



# THE BODY'S MIDNIGHT

APR 18-MAY 26

by Tira Palmquist

A WORLD PREMIERE CO-PRODUCTION WITH  
IAMA THEATRE COMPANY & BOSTON COURT PASADENA

**iama**  
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**BC** BOSTON COURT  
PASADENA.ORG

## COMMUNITY CODE OF CONDUCT

Welcome! We're so thrilled you've joined us.

We want you to have a great experience here. To that end, please help us uphold the below values before, during, and after our events:

Please feel free to greet each other and be present with your fellow audience members, while respecting boundaries and giving people space. Please do not assume anybody's ethnicity or race based on their appearance or ask people to identify their racial or ethnic background.

You, the audience, are integral to the storytelling on our stages and your reactions are essential. Please feel free to fully express what you are experiencing in the way that feels best to you, and please let others around you express themselves without interference.

We ask that you turn off your cell phones during performances to ensure that you and the people around you can be present and fully participate in the magic of live storytelling.

If you have a concern about a fellow audience member or about the performance, please address it to a member of our front of house team. Please do not approach your fellow audience members with your concerns or attempt to change their behavior yourself.

To keep it simple: **PLEASE BE KIND**. Thank you!

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### IAMA THEATRE COMPANY STAFF

**Stefanie Black**, Artistic Director  
**Cara Greene Epstein**, Executive Director  
**Lara Myrene**, Producing Director  
**Margaux Susi**, Associate Artistic Director -  
Artistic Development  
**Rodney To**, Associate Artistic Director -  
Ensemble Development  
**Celia Mandela Rivera**, Literary Manager  
**Laila Ayad**, Education & Development  
Associate Director  
**Quinn O'Connor**, Season Producer  
**Katharine Means**, Marketing & Creative  
Content Producer  
**Tom DeTrinis**, Director of the Ensemble  
**Nicholas Pilapil**, Emerging Playwrights Lab  
Program Director  
**Christian Durso**, Basecamp Director  
**Lucy Pollak**, Public Relations

### BOSTON COURT PASADENA STAFF

**Jessica Kubzansky**, Artistic Director  
**Manuel Prieto**, Executive Director  
**Margaret Shigeko Starbuck**, Associate  
Artistic Director  
**Adrian Centeno**, Literary Manager  
**Jesse Soto**, Technical Director &  
Facilities Manager  
**Hannah Trujillo**, Patron Services  
Manager  
**EmmaJo Spencer**, Administrative  
Associate  
**Jenny Cohn**, Marketing Consultant  
**Jade Cagalawan**, Grant Writer  
**Perla Barajas**, Literary Intern

## Welcome Theatre Lovers!

On behalf of IAMA Theatre Company and Boston Court Pasadena, we are thrilled to welcome you to IAMA and BCP's first co-production! As long-time admirers with great respect for each other's work and communities, we are tremendously excited to join forces as collaborators and share this moment with you, our audiences.

*The Body's Midnight* by Tira Palmquist marks Boston Court Pasadena's 39th and IAMA's 29th world premiere, and stands as a testament to our unwavering commitment to artistic evolution and community. From the writing to the design to the performances, this play vibrates with the kind of innovation, diversity, vitality, and spirit of adventure that is at the heart of both of our theatre companies.

In a world where change is the only constant, we are steadfast in our dedication to producing relevant programming and brightening the stage with narratives that explore the most pressing issues of today. With that in mind, we encourage you to stay for our "illuminations," post-show conversations that delve further into the themes that today's play touches upon. These conversations offer a chance to deepen connections, broaden perspectives, and explore our collective power to drive positive change in our world.

We hope this production inspires you to join us as a champion of both IAMA Theatre Company and Boston Court Pasadena. Along with our generous sponsors and benefactors, you too can join our mission to innovate in the American Theatre and bring essential new stories to life.

Enjoy the show.

### **CARA GREENE EPSTEIN**

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Executive Director,  
IAMA Theatre Company

### **MANUEL PRIETO**

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Executive Director,  
Boston Court Pasadena

## JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS!

### **SUN, APR 28**

Post-show illumination on Playwriting  
with Tira Palmquist

### **FRI, MAY 3**

Pre-show Art Upfront Reception

### **SUN, MAY 5**

Post-Show illumination on Directing/  
Design with Jessica Kubzansky

### **MON, MAY 6**

Caregiver Affinity Night  
& Post-show illumination on Caregiving

### **SAT, MAY 11**

ASL Interpreted Performance

### **SUN, MAY 12**

Mother's Day Affinity Day Celebration  
& post-show illumination on Acting

### **FRI, MAY 24**

Post-show illumination on Acting



## CAST BIOGRAPHIES



**KELIHER WALSH** (Anne) – Broadway: *Gardenia*, *The Singular Life of Albert Nobbs* (Manhattan Theatre Club), *Coastal Disturbances* (Circle In The Square); Off Broadway/Regional: *Breaking The Prairie Wolf Code* (American Place Theatre), *Living Quarters* (Vineyard Theatre), *Six Degrees Of Separation* (Old Globe), *The Tempest*, *Our Town*, *Eli*, *A Christmas Carol* (The Guthrie), *The Plow and the Stars*, *Scenes From American Life*, *Ah Wilderness* (Huntington Theatre), *Lady House Blues* (American Stage Festival), *Cult Of Love* (IAMA Theatre - member), *The Year Of The Rabbit* (EST/LA). (Writer/ Actor)... TV: *Nip/Tuck*, *Beverly Hills 90210*, *Thirtysomething*, *The Equalizer*, *Loving*, *All My Children*...Playwrighting: Jerome Fellow recipient; winner of the Kentucky Women's Writers' Conference.



**JONATHAN NICHOLS-NAVARRO** (David) – Recent stage work includes: *The Cuban Vote* and *Elián* (Miami New Drama), *The Play You Want* and *Nowhere on the Border* (The Road Theatre), *El Huracán* (Yale Rep), *The Year To Come* (La Jolla Playhouse). Others include: South Coast Rep, Seattle Rep, Hartford Stage, Lincoln Center, Old Globe Theatre, and The Acting Company. He's happy to be returning to Boston Court where he did *Seven Spots on the Sun*. Television guest stars: *Grey's Anatomy*, *Without a Trace*, *Friends*, *CSI*, *The West Wing*, *Judging Amy*, *Chicago Hope*, *NYPD Blue*, to name a few. Member of the Road Theatre. Training: The Juilliard School, NYC.



**SONAL SHAH** (Katie/Chorus 1) – Sonal is an award-winning actor from Chicago, NBC Diversity alum, Disney+ dev deal recipient, and one of the first South Asians on a network comedy (*Scrubs*). Film/TV: *Four Samosas* (Hulu), *Definition Please* (Netflix), *Superstore*, *New Girl*, *Young Sheldon*, *Powerpuff Girls*, *Mira Royal Detective*. Theatre: *Untitled Baby Play* (IAMA - Performance of The Year), *A Christmas Carol* (The Goodman), *Celestial Events* (IAMA - Outstanding Ensemble in Comedy), *Unopened* (YPP), *The Last Bohemian* (IAMA). Training: Loyola (BA Theatre), Second City, Moscow Art Theatre School at Harvard. Sonal directs/teaches at AOA Conservatory and John Rosenfeld Studios. She thanks her parents! @sonalshahofficial



**RYAN GARCIA** (Wolf/Chorus 2) – Ryan has been on stage in *Ava Gardner: The Secret Conversations* (Geffen Playhouse), *FOUND* (IAMA Theatre), *Species Native to California* (IAMA Theatre), *Ravenswood Manor* (Celebration Theatre), *Lottie Platchett Took a Hatchett* (Celebration Theatre & Edinburgh Fringe Festival). TV/Film: Ryan has guest starred on *Community*, *Rosewood*, Nickelodeon's *Side Hustle*, appeared as Sheriff Reyes in Jordan Peele's *NOPE*, and recurred as René Morales on *The Lincoln Lawyer*. He voices Ricardo in the animated feature *Fireheart*, and is currently recurring as a multitude of roles in the animated Nickelodeon series' *Big Nate*, *Super Duper Bunny League*, and *The Loud House Movie*. Instagram: @muchosgarcias



**MAURA VINCENT** (Anne-Understudy) – Selected theatre credits: *Measure for Measure*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Center Theatre Group), *God of Carnage*; *Dancing at Lughnasa* (La Mirada Theatre), *Noises Off!* (Pasadena Playhouse), *Wonderful World*, *Bright Ideas* (Laguna Playhouse), *Othello*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession* (ACT), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Romeo & Juliet*. Selected TV/ Film credits: *King of Queens*, *The Practice*, *Strong Medicine*, *Family Law*. Selected video games/podcasts/VO: *Don Q*, *Skyrim: Elder Scrolls*, *Grand Theft Auto*, *Masquerade*, *Mafia III*, *Fallen*, *Bioshock III*; *The Royals of Malibu*, *The Lost Prince*, & *Nikki's FX* as well as innumerable dubbings for Amazon, Netflix & others. For R & K...



IAMA THEATRE COMPANY

STEFANIE BLACK | CARA GREENE EPSTEIN  
Artistic Director Executive Director



BOSTON COURT PASADENA

JESSICA KUBZANSKY | MANUEL PRIETO  
Artistic Director Executive Director

PRESENT  
the world premiere of

# THE BODY'S MIDNIGHT

BY TIRA PALMQUIST  
DIRECTED BY JESSICA KUBZANSKY+

## TIME

The present, or close enough

## PLACE

The blue highways between California and parts east

## THE CAST

Anne: KELIHER WALSH\*\*  
Katie/Chorus 1: SONAL SHAH^

David: JONATHAN NICHOLS-NAVARRO\*  
Wolf/Chorus 2: RYAN GARCIA^

## UNDERSTUDIES

For Anne: MAURA VINCENT\*  
For Katie/Chorus 1: MELISSA ORTIZ\*

For David: LEANDRO CANO\*  
For Wolf/Chorus 2: JON GENTRY\*

## THE TEAM

Scenic Design  
NICHOLAS PONTING

Costume Design  
MYLETTE NORA

Lighting Design  
BENEDICT CONRAN

Sound Design/Composition  
JOHN ZALEWSKI

Video/Projections Design  
DAVID MURAKAMI

Assoc. Video/Projections Design  
SAM CLEVINGER

Props Design  
CINDY CAMPOS

Casting Director  
JULIA FLORES

Dramaturg  
ADRIAN CENTENO

Intimacy Director  
CARLY D.W. BONES

Production Manager  
JASMINE KALRA

Associate Director  
ANISHA ADUSUMILLI^

Prod. Stage Manager  
JASMINE LEUNG

Assistant Stage Mgr.  
LANAE WILKS

Designer support for *The Body's Midnight* is provided by  
a generous gift from Bill and Sasha Anawalt.

Capital Lighting Equipment and Instruments for Boston Court Pasadena are provided by  
a generous gift from the Perenchio Foundation.

^IAMA Company Member

+The director is a member of SDC



\*Appearing courtesy of Actors' Equity Association



## CAST BIOGRAPHIES

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**LEANDRO CANO** (David-Understudy) - Leandro is thrilled to return to the Boston Court stage and collaborate with this amazing team of artists. He's also performed at Denver Center Theatre Company, La Jolla Playhouse, Arizona Theatre Company, A Noise Within, barebones productions (Pittsburgh, PA), Perseverance Theatre (Douglas, AK), Pittsburgh Playhouse, San Diego Rep, Laguna Playhouse, Echo Theater, Rogue Machine, and The Road Theatre. Notable television roles include: *Bull*, *CSI: Miami*, *Castle*, *Huge*, *Without a Trace*, *General Hospital*, *Days of Our Lives*, and *Life*. As a voice actor, he has dubbed dozens of foreign films and television series and has voiced characters in several video games including the role of Sandman in *Marvel's Spiderman 2*.



**MELISSA ORTIZ** (Katie/Chorus 1-Understudy) - Melissa is overjoyed to work on this co-production with Boston Court & IAMA Theatre. Favorite theatre credits: Claire in *Faithless* (The Victory Theatre), Sofia in *Do You Feel Anger* (Circle X Theatre - Understudy/Performed), Lizzy in *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley* (Marin Theatre Company), Ariel in *Shoot Me When...* (SF Playhouse). She co-produces an evening of short plays for ShutzLA, as well as readings for Playground-LA. She received her MFA from the National Theatre Conservatory. She's an ongoing student, TA, and Coach at John Rosenfeld Studios. She sends love to her family, friends and insanely talented husband.



**JON GENTRY** (Wolf/Chorus 2-Understudy) - Jon was born and raised in Houston, Texas. Theater credits include the Mark Taper Forum, American Conservatory Theater, CASA 0101, Art of Acting Studio, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Aurora Theater Company, Ensemble Studio Theatre-LA, Davis Shakespeare Festival, and more. TV/Film credits: *Somang*, *Behold A Lady*, *C.R.E.A.M.*, *Ten*, *Outlaw Empires*. His solo show *Black Bastard* premieres this June at the Hollywood Fringe Festival. He holds an MFA from the American Conservatory Theater and a BA from Harvard. Follow his journey on social media: @gentryjon

## TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

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**Anisha Adusumilli** (Associate Director) - Anisha is a first-generation Indian-American director and actress/filmmaker originally from Toledo, OH. This is her first play serving as the Associate Director and is delighted to be working alongside such a talented and experienced group of creatives. As an actress, she has appeared in TV shows like CBS's *NCIS* & *Magnum P.I.*, ABC's *Grey's Anatomy*, and Netflix's *Lucifer*, among others. She played Jill, the series lead, in seasons 1 & 2 of the popular LGBTQIA+ series *BIFL*. On stage, she has acted in *The Bottoming Process* (IAMA Theatre), *The Engine of Our Ruin* (Victory Theater), and *Samsara* (Chance Theater). As a filmmaker, she wrote, directed, produced, and starred in *First Date*, a short film that screened at multiple festivals worldwide. Her latest short film *Happy Mother's Day* is being screened at the Oscar-qualifying VC Film Fest in May. She studied Theater and Business Economics at UCLA and was a member of LCC, the country's largest college Asian-American theater company. She's also active in the South Asian community and co-founded South Asian Happy Hour and South Asians In Entertainment to promote inclusivity in the industry. She's very excited to be part of IAMA and Boston Court's first co-production.

TEAM BIOGRAPHIES CONTINUE ON PG 5



## TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

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**Carly D.W. Bones** (Intimacy Director) - Carly is a theatre director, intimacy director/ coordinator, sex educator, community facilitator, and thespomancer (theatre witch) working at the intersections of performance, ritual, sexuality, gender, community and trauma-sensitivity. She works as a freelance intimacy director and educator in the greater Los Angeles area for professional theatre companies (A Noise Within, Antaeus, Boston Court, Coeurage, Coin & Ghost, East West Players, EST LA, Ghost Road, Greenway Court, Hero Theatre, IAMA, Moving Arts, The Road, Skylight, Son of Semele, StarKid, Theatre 40) and university theatre programs (Cal Lutheran University, CSULA, CSULB, Emerson LA, Occidental College, UCLA, UCRiverside, USC, Pomona College). Carly created and directed at the feminist theatre ensemble, The Ilyrian Players, from 2011-2019. They have also directed at: Coin & Ghost, The Echo, EST LA, Inkwell Theater, The Road, Rogue Artists Ensemble, The Vagrancy. Connect with Carly: carlydwbones@gmail.com and www.thespomancer.com.

**Cindy Campos** (Properties Design) - Cindy is currently earning a Theater Associate Arts degree from East Los Angeles's Theater program. Cindy is an up-and-coming prop designer whose passion is to be make props and to collaborate with other theater professionals to create a world that engulfs the audiences imagination. Cindy was born in Mid-City, Los Angeles, CA. to Central American parents who taught the importance of hard work.

**Adrian Centeno** (Dramaturg/Boston Court Pasadena's Literary Manager) - Adrian is a dramaturg and arts educator based in Los Angeles. He's developed new works at South Coast Repertory, San Diego Repertory Theatre, New York Stage & Film, Teatro Bravo, Childsplay Theatre Company, foolsFURY Theater Company, and Playwrights' Arena, among others. A fierce advocate for new plays, Adrian has proudly served on new play development grant panels and selection committees for the National Endowment for the Arts, Page 73, and Signature Theatre. He is a member of the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas and has presented work in progress at their international conferences. He's also an Affiliate Dramaturg with Beehive Dramaturgy Studio in New York City. Adrian is a graduate of UC Santa Cruz, where he recently received the 2021 Graduate Division Distinguished Alumni Award.

**Sam Clevenger** (Associate Video/Projections Design) - Sam is an Los Angeles-based designer and animator. Most recently he has enjoyed remounting Opera Parallele's *The Shining*, associate designing for East West Players' *On This Side of the World*, and composing for Minnesota Opera's *Elektra*. His past work includes animation for Rubicon Theatre's *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992*, East West Players' *Assassins*, and Princess Cruises' 5-SK1-E-5. Sam also builds machines out of cardboard when there's time for that sort of thing.

**Benedict Conran** (Lighting Design) - Benedict is excited to make his debut designing at Boston Court. Benedict is an L.A.-based lighting and media designer specialising in new works, immersive and XR theater. Recent works include *Every Brilliant Thing* (The Geffen Playhouse), *The Talented Tenth*, *Man's Favour Devil's Plan* (Robey Theatre Company), *The Consul*, *Tosca* (Angels Vocal Art), *In My Bones* (Pandora Productions), *Homefront* (Victory Theater). Associate and assistant credits include *Redwood* (La Jolla Playhouse - projections), *Quixote Nuevo* (South Coast Repertory), *The Recital*, *Romance of the Rose* (Long Beach Opera), *Traif*, *Power of Sail* (The Geffen Playhouse). [www.benconrandesign.com](http://www.benconrandesign.com)

**Amanda Eno** (Alternate Production Manager) - Live Management Society is built on a foundation of passion for what we do. Our clients produce some of the coolest events and we are always honored to be a part of them. Our owner and principal Amanda Eno has over 15+ years experience in the live events industry as a Stage Manager, Production Manager, Producer, Tour Manager, Content Manager, Lighting Technician, and Technical Integrator. Our team is comprised of a variety of event managers with varying skills and talents to meet all of our client's needs.

# SUPPORT IAMA THEATRE COMPANY



IAMA Theatre Company is committed to cultivating new voices, creating new work, and building an inclusive community that inspires and supports a new generation of theatre artists and audiences.

Our 2023-2024 season has been filled with tremendous growth - we produced three mainstage world premieres, expanded our education program to provide master classes, mentorship, and over \$12,000 in scholarship support to 63 emerging artists, and sold out our New Works Fest!

Without the tangible support of our donors, none of this would be possible.

At IAMA, we believe that "a budget is a moral document", a true reflection of our investment in our values. When you donate to IAMA, your contribution goes directly to:

- Livable Artist Wages
- New Play Development & Production
- Education & Student Scholarships
- Emerging Artist Support and Mentorship
- Audience and Community Engagement, including Pay What You Can and Affinity Nights

Your donation both enables our success and allows us to give back to our community. Become an essential part of our IAMA community today!





## ABOUT IAMA THEATRE COMPANY



IAMA THEATRE COMPANY is an award-winning, Los Angeles-based ensemble of artists committed to cultivating new voices, creating new works that push boundaries and take risks, and building an inclusive community that inspires and supports a new generation of theatre-makers and audiences.

Founded in 2007, IAMA is invested in challenging our audiences with an authentic experience that reflects our complex modern world. Los Angeles is one of the most diverse metropolitan areas on the planet and IAMA's work reflects the new voices and changing attitudes that continue to shape this city, state, country and world. Designated by Playbill as "one of 20 regional houses every theater lover must know," IAMA has produced over 25 world premieres, including all of Leslye Headland's Seven Deadly Plays and this season's RADICAL or, are you gonna miss me? by Isaac Gómez and Arrowhead by Catya McMullen. Many of the plays generated at IAMA go on to productions off-Broadway, including at Second Stage and Playwrights Horizons, and continue to be performed regionally and internationally. IAMA's exceptional ensemble members have been featured on screen in numerous critically acclaimed TV shows and films, as well as on stage on Broadway, off-Broadway and across the globe. Learn more at [www.iamatheatre.com](http://www.iamatheatre.com)

### IAMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Katie Lowes, Chair

Cymbre Walk Sklar, Secretary

Jana Bezdek

Victoria Lerner

Melissa Romain, President

David Yanni, Treasurer

Nicholas Caprio

### IAMA ENSEMBLE MEMBERS

Anisha Adusumilli, Alex Alcheh, Tom Amandes, Laila Ayad, Stefanie Black, Michelle Bossy, Josh Bywater, Sheila Carrasco, Parvesh Cheena, Dean Chekvala, Darian Dauchan, Tom DeTrinis, Christian Durso, James Eckhouse, Josh Epstein, Isabella Feliciano, Ryan W. Garcia, Jeff Gardner, Eli Gonda, Adrián González, Cara Greene Epstein, Laura Holloway, Tina Huang, Bailey Humiston, Alaska Jackson, Jenna Anne Johnson, Andria Kozica, Colleen Labella, Anna LaMadrid, John Lavelle, Bryan Langlitz, Sharon Lawrence, Terry Li, Katie Lowes, Celia Mandela Rivera, Matthew Scott Montgomery, Karla Mosley, Lara Myrene, Melissa Jane Osborne, Quinn O'Connor, Brian Otaño, Marnie Price, Geoffrey Rivas, Tim Rock, Kacie Rogers, Amy Rosoff Davis, Adriana Santos, Courtney Sauls, Micah Schraft, Brandon Scott, Sonal Shah, Adam Shapiro, Graham Sibley, Lexi Sloan, Margaux Susi, Rodney To, Tonatiuh, Sarah Utterback, Juan Francisco Villa, Cymbre Walk Sklar, Keilher Walsh, Christine Woods

### FUNDERS

IAMA Theatre Company is generously supported by these funders.



**SHONDA RHIMES**  
& THE RHIMES FOUNDATION

**JANA BEZDEK**

& THE BEZDEK FAMILY CHARITABLE FUND



Scan the QR code to see a complete list of supporters:



## TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

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**Julia Flores** (Casting Director) - Julia is proud and honored to continue a long relationship with Jessica Kubzansky and Boston Court, and a new one with IAMA Theatre Company. Past BC productions include: *Measure STILL for Measure*, *Ladies*, *With Love and a Major Organ*, *My Barking Dog*, *Stupid F\*\*cking Bird*, *Everything You Touch*, *Se Llama Cristina*, *Ril*, *American Misfit*, *Cassiopeia*, *The Children*, *How to Disappear Completely...*, *Pal Joey*, *Futura*, *Paradise Lost* and *Cold/Tender*. Additional credits include productions for McCoy Rigby Entertainment, The REV Theatre Company, Ensemble Theatre Company, TheatreWorks, Denver Center Theatre, A Noise Within, The Pasadena Playhouse, and Portland Center Stage.

**Jonas Huffer** (Sound Board Operator) - Jonas is a Los Angeles musician and audio engineer. A recent Oberlin College and Conservatory graduate, Jonas has found a home at Boston Court Pasadena. They are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Boston Court village, where They continue to learn and apply Their unique skill set.

**Jasmine Kalra** (Production Manager) - Jasmine is an L.A.-based Stage and Production Manager. She has been enjoying theatre since high school, helping make magic happen. Armed with a BA in Theatre and Production Management, she has worked all around town, and is currently enjoying production managing at Boston Court Pasadena!

**Jessica Kubzansky** (Director and Artistic Director, Boston Court Pasadena) - You'll find Jessica's biography on page 11 under Leadership Biographies.

**Jasmine Leung** (Production Stage Manager) - Jasmine is a Canadian stage manager and writer. Past credits include *Measure STILL for Measure* and *Unrivaled* (Boston Court), *Grumpy Monkey: The Musical* (Pasadena Playhouse), *Delusion: Valley of Hollows*, *Safehouse '77* and *Safehouse '82* (Spy Brunch). She's thrilled and honoured to be returning to the creative home at Boston Court.

**David Murakami** (Video/Projections Design) - Recent designs include Opéra de Montréal's *Ainadamar*, Minnesota Opera's *Elektra*, Arizona Opera's *The Shining*, and 5-SKIES aboard Princess Cruises. Other companies include Arizona Opera, Berkshire Theatre, Celebration Theatre, Center Theatre Group, Dallas Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, East West Players, LA Opera, LINES Ballet, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, McCoy Rigby, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, Opera Parallèle, Pacific Symphony, Presidio Theatre, Riyadh Season, Seattle Opera, SFJazz, Skylight Theatre, South Coast Repertory, and Sun Valley Summer Symphony. [www.davidmurakami.com](http://www.davidmurakami.com)

**Myllette Nora** (Costume Design) - Mylette designs costumes for film, TV, stage, and videos. She is the recipient of an NAACP Theatre Award and an Ovation Award for Best Costumes. Her theater credits include *King Hedley II*, *Radio Golf*, *Seven Guitars*, *Shakin' The Mess Outta Misery*, *Southern Girls*, *Recorded in Hollywood*, *The Mountaintop* and *BLOODLETTING*. Off-Broadway credits include *Ciao Bella* and *Our Man In Santiago*. Her designs have been seen at the following theaters: Kirk Douglas Theater, The Geffen, Playwrights Arena, East West Players, Open Fist, and the Odyssey Theater. Her film credits include *Remember Me: The Mahalia Jackson Story*.

**Tira Palmquist** (Playwright) - Tira is known for plays that merge the personal, the political and the poetic. Her most produced play, *Two Degrees*, premiered at the Denver Center, and was subsequently produced by Tesseract Theater in St. Louis and Prime Productions at the Guthrie (among others). Her play *The Way North* was a Finalist for the O'Neill, an Honorable Mention for the 2019 Kilroys List, and was featured in the 2019 Ashland New Plays Festival. Tira teaches creative writing at the Orange County School of the Arts, and has also taught at Wesleyan University and the University of California-Irvine. She is a member of the Playwrights Union, the Anteaus Theater's Playwrights Lab, and is a member of the Dramatists Guild. Her work as a director and dramaturg includes several seasons at the Seven Devils Playwrights Conference and the New Territories Playwriting Residency.



## TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

**Nicholas Ponting** (Scenic Design) - Nicholas is a set designer and stained glass artist based in San Diego, CA working in the theatre, opera and immersive experiences. Recent productions: *Radical: Or are you gonna miss me?* (IAMA Theatre), *Abeba in the Tall Grass* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Everybody* (Antaeus Theatre Company), *La Lucha, Teatro Piñata*, *Optika Piñata & Las Quinceañeras* (Optika Moderna), *Mud Row* (Detroit Public Theatre), *Animals Out of Paper* (Chautauqua Theatre Co.), *Grownup* (The Associates Theatre). Nick is scenic faculty at San Diego State University. MFA - UC San Diego. BA - Western Washington University. To learn more about Nick & his work, visit [www.nicholasponting.com](http://www.nicholasponting.com) and IG: @nicholasponting.

**Lanae Wilks** (Assistant Stage Manager) Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Lanae received her MFA in Stage Management from California Institute of the Arts. Lanae has been involved in theater for most of her life and loves to expand her experience in all forms of Art in entertainment. She enjoys collaboration, innovation, and creating space for her fellow artists. Some of her credits include: *Black Cypress Bayou* (Geffen Playhouse), *Dear Edwina* (Children's Roundabout Theatre), The IAMA New Works Festival, *B.Dunn Movement*, *Apolaki: Opera of the Scorched Earth*, and many more. She wants to thank her family, friends and Boston Court Pasadena & IAMA for their support of her and the art she continues to help create!

**John Zalewski** (Sound Design/Composition) - John is happy to modulate the air again for Boston Court! Recently: *Tacos La Brooklyn* (LATC) and *Tiny Little Town* (Theater Movement Bazaar). Regionally: *Goodman Destiny of Desire* (South Coast Repertory), *Coleman '72, Tokyo Fish Story* (Pasadena Playhouse), *The Father* (LADCC Award), *Hold These Truths, Destiny of Desire* (Arena Stage), *Destiny of Desire, Macbeth* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival), *Destiny* (Cincinnati Playhouse.), *The Nether* (Center Theatre Group - Ovation Award), *War Music* (Geffen Playhouse). Off-Broadway: *Gym* (Rattlestick), *Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, America, Kuwait* (Judson). Locally: *Boney Manilli, The 50 Year Sword, with Wilderness* (REDCAT), *The Day Shall Declare It* in London and DTLA (Ovation Award). John has also designed for the Lewis Family Playhouse, Antaeus, Odyssey, Padua Playwrights and was resident designer at Evidence Room. Podcasts: *Blood Sugar, A Lesson in Swimming*. Awards: 8 Ovation Awards, 5 LA Drama Critics' Circle Awards, 7 LA Weekly Awards, 9 Backstage Garland Awards a Robbie and a Ticketholder. IG @zalooski and @auraral.

THE MATRIX THEATRE  
7657 MELROSE AVE.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90046

APRIL 7-MAY 19, 2024  
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- Stage Scene LA



FOR MORE INFO: [WWW.ROGUEMACHINETHEATRE.ORG](http://WWW.ROGUEMACHINETHEATRE.ORG)



## ADDITIONAL TEAM MEMBERS

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Technical Director.....Jesse Soto

Carpenters.....Jono Eiland, Rob Heintz,  
Max Tel, Salvador Jara Guzman, Robert  
Meredith, Jake Kelly, Frank Jones, Geena  
Rose Wong, Erica Ammerman, Christina  
Antolin

Electrician.....Robby Meredith  
Scenic Painter.....Angelene Storey  
Scenic Painter.....Eleanor Montecino  
Alternate Production Manager.....Amanda Eno  
Sound Board Operator.....Jonas Huffer

Front-of-House Leads.....Adriana Ortega,  
Ethan Haslam, Tiana Randall-Quant, Will  
Block

Front-of-House Team.....Alejandra Ortega,  
Azucena Ortega, Eileen Chase, Gabrilee  
Sigtrist, Kimberly Sanchez-Garrido,  
Reginald McKamie, Jr.

## SPECIAL THANKS

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Cheryl Rizzo, The Seven Devils New Play Foundry, The Travis Bogard Artist-in-Residence Program at the Eugene O'Neill Tao House, A.P. Andrews, Phil Thompson

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## **LEADERSHIP BIOGRAPHIES**

**Stefanie Black** (Artistic Director, IAMA Theatre Company) - Stefanie is one of the original founding members and current Artistic Director of IAMA Theatre Company. She has overseen over 25 world premieres, as well as five west coast premieres. Her dedication to supporting emerging playwrights and directors has become the calling card of IAMA. Her tenure has seen the creation of the Rhimes Unsung Voices Playwriting Commission and over eight other commissions, as well as the inaugural Emerging Playwrights Lab, an investment into the next generation of Los Angeles-based playwrights. As an award-winning actor, director, and filmmaker, Stefanie is a proud member of SAG-AFTRA, AEA, and Film Fatales.

**Cara Greene Epstein** (Executive Director, IAMA Theatre Company) - As an actor, writer, producer and arts advocate, Cara has worked with theater companies from coast to coast, including The Old Globe, Steppenwolf, Lookingglass, Writer's Theater, NYTW, and the American Theater Wing. Her viral TED Talk *How Theater Weathers Wars, Outlasts Empires, and Survives Pandemics* (1M+ views) focuses on how we can use the arts to build a better world together, onstage and off. Cara holds an honors degree in Theater Arts from Cornell University, an MFA from The Old Globe/USD, and is a proud member of SAG-AFTRA and the IAMA ensemble.

**Jessica Kubzansky** (Artistic Director, Boston Court Pasadena/Director, *The Body's Midnight*) - Jessica is honored to be the Artistic Director of Boston Court Pasadena, where alongside her artistic team she programs all the art in the building. She is also an award-winning director working nationally, in theatres across the country such as Arena Stage, Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre, The Cherry Lane, Utah Shakespeare Festival, A Contemporary Theatre in Seattle, Portland Center Stage, South Coast Repertory Theatre, The Pasadena Playhouse, The Geffen Playhouse, and many more, especially in her beloved Los Angeles theatre community. Most recently at Boston Court Pasadena, the world premiere of her own immersive, site-specific production of *Measure STILL for Measure*, the world premieres of Kit Steinkellner's *Ladies*, Sarah Mantell's *Everything That Never Happened*, Stefanie Zdravec's *Colony Collapse*, Sheila Callaghan's *Everything You Touch* (also for Rattlestick at The Cherry Lane), as well as Luis Alfaro's *Mojada*, *A Medea in Los Angeles* (The Getty Villa), and *Ril* (her own three-person adaptation of *Richard II*). Recently elsewhere, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Utah Shakespeare Festival), *The Father* with Alfred Molina (Pasadena Playhouse), *Othello* (A Noise Within), Jeanne Sakata's *Hold These Truths* (Arena Stage), Aditi Brennan Kappel's *Orange* (South Coast Rep), *Stupid F\*cking Bird* (ACT, Seattle). Jessica received the Los Angeles Drama Critics' Circle's Margaret Harford Award for Sustained Excellence in Theatre.

**Manuel (Manny) Prieto** (Executive Director, Boston Court Pasadena) - Manny is thrilled to co-lead Boston Court Pasadena. He was formerly the Director of Education at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, and prior to that, was the Executive Director of the Los Angeles Music and Art School (LAMusArt), a not-for-profit performing arts education institution in East Los Angeles. Prior to joining LAMusArt, Prieto worked at Center Theatre Group coordinating accessibility programs at the Ahmanson Theatre, Mark Taper Forum and Kirk Douglas Theatre and implemented bilingual curriculum for their initiative "The Shop: Theatre in Your Everyday Life". Prieto holds a B.F.A. from the University of Southern California in Theater Design and a M.A. in Nonprofit Management from Antioch University. He was co-chair of the Americans for the Arts Emerging Leaders Council, member of the steering committee of the Latinx Theatre Alliance-LA, and a former LACDAC internship program participant and peer mentor.



# SUPPORT BOSTON COURT PASADENA

Boston Court Pasadena creates and nurtures innovative, boundary-pushing art that invokes the power of collective imagination to illuminate our common humanity. Your contribution to the Annual Fund is more than just a financial investment; it is a vote of confidence in the power of the arts to inspire, educate, and unite us. Your generosity allows us to:

**Support Artists:** Your donation provides vital resources for established and emerging playwrights, directors, actors, and designers, empowering them to bring fresh perspectives and diverse voices to the stage.

**Expand Access to the Arts:** Through our new learning and established outreach programs, we strive to make the arts accessible to all members of our community.

**Nurture Creativity, Risk-taking and Innovation:** Boston Court Pasadena is an incubation space for artistic experimentation, where boundary-pushing works are brought to life.

With your help, we can continue to push the boundaries of what is possible in the performing arts.

Donate by May 31, 2024 and the board of directors will match your contribution dollar for dollar, up to \$25,000 — ensuring your impact is **DOUBLED** to make it even better!

You will receive the following thank-you gifts if you donate:

- \$50+ receive a BCP Travel Mug – only available today through concessions!
- \$100+ receives a special thank you decal
- \$250+ receive a commemorative pin and decal
- \$500+ receive a limited-edition journal, pin and decal
- \$1,000+ receive an invitation for 2 to Opening Night & Party of *A Going Away Party Play* on 9/28/24 plus gifts above.



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**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

Jessica Kubzansky

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Manuel Prieto

**ABOUT BOSTON COURT PASADENA**

Located in Pasadena, California, Boston Court Pasadena is a nonprofit performing arts center primarily dedicated to new and original work by living artists that creates and nurtures innovative, boundary-pushing art that invokes the power of collective imagination to illuminate our common humanity. Founded in 2003 by philanthropist Z. Clark Branson, Boston Court features a state-of-the-art, intimate facility designed to bring audiences and artists closer together. The 70-seat Marjorie Branson Performance Space and the 99-seat Main Stage serve as homes for Boston Court's season of adventurous theatre and its richly eclectic music series. Boston Court is also the home of an annual new play reading festival, as well as Art Upfront, a rotating visual arts program, National Theatre Live screenings, and many local community events. Boston Court is led by a 17-member Board of Directors, Artistic Director Jessica Kubzansky and Executive Director Manny Prieto.

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# A GOING AWAY PARTY PLAY

SEPT 19-OCT 27

by Keyanna Khatiblou  
directed by James Fowler  
World Premiere Production

Mina is throwing a party for her closest friends and for you, the audience. Over the course of the party, the friends play games, reflect on the current American socio-political landscape, and discover truths about the story of Mina's parents falling in love and staying in love while fleeing the Iranian Revolution. *A Going Away Party Play* is a celebration of multicultural identities and an exploration of what it means to leave or lose your home country.