

FANCY JUNGLE

BY KATIE ĐỒ

DIRECTED BY SHYAMA NITHIANANDA

SHEILA AND HUGHES
POTIKER THEATRE

MAY 6 - 15

UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
THEATRE & DANCE

WRITTEN BY Katie Đõ
DIRECTED BY Shyama Nithiananda

CAST

Margo	Sabrina Liu*
Lucy	Maia Nguyen
Anna	Ella Geonzon
Nicole	Maliyah Grammata-Jones
Cindy	Carla Harting*
Jason	Yuchi Chiu
Frank	Griffin Hanson & Pier Garma
Understudies	
US/Margo	Ella Geonzon
US/Lucy	Xiwen Xie
US/Anna	Saranya Vohra
US/Nicole	Keanna Pye
US/Cindy	Calla Hollingsworth
US/Jason	Clay Man Soo*

*Appears by permission of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright	Katie Đõ
Director	Shyama Nithiananda
Dramaturg	Juliette Lin
Scenic Design	Ruolin Zhao
Assistant Scenic Design	Taylor Bennett
Costume Design	Maricela Alaníz
Assistant Costume Design	Maliah Sing
Assistant Costume Design	Mairead Lucke
Assistant Costume Design	Isaac Rosales
Lighting & Projection Design	Jake Olson
Sound Design	Nataly Cenicerros
Assistant Sound Design	Evelyn Moreno

STAGE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Production Stage Manager	Karina Ortega
Assistant Stage Manager	Meera David
Assistant Stage Manager	Natalie Kenyon
Production Assistant	Tyler Martinez
Script Production Assistant	Ellie Kim
Stage Management Swing	Ziyi Fang

CONTENT WARNING

Please be advised that this play contains: Strong Language, Body Horror, Stage Blood

The Use of: Loud Noises, Flashing Lights

THE PLAYWRIGHT

Katie Đỗ is a Vietnamese-American woman with a mouth from New Jersey. She's a proud alum of the SỔng Collective's Việt Writers Lab and the Public's Emerging Writers Group. Do is also the inaugural recipient of Merrimack Repertory Theatre's Sokhary Chau Playwriting Fellowship. Her plays have been developed and supported by Atlantic Theater Company, Artists at Play, The Public, South Coast Repertory, Orlando Shakes, The Kilroys, and The SỔng Collective. Her play *love you long time (already)* will have its world premiere at Theatre 503 in London in July of this year. She wrote for the Netflix series *Partner Track* and recently joined Rideback's Circle program. UCSD credits: *Dirty Martini* (WNPF '25).

THE DIRECTOR

Shyama Nithiananda is a Sri Lankan - American director from Texas and a second-year MFA student. UC San Diego credits: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *One Flea Spare*, *Dirty Martini* (WNPF'25), and *Hedda Gabler* (AD). She received her BFA in Theatre Studies from Southern Methodist University in 2021. Directing credits: *The Heart Sellers* (Amphibian Stage), *Lizzie* (Theatre Three), *Guards at the Taj* (Stage West Theatre). (she/her) shyamaknithi.com

CAST

Yuchi Chiu is a first-year MFA student. Born and raised in Los Angeles, he spent over a decade in Chicago, where he taught high school special education after earning a BA in Communication from Northwestern University and an MA in Special Education from Dominican University. His time at arts and social justice-focused schools deeply informs his work as an actor, musician, writer, and filmmaker. UCSD Credits: *People, Places, and Things*; *Julius Caesar*. Select theater credits: *In His Hands* (First Floor Theatre), *Once* (Writers Theatre), *The Chinese Lady* (Southern Plains Productions), and *It's a Wonderful Life* (American Blues Theater). TV/film credits: "Chicago Med" (NBC), "Dark Matter" (Apple TV+), and "BJ's Mobile Gift Shop" (Sundance Film Festival). Dedicated always to Will and his chosen family. @yuchidchiu

Ella Geonzon is a fourth-year theatre major raised in San Diego, CA. UC San Diego credits: *One Flea Spare* (Morse U/S), *Julius Caesar* (Portia/Soothsayer) Selected credits: *The Wolves (#2)*, *Gruesome Playground Injuries* (Kayleen), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Hero), *Honor the Thief* (Con, Company 157). (she/her) Instagram: @ellageonz

Maliyah Gramata-Jones is a multidisciplinary artist, activist and yogi. She has performed and served as a teaching artist across Germany, Poland, Japan, Canada, and throughout the United States. Her stage credits include: *Julius Caesar* (UCSD) *One Flea Spare* (UCSD) *Stew* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park), the world premiere of *Who All Over There*, *The Wolves* (Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati), *Puffs*, *Red Bike* (Know Theatre), *Titus Andronicus* (Cincinnati Shakespeare Company) @_goddessjones_

Carla Harting* is a proud graduate of UC San Diego's MFA Acting Program. She has performed locally at such theatres as The Old Globe, La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego Rep and Cygnet, as well as other regional theatres such as Arena Stage, Seattle Rep, and Yale Rep. Her New York credits include *Eurydice* at Second Stage and *Dead Man's Cell Phone* at Playwrights Horizons, among others. BA: William & Mary. Thank you to Esmé and Charley!

CAST CONT.

Sabrina Liu* - is a proud graduate of the UCSD MFA Acting Program (Class of 2023). She most recently understudied Midori Francis as Sally in *SYLVIA SYLVIA SYLVIA* (by fellow UCSD graduate, Beth Hyland) at The Geffen Playhouse. New York Credits: *Half-Life* (Moxie Arts/HERE Arts Center). Regional credits: *The Grown-Ups* (Baby Teeth LA), *The Winter's Tale* (Antaeus Theatre Company), *Here There Are Blueberries* (La Jolla Playhouse), *In Every Generation* (San Diego Repertory Theatre), *Electra* (National Women's Theatre Festival). Sabrina has extensive experience in new work development, having workshopped plays at Center Theatre Group, South Coast Repertory, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, The Old Globe, San Diego Repertory Theatre, Rogue Machine Theatre, Ensemble Studio Theatre LA, IAMA Theatre, Rogue Artists Ensemble, and Chance Theater. BA Cornell University. (she/her) Website: sabinajliu.com Instagram: @sabinajliu

Maia Nguyen is an actor from Warsaw, Poland. UC San Diego credits: *The Three Musketeers* (D'Artagnan), *One Flea Spare* (Morse), *Dirty Martini* (Poppy), *Nerve Endings* (Izzy), *Rogues' Trial* (John Cricket), *Vinegar Tom* (Margery), *Cancelina* (Meg). Her other acting credits include *Indian Princesses* (La Jolla Playhouse, U/S Samantha), *peerless* (M), *The Seagull* (U/S Arkadina/Masha), *Everybody* (SOMEBODY), and *Measure for Measure* (Duke Vincentio). She received her BS and MS in Computer Science and BA in Theatre and Performance Studies from Stanford University and is a recipient of the Louis Sudler Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts (2022). (she/her) Instagram: @iammaia123, Website: maianguyen.com

Understudies:

Ella Geonzon is a fourth-year theatre major raised in San Diego, CA. UC San Diego credits: *One Flea Spare* (Morse U/S), *Julius Caesar* (Portia/Soothsayer) Selected credits: *The Wolves (#2)*, *Gruesome Playground Injuries* (Kayleen), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Hero), *Honor the Thief* (Con, Company 157). (she/her) Instagram: @ellageonz

CAST CONT.

Understudies:

Calla Hollingsworth is a second-year theatre major from the Bay Area. Upcoming: Julius Caesar (Marin Shakespeare Company). UC San Diego Credits: Much Ado About Nothing (Hero/Oatcake, u/s Beatrice), Vinegar Tom (u/s Susan, Betty). Selected acting credits: Alice and Bob, Driven (Company 157), Jon Tracy's "The Untime," Hamlet (Marin Shakespeare Company). Calla has also trained with Dueling Arts International in stage combat and choreographed fights for Company 157 (Without Country, Road to Tulsa) and Muir Musical (Spring Awakening).

Clay Man Soo* is a Korean-American actor and first-year MFA acting student from Minneapolis, Minnesota. He dedicates his performance to Ricardo (Ricky) Lozano. UC San Diego credits: *Julius Caesar*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Fuck the Goat* (Reading). Regional Theatre Credits: A Christmas Carol, Zafira and the Resistance (Guthrie Theater), The Hatmaker's Wife, Mlima's Tale (Ten Thousand Things Theater), Stop Kiss, Inside Out & Back Again, A Korean Drama Addict's Guide to Losing Your Virginity, (Theater Mu), Bina's Six Apples (Children's Theatre Company), Bina's Six Apples (Alliance Theatre), Secret Warriors (History Theatre), Sanctuary City (Frank Theatre), Macbeth, The Servant of Two Masters, Cymbeline, Love's Labour's Lost (Great River Shakespeare Festival), Passage (Pillsbury House + Theatre), Romeo & Juliet (Park Square Theatre), The Buddha Prince (TigerLion Arts), Mame (Artistry), Mother Courage and Her Children (Pangea World Theater), The Tempest (Theatre Coup D'Etat), A Comedy of Errors (SD Shakespeare Festival), Romeo & Juliet, Much Ado About Nothing, A Comedy of Errors, A Midsummer Night's Dream (Bard Shakespeare Company), Playwright's Center, among others. He received his training at Gustavus Adolphus College, GRSF Actor Apprenticeship, Theater Mu Institute, Remedios Creative, Encompass Collective NYC, The Celebration Barn Theater, and from a multitude of seasoned actors, directors, and playwrights. Proud member of AEA.

www.claymansoo.com

Keanna Alex Pye is a theatre major graduating this quarter. She is originally from Corona, California, and she is currently pursuing her passion for theater. UC San Diego Credits include: Queen Anne in The Three Musketeers (UC San Diego), Paige (Dinner is The Show), other credits include: Lil Inez in Hairspray (New Village Arts), Swing/ Wendla understudy in Spring Awakening (San Diego City College), Goldie in The Diviners (Riverside City College), and Ensemble in Grease (Riverside City College). (She/her) Instagram @keanna_alexis

CAST CONT.

Understudies:

Xiwen Xie is a first-year human biology major. UC San Diego credits: *The Three Musketeers* (Bonacieux), *People, Places, and Things* (AD).

Saranya Vohra is a third-year neurobiology major with a minor in theatre. This is her first show at UC San Diego and she is very excited and grateful to be part of it.

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CREATIVE TEAM

Maricela Alaniz is a second-year MFA student who has a particular interest in integrating technical and imaginative elements to create visually dynamic productions. Recent work includes *The Wiz*, directed by Yvette Hartley, an original cast member of the 1970s Broadway production. UC San Diego credits: *The Three Musketeers* (Costume Designer), *People, Places, and Things* (Costume Designer), and *Baby Shower Katie* (Costume Designer). She will next design *Hairspray* at New Village Arts. She has BFA in theatre design from The University of Kansas. maricelaalaniz.com

Nataly Cenicerros is a second-year MFA sound design student at UC San Diego. UC San Diego credits: *Vinegar Tom*, *The Rogues Trial*, *Baby Shower Katie*, *Refuse It: A Black Woman's Guide to 21st Century Rage*, *One Flea Spare*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Julius Caesar*, and *Someone North Loves You*. She received her BA in Theatre, Film, and Digital Production from UC Riverside in 2024. Select design credits include: *Three Sisters* (UCR), *The Fundamentals* (UCI), and *Blues for an Alabama Sky* (MOXIE). (she/her)

CREATIVE TEAM CONT.

Mairead Lucke is a first-year theatre major. UC San Diego credits: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *POTUS*, *The Road to Tulsa*, and *Out There*.

Juliette Lin is a first-year art history major and theatre minor. Having lived in Shanghai for six years, she has a hunger for translated and transnational theatre. UC San Diego credits: *Without Country* (AD/ Dramaturg, Company 157), <3(AD/ Dramaturg, Company 157 & UCSD). (she/they)

Jake Olson is a second-year MFA designer. At UCSD he has designed *The Three Musketeers*, *One Flea Spare*, *Refuse It: A Black Woman's Guide to 21st Century Rage*. Recent credits include *The Music Man*, *Frozen*, *Ragtime*, and *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* with City Springs Theatre. He has currently been working as a design associate for Walt Disney Imagineering. Some of his favorite projects include the tours for artists Kane Brown, Noah Khan, and Lil Nas X. instagram: jeddylite // web: jakeolsondesign.com

Isaac Rosales is a second year Theatre Major. His role in this production has helped him expand his theatre experiences beyond acting and playwriting. UC San Diego credits: *Three Musketeers*, *Shattered Dreams (AC)*, Company 157's *In the Garden of Blame and Envy*, Company 157's *Without Country*.

Maliah Sing is a first year Theatre Major and is excited to be working in a department show! This production has given her so many great experiences with costuming and theatre. UC San Diego credits: *Dinner is The Show* (Costume Crew), Company 157's Winter New Play Festival: *Uncharted Territory* (Costume Designer) and *PLEASE HOLD* (Costume Designer), and *Without Country* (Trang).

CREATIVE TEAM *CONT.*

Ruolin Zhao is a second-year MFA sound design student at UC San Diego. Ruolin Zhao studied art and love theater from a young age, and since the age of 16, she has been studying stage art in Beijing, China, and at the age of 19, she entered the National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts to study stage lighting design. During her four years of college, she has participated in many original theater productions and set designs, as well as many theater festivals and large-scale commercial tours as a designer and stage technician. She wants to use theater to communicate with the world, and hopes to explore the infinite possibilities of stage creation from a multi-disciplinary perspective. Design credits include *Window, Peony Pavilion (National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts), Schrödinger's Legacy (Beijing Prism Theater Festival), 2025 Winter works (UC San Diego), Refuse it: A Black Woman's Guide to 21st Century Rage (UC San Diego), Baby shower Katie (UC San Diego), One flea spare (UC San Diego), The Three Musketeers (UC San Diego).*

Evelyn M. Mares Moreno is a senior at UC San Diego pursuing a major in Computer Engineering and a minor in Dance. UC San Diego Credits: Someone North Loves You (Sound Design Assistant), Fancy Jungle (Sound Design Assistant), The Three Musketeers (Sound Board). Her dance involvement in UCSD includes Brenda Estrada's New Direction piece Eleftheria (dancer) and Muir UnOlympics for the past 4 years (dancer and choreographer). (she/her)

STAGE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Meera David is a fourth-year transfer theatre major. UCSD Credits: The Three Musketeers (ASM), One Flea Spare (PA), One Acts: Dirty Martini/Nerve Endings (ASM), The Rogues Trial (PA), Vinegar Tom (deck crew). Other Credits: The Little Mermaid (co-technical designer, Chadwick School), Lost Girl (ASM, El Camino College), Merrily We Roll Along (Lightboard Operator, El Camino College), The Miracle Worker (ASM, El Camino College), Bang Bang You're Dead (ASM, El Camino College), Book of Days (Lightboard Operator, El Camino College), Amélie (Follow spot op, El Camino College), Everybody (Flyrail Operator, El Camino College), Taming of the Shrew (Lightboard Operator, El Camino College), Dear Harvey (Projections Operator), Spring Awakening (Stage/Props Crew, El Camino College)

STAGE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Ziyi Fang is a fourth-year business economics student with theatre and finance minors. UC San Diego credits: Julius Caesar (PSM), One Flea Spare (ASM), Refuse It: A Black Woman's Guide To 21st Century Rage (ASM), Gone Missing (ASM), Hedda Gabler (PA), 809 Almond (ASM). Selected credits: Stereoscopic (PSM), Her Rage (Hollywood Fringe Theatre Festival, PSM).

Natalie Kenyon is a second-year theatre major and studio art minor. Her UCSD Credits include Much Ado About Nothing (ASM), Dinner Is The Show (Prop Designer, Wagner Lab), WNPF One Acts: Dirty Martini & Nerve Endings (ASM), Honor the Thief (ASM, Company 157), Footloose the Musical (ASM, Muir Musical).

Ellie Kim is a first-year theatre major and sociocultural anthropology minor. UCSD Credits: New Directions '26 (ASM), Uncharted Territory (PSM, Company 157), <3 (ASM, UCSD & Company 157), POTUS (Margaret, Wagner Lab) (she/her)

Tyler Martinez is a second year theatre major excited to be on the other side of the table for this production. UCSD Credits: *Julius Caesar*, *Gone Missing*, *She Loves Me*, *Nerve Endings*. Regional Credits: *Rent* (New Village Arts), *Merrily We Roll Along* (SDMT). *Select Credits: A Funny Thing Happened...*, *Head Over Heels* (Lincoln Theatre Guild). You can see Tyler on stage later this year in the regional premiere of *Dear Evan Hansen* at Cygnet Theatre. @tyla.martinez

Karina Ortega (she/her) is a stage manager based in San Diego, CA. She received her MFA in Stage Management from UCSD in 2024. UC San Diego credits: *Winter Works* (2025), *blu*, *Take a Message from Me: Little Amal*, *Pia's Wonderous Adventures in Tlaxlandia*, *Hells Canyon*, *Napoli*, *Men on Boats*. She's also worked extensively with The Old Globe, La Jolla Playhouse, Diversionary Theatre, Cygnet Theatre, Moxie Theatre, and El Paso Opera. She has also worked as a deck manager and show caller for live events with Show Imaging, INC.

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