SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE
AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GARY + DANA SHAPIRO PRESENT

WATER BY THE SPOONFUL

BY QUIARA ALEGRÍA HUDES
DIRECTED BY DENISE BLASOR
STILL TO COME IN OUR 2021-2022 SEASON

THE PAPER DREAMS OF HARRY CHIN
BY JESSICA HUANG

MAY 4 – JUNE 18 | THE PAPER DREAMS OF HARRY CHIN BY JESSICA HUANG
A gripping drama based on the true story of an immigrant who skirted the Chinese Exclusion Act.

FOLLIES

JUNE 30 - SEP 10 | FOLLIES BOOK: JAMES GOLDMAN • MUSIC & LYRICS: STEPHEN SONDHEIM
Winner of seven Tony Awards and perhaps the greatest musical ever.

SFPLAYHOUSE.ORG/SUBSCRIBE
FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

In our pandemic-devastated world, the prophetic Pulitzer winner *Water by the Spoonful* by Quiara Alegria Hudes seems even more relevant now than when she penned it. The fracturing of our traditional community and family bonds that was rampant a decade ago has snowballed into the dispiriting dissolution of culture and world we face today. Where do we feel safe? To what do we belong? As we search around us for something to cling to, this brilliant play tenderly raises its hand.

Ms. Hudes has raised her acute antennae up into the storm to pull down an eternally hopeful truth. We humans will somehow always find a way. A way to connect, a way to belong, a way to give, to sustain, and to enjoy life. *Water by the Spoonful* proves that although our biological families and cultural institutions may fail to support us, we will heroically find those who choose to love and invest in us. Stretching like a comforting blanket around our globe, online communities step into the gap created by forced separation, and the seven magnificent protagonists of *Spoonful* build themselves a family out of the rubble of their damaged lives. They build a home out of shared pain and understood experience. They harness their yearning for companionship to forge real bonds across cyberspace. They battle their addiction by banding together. They reach across thousands of miles to give and receive love, and they nurture their parched spirits with drops of digital moisture. How could such a miracle even be possible? How could these particular addicts cast nets into the void of the digital universe and find like spirits, the only ones among the billions who could understand them precisely?

As innovative and resourceful as we at San Francisco Playhouse strove to be during the worst of the pandemic, putting on weekly Zoomlets and six filmed productions that you all were able to share at home, how relieved we were when, separated by two seats per party, masked and tested, we were finally able to gather again in person. As the characters in this play prove in their courageous odyssey across thousands of miles of actual space, we ultimately must come together and build community, in theatre and in life, one spoonful at a time.

Bill English
artistic director
PRODUCERS
Gary + Dana Shapiro
executive producers
Clay Foundation - West
producer
Bill English
+ Susi Damilano
Keith Goldstein
+ Donna N. Warrington
William J. Gregory
Diarmuid Russell
+ Heather Podruchny
associate producers

ARTISTIC UNDERWRITERS
Krystyna Finlayson
direction
John Steinfirst
+ Sharon Collins
scenic design
Adrienne Hirt
+ Jeffrey Rodman
costume design
Yvonne + Gary Goddard
lighting design
Betty + Jack Schafer
sound design
Marcy Taylor Pattinson
properties design

SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE
and executive producers
GARY + DANA SHAPIRO
present
WATER BY THE SPOONFUL
by Quiara Alegría Hudes

CAST
[ IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER ]
Elliot Ortiz .....................................................Xander DeAngeles*
Fountainhead .....................................................Ben Euphrat*
Chutes&Ladders ..................................................Dorian Lockett*
Yazmin Ortiz ......................................................Lara Maria*
Odessa Ortiz aka Haikumom ................................Lisa Ramirez*
A Ghost, Professor Aman, Policeman ..........................Salim Razawi
Orangutan ................................................................Sango Tajima

[ UNDERSTUDIES ]
Elliot Ortiz ..........................................................Caleb Cabrera
Orangutan ..........................................................Zoe Chien
Yazmin Ortiz, Odessa Ortiz aka Haikumom ..................Elena Estér
Chutes&Ladders ..................................................Norman Gee*
Fountainhead ........................................................Adam KuveNiemann
Fight Captain ....................................................Xander DeAngeles*


* Member of Actors’ Equity Association. This theater operates
under an agreement with Actors’ Equity Association, the Union
of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

Water by the Spoonful was originally commissioned by
Hartford Stage through the AETNA New Voices Fellowship Program.
Michael Wilson, Artistic Director | Michael Stotts, Managing Director
World premiere production presented by
Hartford Stage on October 28, 2011.
Darko Tresnjak, Artistic Director | Michael Stotts, Managing Director
Carole Rothman, Artistic Director

Water by the Spoonful is presented by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York | dramatists.com

PERFORMANCE DATES: March 16 to April 23, 2022
SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE, 450 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
The performance lasts approximately two hours.
There is one intermission.

Please note the location of all exits and turn off your electronic devices.
Please respect the audience and the performers on stage. Photographing,
videotaping, or recording this production is strictly prohibited.
Food and drink are not permitted in the auditorium at this time.
CREATIVE TEAM

Director ................................................................. Denise Blasor
Scenic Designer .......................................................... Catalina Niño
Costume Designer ..................................................... Marisely Cortés Fonseca
Lighting Designer ....................................................... Stephanie Anne Johnson
Sound Designer .......................................................... Teddy Hulsker
Projections Designer ..................................................... Teddy Hulsker
Properties Designer ....................................................... Stephanie Dittbern
Fight Choreographer ........................................ Xander DeAngeles*
Stage Manager ........................................................... Louel Señores*
Production Assistant .................................................. Kamaria Atiba
Production Assistant .................................................. Nicole Brown

PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager .................................................... Angela Knutson
Assistant Production Manager ...................................... Elizabeth Newton
Technical Director ........................................................ Tish Leung
Master Electrician ....................................................... Liz Kreter-Killian
Electricians ............................................................... Tristan Fabiunke, Colin Johnson, Charis Lam, Ruben Markowitz, Ashley Munday, Corey Schaeffer, Krys Swan, Logan Vincent, Landon Watkins
Sound Engineer .......................................................... Taylor Gonzalez
Light Board Programmer ............................................... Corey Schaeffer
Master Carpenter & Shop Foreman ............................... Lance O’Dell
Staff Carpenter ............................................................ Gabriel Martinez
Carpenters ................................................................. Keith Burkland, Evele Darrochin, Xander DeAngeles, Trevor Gordon, Josh Graves, Colin Johnson, Adam Uribe
Scenic Artist ............................................................... Heather Kenyon
Costume & Properties Supervisor ............................... Stephanie Dittbern

SPECIAL THANKS: Actors’ Equity Association, Tristan Cameron, Danya El-Kurd, Natalie Finander, and the staff of the Kensington Park Hotel.

MISSION

Our mission is to share stories that uplift spirits, deepen self-awareness, and nurture compassionate community.

Our theater is an Empathy Gym where we come to practice our powers of compassion. Here, safe in the dark, we can risk sharing in the lives of the characters. We feel what they feel, fear what they fear, and love what they love, and as we walk through our doors we take with us greater powers of understanding to make our community a better place, one play at a time.

LAND

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather belongs to the Ohlone people of past, present and future, whose homelands extend from Big Sur to the San Francisco Bay Area. We recognize that every member of the Bay Area community has, and continues to benefit from, the use and occupation of this land. We recognize that the Ohlone people are alive and flourishing members of the Bay Area communities today. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, work, and learn on their land.

Please visit sfplayhouse.org/edi for more information.
STAFF

Founder & Artistic Director ........................................... Bill English
Founder & Producing Director ........................................ Susi Damilano
Production Manager ................................................... Angela Knutson
General Manager ..................................................... Danika Ingraham
Marketing Director .................................................... Donny Gilliland
Technical Director ..................................................... Tish Leung
Development Director ................................................ Tiitu Eva Rebane
Associate Director of Development ......................... Gelareh Esfahani
Casting Directors ......................................................... Laura Espino
                                          Dori Jacob
Marketing & Casting Associate, EDI Lead ................. Wera von Wulfen
Assistant Production Manager ....................................... Elizabeth Newton
Associate Artistic Director ........................................ Marie-Claire Erdynast
Accounting Manager ................................................. Jennifer Moog
Audience Development Manager ..................................... Q Miller
Rising Stars Coordinator ........................................... Lindsay Sporleder
Development Associate .............................................. Madeline DeNofio
Development Data Analyst ........................................... Nastaran Nazarian
Operations Associate ................................................ Juliet Hicks
Box Office Manager .................................................... Alexia Staniotes
Front of House Lead ................................................... Juliet Hicks
Concessions Lead ....................................................... Michael Cazares
Box Office Associate ................................................... Kyziah Shavers
Front of House Associates .......................................... Kamaria Atiba
                                          Nicole Brown
                                          Jim McCunn
                                          Sam Vernick
                                          Tori Leung
Facilities Coordinators .............................................. Trevor Gordon
                                          Adam Uribe
Artistic Intern ........................................................ Tristan Cameron
Dramaturgy Intern .................................................... Natalie Finander
COVID Compliance Officers .......................................... Kamaria Atiba
                                          Michael Cazares
                                          Stephanie Dittbern
                                          Keili Elliot
                                          Danika Ingraham
                                          Angela Knutson
                                          Ada May
                                          Elizabeth Newton
                                          Alexia Staniotes
Resident Playwright .................................................. Aaron Loeb
Production Photographer ........................................... Jessica Palopoli
Trailer Videographer ................................................ Adam Elder
Key Art Designer ......................................................... Lena Semenkov
Publicist ............................................................... Brian McWilliams
BIOGRAPHIES

LGBTQ Unbordered International Film Festival. Ben is a multi-instrumentalist as well, with his latest solo album Portrait of a Girl available wherever you can find music. beneuphrat.com

PRONOUNS: HE | HIM | HIS

DORIAN LOCKETT* CHUTES&LADDERS
Dorian is extremely happy to play with the Playhouse!! He is an Oakland native who has performed all over the Bay Area and abroad. “Have fun and enjoy the show!!!”

PRONOUNS: HE | HIM | HIS

LARA MARIA* YAZMIN ORTIZ
Lara is proud to make her San Francisco Playhouse debut. She is a graduate of New York University and has performed in theatre, on television, and in film, including, most recently, Murder in the First on TNT. Lara is thrilled to be back in the Bay Area, close to her hometown of Santa Cruz. She gives a special shout out to her dad and friends here for all their love and support. “Muito obrigada!”

PRONOUNS: SHE | HER | HERS

LISA RAMIREZ* ODESSA ORTIZ AKA HAIKUMOM
Lisa is a bi-coastal actor and playwright. Acting credits include Addressless (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater), The Watering Hole (Signature Theatre Company), Pas de Deux (lost my shoe) (TheatreWorks Silicon Valley), More Than Grapes (TheatreFIRST), Angels in America (Berkeley Repertory Theatre), The Convent (Rising Phoenix Repertory), Good Grief (Vineyard Theatre), A Streetcar Named Desire (Oakland Theater Project), Tell Hector I Miss Him (Atlantic Theater Company), To the Bone (Cherry Lane Theater), and more. Lisa recently performed a solo version of The Waste Land by T.S. Eliot in a drive-in theatre setting at Oakland Theater Project, marking the first union-approved live theatrical production in California, post pandemic. Her plays include Exit Cuckoo (nanny in motherland), Art of Memory, To the Bone, Pas de Deux (lost my shoe), Down Here Below, In the Mountains, More Than Grapes, sAiNt jOaN (burn/burn/burn), All Fall Down, and Book of Sand (a fairy tale). She is currently working on several pilots and film adaptations. Lisa is a recent member of the 2022 L.A. Writers’ Workshop at Center Theatre Group.

PRONOUNS: SHE | HER | HERS

SALIM RAZAWI A GHOST, PROFESSOR AMAN, POLICEMAN
Salim is an actor, director, and teaching artist based in the Bay Area. Previous credits include Disgraced (San Jose Stage Company) and Romeo in the educational tour of Romeo and Juliet (San Francisco Shakespeare Festival). In addition, he has performed with TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, Broadway by the Bay, Altarena Playhouse, Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre, Berkeley Playhouse, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, Bay Area Children’s Theatre, Tabard Theatre Company, the Livermore Shakespeare Festival, and the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. When not on stage, Salim serves as the casting director for Shotgun Players. He can also be seen on a featured TEDx talk. salimrazawi.com

PRONOUNS: HE | HIM | HIS

SANGO TAJIMA ORANGUTAN
Sango is a Japanese American performer and theatre maker based in the Bay Area. She is happy to return to the Playhouse after performing here in In Braunau as a part of the Sandbox Series. Recent acting credits include Metamorphoses

CAST

XANDER DEANGELES* ELLIOT ORTIZ, FIGHT CAPTAIN, FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER
Xander is thrilled to be part of the Playhouse family again. He is tremendously thankful for the opportunity to share this story. Despite performances along the West Coast from Orange County to Seattle, the Bay Area is his original home, with the debut of his work in productions such as Colossal, directed by Jon Tracy, and Sunday in the Park with George, directed by Bill English, here at the Playhouse. During the shutdown of the entertainment industry, Xander enjoyed the beauty of Washington state in his self-built tiny house on wheels and found job security as a journeyman carpenter on San Juan Island. He credits his craft to the many wise and talented instructors he studied with and the profound training at the University of California, Irvine, where he earned his MFA in acting. Xander gives devout love to family, friends, and his special dog, Jasper.

PRONOUNS: HE | HIM | HIS

BEN EUPHRAT* FOUNTAINHEAD
Ben is very excited to be back at the Playhouse, where he last performed in Ideation for both the San Francisco and New York runs. Other recent work includes Once (42nd Street Moon), Shakespeare in Love (Marin Theatre Company), and The Siegel (City Lights Theater Company). A man of many hats, Ben spent the lockdown video managing the digital season at TheatreFIRST. He also designed video, composed music, and was the editor for the feature films A Marriage and What’s in a Name, for which for which he won a best editor award from the Golden Deer, Manila Independent, and Indo-Malaysia film festivals, as well an exceptional merit award for editing from the

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PRONOUNS: HE | HIM | HIS

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(Berkeley Repertory Theatre and Guthrie Theater), *House of Joy* (California Shakespeare Theater), and *Elevada* (Shotgun Players). Sango has worked with Marin Theatre Company, Campo Santo, Magic Theatre, Cutting Ball Theater, Playwrights Foundation, Bay Area Children’s Theatre, and FaultLine Theater, and has performed on stages in Japan, China, Korea, and Israel. She is a two-time TBA Award finalist for her performances in *Metamorphoses* and *Shakespeare in Love* (Marin Theatre Company). Sango is a company member of Ferocious Lotus Theatre Company and former member of Ragged Wing Ensemble, both of whom have produced her work as a playwright. She recently received a TBA CASH Grant to write and perform her one-woman show, *skinship*, in collaboration with director Susannah Martin. She earned a BFA from the University of Michigan. [sangotajima.com](http://sangotajima.com)

**PRONOUNS:** SHE | HER | HERS

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**UNDERSTUDIES**

**CALEB CABRERA**

**U/S:** ELLIOT ORTIZ

Caleb is San Francisco based Chicano actor and pedicabber. Past credits include *Transfers* (Crowed Fire Theater), *Women Laughing Alone With Salad, The Events, Grand Concourse*, and *Hamlet* (Shotgun Players), *Performance in a Field* (San Francisco International Arts Festival), *The Eva Trilogy* (Magic Theatre), *My Mañana Comes* (Marin Theatre Company), *Into the Beautiful North* and *Totem and Taboo* (Central Works Theatre Company), and *Year of the Rooster* (Impact Theatre).

**ZOË CHIEN**

**U/S:** ORANGUTAN

Zoe earned a BFA in theatre from New York University Tisch School of the Arts. Her work includes theatre, film, television, commercial, voiceover, and print. Zoe is program associate at 3Girls Theatre Company. Past theatre collaborations include Theatre of Yugen, Left Coast Theatre Company, San Francisco Youth Theatre, and 3Girls Theatre Company. She feels lucky to be an actor in a time when so much art is being made in response to our social and political climate. As a woman of mixed race (Taiwanese and Italian American), Zoe is especially inspired by projects that celebrate women and diversity. She is proud to work with the Playhouse in her understudy role as Orangutan in *Water by the Spoonful*. [@thezoechien | zoechien.com](http://zoechien.com)

**PRONOUNS:** SHE | HER | HERS

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**ELENA ESTÉR**

**U/S:** YAZMIN ORTIZ, ODESSA ORTIZ AKA HAIKUMOM

Elena is thrilled to be part of this production. She is an Andean woman who happened to be born on Paumanok. Just before the pandemic shut everything down, Elena was playing Yinoelle in the world premiere of *Don’t Eat the Mangos* by Ricardo Peréz González at Magic Theatre. She also acted in three productions for La Lengua Teatro en Español including *Beben* directed by Leyma López of Repertorio Español. Other favorite roles include Olivia in the TBA Recommended production of *Ageless* (Quantum Dragon Theatre), Carla in *In the Heights* (Custom Made Theatre Co.), and Veronica in *The Motherfucker with the Hat*. Elena was awarded Best Actress by three film festivals for her leading role in the independent film *My Culture*. She studies dance and is a champion salsa dancer and instructor. Passionate about languages, this multi-lingual actress is reacquiring her native language Quechua and also speaks Spanish, English, Portuguese, French, basic Mandarin, and just beginning German.

**NORMAN GEE**

**U/S:** CHUTES&LADDERS

Norman most recently performed in *Great Expectations* at San Jose Stage Company and understudied for *Pericles* with the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival last summer. He has worked with Word for Word Performing Arts Company, Aurora Theatre Company, Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, Shotgun Players, Central Works Theater Company, Perspective Theatre Company and the Oakland Theater Project. He regularly directs for PlayGround and is currently developing *The Baldwin Centennial Project* with his company, the Oakland Public Theater.

**ADAM KUVENIEMANN**

**U/S:** FOUNTAINHEAD

Adam most recently acted here in *The Great Khan*. Other credits include *Exit Strategy* (Aurora Theatre Company), *Arcadia* (Shotgun Players), *The Gentleman*
**Author**

QUIARA ALEGRÍA HUDES

PLAYWRIGHT

Quiara is the author of a trilogy of plays including *Elliot, A Soldier’s Fugue* (2006), *Water by the Spoonful* (2011), and *The Happiest Song Plays Last* (2012). *Elliot, a Soldier’s Fugue* premiered Off-Off Broadway by Page 73 Productions and was a finalist for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. *Water by the Spoonful* premiered at Hartford Stage Company and won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. *The Happiest Song Plays Last* premiered Off-Off Broadway by Page 73 Productions and was a finalist for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Quiara wrote the book for the Broadway musical *In the Heights*, which received the 2008 Tony Award for Best Musical, a Tony nomination for Best Book of a Musical, and was a 2009 Pulitzer Prize finalist. Other works include the plays *26 Miles* and *Yemaya’s Belly* and the children’s musical *Barrio Grrrl!* Quiara grew up in West Philadelphia where she studied music with Don Rappaport, Dolly Kranzapolski, and Linda Hudes. She was later mentored by playwright Paula Vogel at Brown University. Quiara is an alumna of New Dramatists and sits on the board of Philadelphia Young Playwrights, which produced her first play in the tenth grade. She now lives in New York with her husband and daughter. quiara.com

**CREATIVE TEAM**

**DENISE BLASOR**

DIRECTOR

Denise is a Puerto Rican actress, director, writer, designer, was artistic director of LADiversified Theater Company, and is currently associate artistic director of the Bilingual Foundation of the Arts (BFA). She has directed in Los Angeles for over twenty-five years. Some of her favorites include the revival of *Fefu and Her Friends* by Irene Fornes (Odyssey Theatre), *The House of Bernarda Alba* (Barnsdall Gallery Theater) and *Blood Wedding* (Bilingual Foundation of the Arts), various California productions of *Wild in Wichita*, *Marisol* (USC School of Dramatic Arts), the multimedia work *Tormenta Omnis* in collaboration with artist Gronk (Craft & Folk Museum), and the Passion play *Cristo Vive* (Orpheum Theatre, Los Angeles). She directed the political musical film *Calle de la Resistencia* which has been presented at film festivals for the past year and will be opening in Puerto Rico this spring. She also created the podcast *Cristo Vive, El Podcast* in both Spanish and English, which recently won a Revelation of the Year award at the 2021 Latin Podcast Awards. She is now in production for English versions of *Tonantzin Guadalupe* and *Twelve Children Stories* for Guadalupe Radio. Denise has performed extensively on stage as an actress, most recently in *The Abuelas* by Stephanie A. Walker (Antaeus Theatre) and in *The Madres* (*Skylight Theatre* and *Teatro Vista*). World premieres include *Juana La Loca* by Miguel Sabido, *June in a Box* by Octavio Solis, *Heart Song* (*Fountain Theatre*), *Ten Tiny Love Stories* directed by Luis Alfaro, *Los Muertos* by Neil McNeil, *Wild in Wichita* by Lina Gallegos, *Dark and Beyond* *Dark* directed by Ron Sossi. Film and television credits include Antonia in *A Place Among the Dead* directed by Juliet Landau, Felicidad Noriega in *Noriega: God’s Favorite* with Bob Hoskins, Yerma in *Death in Granada* with Andy Garcia as Lorca, and *Huella* directed by her former student Gabriela Ortega which debuted at Tribeca and this year at Sundance. Recurring roles include Doña Rosa in *Snowfall* and Rosa in *Home for Mom, The Musical.*

**KAMARIA ATIBA**

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT, COVID COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Kamaria started at the Playhouse as a stage management intern in 2018, moving on to production assistant roles. She has also worked as a sound assistant, a lighting crew member, an Equity assistant stage manager, and most recently a front-of-house manager and COVID compliance officer.
NICOLE BROWN
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Nicole is delighted to find her way back home to her people! She has participated as an actor with the Prospect Theater Project, and as a member of the improvisational group at Pan Theater. Nicole is currently working towards stand-up comedy – “the play’s the thing.”

STEPHANIE DITTBERN
PROPERTIES DESIGNER, COSTUME & PROPERTIES SUPERVISOR, COVID COMPLIANCE OFFICER
Stephanie has designed properties and costumes for the Sandbox Series here at the Playhouse, and for The Breadbox, Cutting Ball Theater, EXIT Theatre, and Custom Made Theatre Co. Favorite credits include costumes for Vampire Christmas (EXIT Theatre) and properties for Timon of Athens (Cutting Ball Theater), Isaac’s Eye, Kurt Vonnegut’s Mother Night, and Tenderella: the modern musical (Custom Made Theatre Co.), and A White Girl’s Guide to International Terrorism and The Daughters (Sandbox Series at San Francisco Playhouse). She has been kicking it at the Playhouse as wardrobe assistant since 2015, occasionally moonlighting as a production assistant as she did on Seared, La Cage aux Folles, and Sunday in the Park with George. She earned an AS in theatre costuming from Cañada College and a BA in theatre design and technology from Plymouth State University.

PRONOUNS: SHE | HER | HERS

MARISELY CORTÉS FONSECA
COSTUME DESIGNER
Marisely is a freelance costume designer. She graduated with an MFA in costume design from the Academy of Art University in 2020. In 2014, she earned a BA in psychology with a minor in art history from the University of Puerto Rico. Theatre credits include Elliot, a Soldier’s Fugue and Under Milk Wood (Pear Theatre), The Pirates of Penzance (University of California, Santa Cruz), Hot Mikado (42nd Street Moon), and Fahrenheit 451 (Quantum Dragon Theatre). As a costume designer, she has collaborated with other students across different majors such as motion picture, television, and acting by taking part in short films.

PRONOUNS: SHE | HER | HERS

TEDDY HULSKER
SOUND DESIGNER, PROJECTIONS DESIGNER
Teddy is a San Francisco Bay Area based multidisciplinary theatre artist specializing in sound and projection design. Recent design credits include Art (San Francisco Playhouse), Rime of the Ancient Mariner (Word for Word Performing Arts Company), Eureka Day (Aurora Theatre Company), and Love (Marin Theatre Company). He received the Landsman Fellowship for Emerging Designer in 2012 and has been awarded San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle awards for sound design on Warplay (New Conservatory Theatre Center) and Jesus Christ Superstar (Ray of Light Theatre) and for projection design on Sunday in the Park with George (San Francisco Playhouse).

In addition to his theatre design work Teddy has created original installations and performances in San Francisco, Oakland, Berlin, New York, Detroit, and Los Angeles. Teddy also runs after school Dungeons and Dragons camps for children, teens, and families.

PRONOUNS: HE | HIM | HIS

CATALINA NIÑO
SCENIC DESIGNER
Catalina grew up in Bogotá, Colombia. She studied in France where she earned a BA in arts plastiques and then relocated to the Bay Area where she received an MFA in set design from San Francisco State University. In the Bay Area, Catalina worked as a scenic designer for several theatres including Berkeley Playhouse, San Francisco Playhouse, Los Altos Stage Company, CMT San José, Impact Theatre, and Custom Made Theatre Co. She lives in the Chicago area and is happy to be back in San Francisco for this production.

PRONOUNS: SHE | HER | HERS

LOUEL SEÑORES*
STAGE MANAGER
Loul is both surprised and absolutely ecstatic to be working with the Playhouse for the first time! He is an actor and stage manager based in Berkeley. Recent credits include acting in The Act of Care (The Chikahan Company) and How to Transcend a Happy Marriage (Custom Made Theatre Co.), and stage management for Balikbayan Box (TheatreFIRST). Louel is a proud company member of PlayGround, and the resident script developer of Berkeley Interactive Theatre, which creates interactive, customizable EDI workshops for intact groups.

“Shout-out to my awesome roomie, David T, for all the pep-talks against impostor syndrome, and to all my
fellow Amtgarders and Juggers! Of all the things to become addicted to, I’m so lucky I landed on foam combat sports!” louelsenores.com

**PRODUCTION TEAM**

**ANGELA KNUTSON**
**PRODUCTION MANAGER, COVID COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

Angela is excited to be in her twelfth season with the Playhouse. She has recently taken on a production management position overseeing the new world of filmed productions and is so grateful for all the opportunities the Playhouse has opened up for her. Angela also works closely with the Westlake School for the Performing Arts, where she discovered her love of performing arts.

**PRODUCER**

**PRONOUNS: SHE | HER | HERS**

**TISH LEUNG**
**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

Tish has been building productions for Bay Area theatre companies since 2001. This is her first season as technical director at the Playhouse, after previously serving as assistant technical director for seven years. Tish is also technical director for the Sandbox Series. In the strange new ventures of pandemic theatre, she pulled out some previous experience with independent film and video crews as well as photography.

**ELIZABETH NEWTON**
**ASSISTANT PRODUCTION MANAGER, COVID COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

Elizabeth is originally from Chico and works as assistant production manager and operations associate at the Playhouse. She graduated from Saint Mary’s College with degrees in accounting and technical theatre and served as stage manager on many productions at the Playhouse. She is very excited to share this experience with the cast and crew.

**PRODUCTION STAFF**

**SUSI DAMILANO**
**FOUNDER, PRODUCING DIRECTOR**

Susi is co-founder and producing director of the Playhouse. She is a five-time recipient of the Excellence in Theatre Award for Principal Actress in a Play from the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle for the Playhouse productions of *Abigail’s Party*, *Harper Regan*, *Bug*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, and *Reckless*. Susi has also performed leading roles here in *Yoga Play*, *The Effect*, *The Roommate*, *Red Velvet*, *Tree*, *Bauer*, *Abigail’s Party*, *Harper Regan*, *Coraline*, *Slasher*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*, *Landscape of the Body*, *First Person Shooter*, *Jesus Hopped the ‘A’ Train*, *The Crucible*, *Kimberly Akimbo*, *Our Town*, and *The Smell of the Kill*. Directing credits include Playhouse productions of *Groundhog Day the Musical*, *Cabaret*, *Mary Poppins*, *Noises Off*, *She Loves Me*, *Stage Kiss*, *Company*, *Stupid Fucking Bird*, *Into the Woods*, *A Behanding in Spokane*, *Den of Thieves*, and *Wirehead* (SFBATCC nomination), the West Coast premieres of *Honey Brown Eyes* (SFBATCC nomination), *Dead Man’s Cell Phone*, *Coronado*, *The Mystery Plays*, and *Roulette*, and the world premieres of *On Clover Road* by Steven Dietz, *From Red to Black* by Rhett Rossi, and *Seven Days* by Daniel Heath in the Sandbox Series.

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**BILL ENGLISH**
**FOUNDER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

Bill English is the co-founder and artistic director of the Playhouse. In fifteen years with Susi Damilano, he has guided its growth from a barebones storefront to the second-largest nonprofit theatre company in San Francisco. Bill designed our first theater space at 536 Sutter Street and personally reconfigured our current space from a barn-like 700-seat hall into the current gracious and intimate 199-seat venue. Along the way, he has served as director, actor, scenic designer, and sound designer, winning San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle nominations or awards in each of those categories. Bill is also an accomplished musician and builder. Milestone accomplishments include bringing Pulitzer Prize-winner Stephen Adly Guirgis to the Bay Area by directing three of his plays, commissioning twelve playwrights including Theresa Rebeck, Aaron Loeb, Lauren Gunderson, Lauren Yee, and Christopher Chen, and developing world premieres from workshops to Sandbox Series to Mainstage Season to Off-Broadway (including the Off-Broadway transfers of *Ideation* and *Bauer*), and presenting the very first production of *Grounded* by George Brant which later played at the Public Theater. He coined the phrase “the empathy gym” and it drives everything at the Playhouse.

**DANIKA INGRAHAM**
**GENERAL MANAGER, COVID COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

Danika is an artist and passionate advocate for inclusion and diversity in the performing arts. She takes pride in helping to shape organizational cultures where all people feel valued and seen. In previous managerial roles, Danika has established inclusive practices in the workplace and instituted policies to ensure the safety of all staff members. She has worn many hats including producing, budget management, theatre tech, and everything in between. Danika recently became a certified COVID compliance officer to oversee and implement the safety program at the Playhouse.
The **SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE** was founded in 2003 and is the only mid-sized professional theatre in downtown San Francisco, an intimate alternative to the larger, more traditional theaters. Presenting a diverse range of plays and musicals, the Playhouse produces new works as well as reimagined classics, “making the edgy accessible and the accessible edgy.” Its bold San Francisco Playhouse Sandbox Series – the only subscription series in the Bay Area devoted solely to presenting world premieres – is dedicated to nurturing new playwrights beyond readings. There is also a commitment to more in-depth work through individual commissions, including plays by Theresa Rebeck, Steve Yockey, Christopher Chen, Lauren Gunderson, and Aaron Loeb. The Playhouse has developed, presented, and transferred three world premieres to New York. Gunderson’s *Bauer* and Loeb’s *Ideation* opened Off-Broadway, and Loeb’s *Abraham Lincoln’s Big, Gay Dance Party* won the best of New York International Fringe Festival. Their commitment to new works in the San Francisco Playhouse Sandbox Series has been honored by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Theatre Wing. The Playhouse secured their two highest-profile commissions to date: *Seared* by Theresa Rebeck, which opened the 2016-2017 Mainstage Season and was nominated for ten San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle awards, and *You Mean to Do Me Harm* by Christopher Chen, winner of the Lanford Wilson Award from the Dramatists Guild of America in 2016. Works developed by the Playhouse have gone on to receive regional and national acclaim. Yockey’s *Pluto* – a Playhouse commission – was named a National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere. George Brant’s *Grounded* – a Playhouse premiere – was produced at the Public Theater starring Anne Hathaway and directed by Julie Taymor in 2015, and Loeb’s *Abraham Lincoln’s Big, Gay Dance Party* has received productions from Birmingham to Off-Broadway.

Founded in 1913, **ACTORS’ EQUITY ASSOCIATION** is the US labor union that represents more than 50,000 actors and stage managers. Equity seeks to foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages and working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors’ Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. **actorsequity.org**

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ASSASSINS
Stephen Sondheim’s dark treatise on fame, politics, and murder from the revival by Classic Stage Company. (broadwayrecords.com)

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Original music from the National Theatre production by Nuybia Brandon and Ruffy Bushman. (broadwayrecords.com)

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Walter Caspel Teufel Jr.
Uluani Foundation

Linda Brewer
Lynn + Jim Bramlett
Audrey + Dick Bojack
Cynthia + David Bogolub
Sandra Blair + Carol Cohen
David + Michele Benjamin
Joseph Belanoff
Katharine Beckwith
Claire Axelrad
Christina + Gina
+ Raymond Banks
Katharine Beckwith
Joseph Belanoff
+ Katherine Blenko
David + Michele Benjamin
Sandra Blair + Carol Cohen
Cynthia + David Bogolub
Audrey + Dick Bojack
Lynn + Jim Bramlett
Linda Brewer

Wayne Bryan
+ Dick Bufania
Nina Buthee
Dr. Paula Campbell
Libi + Ronald Cape
Fred Caspersen
Karlin + Steven Chase
Andre Chenoweth
Lily Chow
Nancy Clark
+ Melissa Brown
+ Evelyn Manies
+ Randall Bowman,
  In honor of Anne Paine
Sharon + Dennis Clisham
Bruce Colman
Katherine Conklin
Walter + Barbara Connolly
Elizabeth Corcoran
+ George Anders
Suzanne Cross
+ John Simpson
Elizabeth De Renzy
Isabelle Dokouzian
Ann Dye,
  In memory of Helen E. Gallagher
Masha Farber, TheaterGames
Paul Feasby
Mary + Tom Field
Mary + Tom Foote
Jeff Gaines + John Griffin
Keith Goldstein
+ Donna Warrington
Ron Goodman
+ Richard Leadbetter
Gale Gottlieb
Karen Grassle
Will Green
Elizabeth Groenewegen
Ernest Grossman
James Heiman
+ Josephine Bellacomo
Betty Hoener,
  In memory of Juanita Mae
Matthew Houston
+ Sophie-Charlotte Moatti
Carole A. Hughes
Mr. Robert Hulteng
Daniel + Debra Hunter
Bob + Margaret Ippolito
Linda Romley Irvine
+ Perry Irvine
Flora Lyn Isaacsen
Brian + Joanie Johnson
Catharine + John Kalin
Fred Karren,
  In loving memory of Beth Karren
Leslie Karren
Ken + Susan Kawaichi

Damien Keller
+ James Sokol
John Kelley
Daniel + Susan Kocher
Susan Kolb
Bob + Marilyn Krieger
Astrid Lacitis
Nancy Larson
Susan Ledford
David + Colleen Leof
Ann Ludwig + Joe Short
Steven + Erin Lurie
Alan Mattacola,
  In loving memory of Emile Reyes
Craig + Lorraine Mautner
William + Janet McAllister
Gregory + Karin McClune
Kate Miller
Rob Mitchell + Jaime Caban
Ted Mitchell
+ Tanya Slesnick
Bill + Ursula Moffett
Linda Montgomery
+ Roy Hahn
Craig Moody
Sharon + Samuel Muir
Henry Navas
+ Deborah Robins
John O’Grady
Marcy Taylor Pattinson
Jeffrey Pfeffer
+ The Late
  Kathleen F. Fowler
Tim + Lyn Potter
Susannah Raub
The Eddie Reynolds
  & Hernán Correa
Family Fund
Sandy Robbins
Barbara + Saul Rockman
Dan Rolleri
Joan Rost,
  In memory of Clayton Rost
Arthur + Lois Roth
George Lucas
+ Tom Rothgeisser
Diarmuid Russel
+ Heather Podruchny
Bill + Julie Ryan
Ursula Schorn
+ Richard Andersen
Margaret Skornia,
  In memory of Nancy Blair
Gregory Sterling
+ Ginger Withers
Britt + Susie Stitt
Cris + Lorna Strotz
Karen Sullivan
+ Ken Mitchell
Carol Sundell

Dr. Daniel Tanita
Nancy Thompson
+ Andy Kerr
Henry Timnick
The Tremmel Family
David + Marcia Vastine
Mary Wais
Beth Weissman
Elizabeth Werter
+ Henry Trevor
Linda Whalen
Dan Wong
Karissa Wong,
  In memory of Lyndon Wong

[ $10,000+ ]
Ginger + Moshe Alafi
C.J. David Davies
+ Ama Torrance
The Fleishhacker
Foundation
Helen E. Land
Jackie + Richard Mayer
Dana + Gary Shapiro
Andrew Teufel
Rowland Weinstein


[ $5,000+ ]
K.M. Gahagan
Robert + Jan Ginsberg
William J. Gregory
Betty + Cliff Nakamoto
Jeff Rodman
+ Adrienne Hirt
Phyllis + Jerry Rosenberg
George Sarlo Foundation
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[ $1,000+ ]
Kedar Adour
Karin Albright
Cynnie Anderson
+ Jerry Rampelberg
Paul Asente + Ron Jenks
Nancy K Austin
+ Bill Cawley
Claire Axelrad
Christina + Gina
+ Raymond Banks
Katharine Beckwith
Joseph Belanoff
+ Katherine Blenko
David + Michele Benjamin
Sandra Blair + Carol Cohen
Cynthia + David Bogolub
Audrey + Dick Bojack
Lynn + Jim Bramlett
Linda Brewer

Wayne Bryan
+ Dick Bufania
Nina Buthee
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Mary Wais
Beth Weissman
Elizabeth Werter
+ Henry Trevor
Linda Whalen
Dan Wong
Karissa Wong,
  In memory of Lyndon Wong

[ UNDER $1,000 ]
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Kellen Brenner
Ernest Bryson
Peter Cannon
Joy Carlin
Tom Driscoll
+ Nancy Quinn
Georgiana Evans
Gloria Galindo
Keith Gilbert
Todd Kaplan
Jeanne Killian
Keith + Karen Lee
Karen Leigh
Karen Loane,
  In honor of my dear friend Leslie Karren
Dexter + Kathie Lowry
Robert Mascola
+ Jennifer Kopec
Dennis + Karen May
Scott + Sharon Miller
Mabel Ng
Vicki Oswald
Nancy Ozsozomyan
Nancy Quinn
David Rachleff
Gordon + Susan Reetz
Arthur + Sheri Schmauder
Holly Shepard
Marlene Smith
Maureen Smith
Suesan Taylor
Barbara Wagner
Arlene Waksberg
+ Charles M. Clark
Jill Warren,
  In memory of Paul J. Warren
Michael Zarrella
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