Diego credits: *Peerless* (LVD), *Trojan Women: A Version* (LD), *winterWORKS '21* (LD), *As You Like It* (LD), *Letters from Cuba* (ALD). Other select credits: *The Garden* (ALD, La Jolla Playhouse), *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* (ALD, South Coast Repertory), *The Diary of Anne Frank* (LD, Crean Lutheran HS), *I Love You So Much, Squeeze Me to Death* (LD, Bootleg Theater/Wisdome LA), *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (LD, UCI).

THE CREATIVE TEAM *cont.*

Grace Wong (Assistant Costume-Designer) is a third-year undergraduate theatre major from Arcadia, CA. UC San Diego credits: *Peerless*, *Trojan Women*, *Epicene*, *Exotic Deadly (Or the MSG Play)*, *Mojada*, *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play*, *The Underground* (ACD). Other select credits: *Loves Labours Lost*, *Les Miserables*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Giver* (Arcadia Stage).

Salvador Zamora (Sound Designer and Composer) is a second-year MFA student and producer, born and raised in Southern California. He holds a BA in Interdisciplinary Computing and the Arts (ICAM) from UC San Diego. UC San Diego credits: *Men on Boats*, *Peerless*, *Meladi Thive and Her Words of Comfort* (WNPF '21), *winterWORKS*, *Town Hall*, *Heap* (ASD), *Letters from Cuba* (ASD), *Balm in Gilead* (Sound Coordinator), *Classical Women* (SD & Composer), *Joshua* (ASD, WNPF '18).

UPCOMING SHOWS

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