THE ECHO THEATER COMPANY PRESENTS

DIRECTED BY ALANA DIETZE

WORLD PREMIERE | OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 29, 2021

echo theater company

The Echo Theater Company

PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE OF

POOR CLARE

By Chiara Atik Directed by Alana Dietze

WITH (in alphabetical order)

Martica De Cardenas Tony DeCarlo Trinity Catlin Kari Lee Cartwright Jordan Hull Ann Noble Michael Sturgis Donna Zadeh

SCENIC DESIGN

COSTUME DESIGN

LIGHTING DESIGN

Amanda Knehans Dianne K. Graebner

Azra King-Abadi

SOUND DESIGN

WIG AND HAIR DESIGN

Jeff Gardner

Klint Flowers

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

ASST. DIRECTOR

Christopher Jerabek

Lauren Smerkanich

ASST. STAGE MANAGER

CASTING DIRECTOR

PUBLICIST

Trinity Catlin

Tal Fox

Lucy Pollak

PRODUCED BY

Kelly Beech, Chris Fields and Rachael Zambias

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

Alexa Yeames

This production is dedicated to the loving memory of Buddy Stoccardo.

Atwater Village Theater October 23-November 29, 2021



The Lighting, Sound, and Costume Designers in this theater are represented by United Scenic Artists Local 829 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.



Poor Clare is supported, in part, by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture.

CAST (in order of appearance)

Alma..... Kari Lee Cartwright

Clare Jordan Hull

Peppa Martica De Cardenas

Beatrice Donna Zadeh

Francis Michael Sturgis

Beggar/The Poor... Tony DeCarlo

Ortolana Ann Noble

Super Trinity Catlin

TIME The Year 1211
PLACE Assisi, Italy

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

CLARE OF ASSISI

(16 July 1194—11 August 1253, born Chiara Offreduccio) was one of the first followers of Saint Francis of Assisi. She founded the Order of Poor Ladies, a monastic religious order for women in the Franciscan tradition and wrote the first set of monastic guidelines known to have been written by a woman, the Rule of Life. Following her death, the order was renamed in her honor as the Order of Saint Clare, commonly referred to today as the Poor Clares.

STAFF

LITERARY MANAGER Michael Sturgis | LITERARY MANAGER Gideon Jeph Wabvuta AUDIENCE SERVICES MANAGER MAK Vogel | MARKETING ASSOCIATE TESSA Slovis BOX OFFICE ASSOCIATE Amanda Horowitz | DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE Emily Wattez VIDEOGRAPHY Shea Vanderpoort | MASTER ELECTRICIAN McLeod Benson MASTER CARPENTER Efrain Corona | GRAPHIC DESIGN Christopher Komuro

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.

^{*}Standbys never substitute for listed players unless a specific announcement for their appearance is made at the time of their performance. For Clare—Sam Morelos.

POOR CLARE

Chiara Atik (Playwright) Chiara Atik's plays include Five Times in One Night, Bump, and From 52nd to Bowery to Cobble Hill, in Brooklyn. WOMEN, her mashup of Louisa May Alcott's Little Women and HBO's Girls, was a NYT Critic's Pick for Comedy, and named 'highbrow brilliant" in New York Magazine's Approval Matrix. She is currently adapting Maggie O'Farrell's best-selling novel, Hamnet, for Amblin, Sam Mendes' Neal Street, and Hera Pictures.

Kelly Beech (Producer) is Producing Director at the Echo. As the child of a Director, Kelly literally grew up in a theater. She started acting as a child and eventually moved west to pursue Film and Television. She has worked on many popular television shows including 911, Mistresses, NCIS, Private Practice, and Criminal Minds. Kelly is thrilled to be a part of the Poor Clare team. Thanks to everyone involved!



Kari Lee Cartwright (Alma)
Kari Lee Cartwright is a Korean
American Actor, Writer and
Director. Most recently,
she was on FX's American
Horror Stories and can be seen
regularly in those hilarious

FOX NFL sketches on Sundays before kickoff. You can also catch her on Hulu's upcoming limited series *The Dropout* and the final season of HBO's *Insecure*. What a gift to wear a heavy dress and speak Chiara's words... to be here with you all. For Buddy. @justalittleklc



Martica De Cardenas (Peppa) is delighted to be back on stage. Her recent stage credits include: A Streetcar Named Desire at the Boston Court Performing Arts Center, and In the Heights, and Real

Women Have Curves at the Casa 0101 Theatre. In addition, she has written, directed, and produced a feature-length film: A Summer Song. For more details about Martica, visit www. marticadecardenas.com. She thanks her family and friends for their continued love and support.

Trinity Catlin (Assistant Stage Manager/ Super) is working towards her Bachelor's degree in English at Loyola Marymount University, with a specialization in creative writing. She has previously worked as an intern with the production team on The Cake by Bekah Brunsetter, and Under the Freeways of Los Angeles by Matthew Paul Olmos.



Tony DeCarlo (The Beggar/ Poor) L.A. theater (selected): Anne (Museum of Tolerance), Roots, Cleo, Theo & Wu, Alternative Acts, Phrazzled (Stage Raw Nomination: Comedy Performance), Young

Writers Project, Blanks, Disassembly (Stage Raw Nomination: Comedy Ensemble), Sheet Cake Sliding, Eat the Runt (Theatre of NOTE); ICU (Circle X); Akuma-shin (Sacred Fools); The Car Plays (Segerstrom Center for the Arts, La Jolla Playhouse). Thank you to all the Poor Clare'ers and you folks who continue to support live theater. For Buddy. @tonydeek

Alana Dietze (Director) With the Echo: The Wolves (LADCC Winner for Ensemble, 3 Ovation Nominations and 4 Stage Raw Nominations), Dry Land (Ovation Winner: Production, selected for CTG's Block Party Program, 9 Ovation nominations and 4 Stage Raw Nominations), The Found Dog Ribbon Dance, and A Small Fire (4 Ovation Nominations). Elsewhere: You on the Moors Now (CSARTS), Ripe Frenzy (Greenway Ct Theatre). She also serves the Echo as Associate Artistic Director and is an Ovation-nominated actor.

Chris Fields (Producer) is founding Artistic Director of The Echo Theater Company. He also founded and was Artistic Director of the Ojai Playwrights Conference. Most recently, he directed the world premiere of Erik Patterson's Handjob, before that he produced The Wolves and directed Branden Jacobs-Jenkins' Gloria for The Echo. He won a Stage Raw Award for Gloria, an LADCC Award for Firemen and the LA Weekly Award for A Family Thing. He was adjunct professor of drama at SUNY Purchase and maintains a private workshop class in Los Angeles. Thanks to all.

Klint Flowers (Wig and Hair Designer) is a national IATSE artist with a focus in theatre and custom services for private clients and celebrities. His main goal is to provide equitable and diverse experiences for everyone through skills, training, and leadership. Recent projects include wig builds for Megan Thee Stallion's performance at the BET Awards and Doja Cat's opening look in her music video "Streets", as well as Makeup Designer of Rock of Ages Hollywood.

Tal Fox (Casting Director) is an actress, singer, and casting director who spent five years as a Talent Agent at KMR Talent running the

Equity/Theater Department and developing the Youth TV/ Film Department. Work in Casting includes credits at 5-Star Theatricals, Center Theatre Group, Theatre @ Boston Court, and Bleecker St. Theatre in NYC.

Jeff Gardner (Sound Design) is an award-winning sound designer, foley artist and actor. Jeff has designed and performed throughout the country including the Geffen Playhouse, The Kirk Douglas Theatre, The Wallis Annenberg Center, A Noise Within, Antaeus Theatre Company, Boston Court Pasadena, Circle X Theatre, Rogue Machine Theatre, Matrix Theatre, Skylight Theatre, IAMA Theatre, The Shakespeare Theatre (DC), Arena Stage, The Kennedy Center, Williamstown Theatre Festival as well as the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland. Online: jeffthomasgardner.net

Dianne K. Graebner (Costume Design) has designed over 100 productions internationally and originated the costumes for many new works and world premieres. Including Church & State—Off-Broadway 2017, Fallen Angels (Indy award-Santa Barbara), Breath & Imagination—The Colony (NAACP nomination), The Judas Kiss—Boston Court, The Brothers Karamazov (Ovation nominations) to mention a few. She previously designed Undivided Heart and Gloria for Echo. She is a member of United Scenic Artists Local-829. www.diannegraebner.com



Jordan Hull (Clare) Rising star Jordan Hull made her television debut starring in Showtime's The L Word: Generation Q opposite Jennifer Beals, Kate Moennig and Leisha Hailey. In the sequel revival to the

critically acclaimed and genre-defining series, Jordan portrays Angie, a driven and sensitive young woman coming into her own, and the daughter of Jennifer Beals' character Bette. She will return to the role as a series regular for its second season, which is currently airing. Hull recently wrapped production on the Netflix movie Hustle alongside Queen Latifah, Robert Duvall, Ben Foster and Adam Sandler. The film centers around a down on his luck basketball scout who discovers a once-in-a-lifetime player.

Christopher Jerabek (Production Stage Manager) is a playwright, director, and designer living and working out of Los Angeles. He was blessed to serve as the scenic designer for the world premiere of Davey Anderson's The Abode, at

the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and worked as the scenic and projections designer for Pepperdine University's 2020 TEDx event. He is very excited to join the Echo Theater family with Poor Clare and Ascension. See more of Christopher's work at www.jerabekdesign.com.

Azra King-Abadi (Lighting Design) has recently designed Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time and The Color Purple with Greenway Court Theatre, Women Beyond Borders with Rubicon Theatre, Gloria with Echo Theater, The Ridiculous Darkness with Son of Semele, Under Milk Wood, and Vendetta Chrome with Coeurage Theatre, Lunatics and Actors with Four Clowns, Madama Butterfly with Opera Santa Barbara, Alexander's Feast with LA Master Chorale, Wonderful Town with LA Opera, Angels in America opera with LA Philharmonic. azrakingabadi.com

Amanda Knehans (Scenic Design) is a Los Angeles based Scenic Designer and Art Director. Recent theatre credits include Antigone, Presented by the Girls of St. Catherine's (Sacred Fools), Handjob, The Wolves, and Blueberry Toast (The Echo), Seven (Elan Ensemble), Music Man and As You Like It (Off Square Theatre Company), Bliss (Moving Arts), The Willows (Bootleg Theater), Dry Land (CTG/Echo), Year of the Rooster and Welcome to the White Room (Theatre of Note) and Tuesdays with Morrie (Sierra Madre Playhouse). Recent film credits include Art Director on "Single Parents" Season 1 (ABC), "The Stranger" Season 1 (Fox 21, Quibi), "The Wedding Year" (Lakeshore Entertainment), and "East Los High" Season 4 and 5 (Hulu).



Sam Morelos (Clare Understudy) is ecstatic to be making her debut with The Echo Theatre Company! She is a current junior at the California School of the Arts-San Gabriel Valley, starting from 2017 to the present. She

has worked mostly within her school productions, receiving a John Raitt Award Nomination for Best Supporting Actress in In the Heights as Daniella. Sam has also been awarded a Merit Award in the Acting Category for The Music Center's Spotlight and performed at the Walt Disney Concert Hall as a soloist. This will be her first full production outside of school and she is so excited to be a part of this process! Sam wants to thank her biggest fanbase, her mom and family, for the continuous love and support!



Ann Noble (Ortolana) A Chicago native and NU grad, she was last seen in Disposable Necessities (Rogue Machine, member). Other SoCal Theatres: SouthCoast Rep, Moving Arts, Antaeus

(member), LGBT Center, the Victory, the Road, the Odyssey, Malibu Playhouse, Sierra Madre Playhouse, and ETC of Santa Barbara. She is also an award-winning, internationally produced playwright, director (Warriors For Peace), arts educator (Homeboy Industries, Museum of the Holocaust), and jail chaplain (Prism Restorative Justice). @sparksjacks annnoble.com

Lauren Smerkanich (Assistant Director) is a director and playwright based in Los Angeles. Recent favorite directing projects include Fruition (Theatre of Note) and A Conversatin With Mary (The Road Theatre's Summer Playwright's Festival). Special thanks to Alana and Jenny. So much love to KAR and HMK.



Michael Sturgis (Francis)
Echo: Dean/Devin in Gloria &
Jack in Blueberry Toast (Stage
Raw Awards for Best Comedic
Ensemble). HERO Theatre
company member. Additional
work with A Noise Within,

Pasadena Playhouse, Theatre of NOTE, Classical Theatre Lab. Education: USC. He starred with Mark Duplass in Room 104 on HBO and wrote/produced a short called *Every Other Week* starring Jacqueline Wright. He also serves as the Echo's Literary Manager. @michsturg

Alexa Yeames (Associate Producer) is an Associate member of the Echo, where her performance credits include Tom and Eliza by Celine Song, and A Walrus in the Body of a Crocodile by MJ Kaufman. Other credits include right left with heels (Stage Raw Performance Nom), Kingsmen Shakespeare Co's A Midsummer Night's Dream tour, Downrange (TIFF 2017), July Rising, and The Originals (CW). She is also writing a film about growing up asexual, more to be found at facebook.com/AlexaYeamesOfficial.



Donna Zadeh (Beatrice) is honored to be returning to The Echo Theater Company, she was last seen as #14 in the Ovation-nominated production of *The Wolves*. Her recent credits include Lois

Moran in Wild Party (The Speakeasy Society), the Muse in the world premiere of Nightwalk (CNP), Laura in The Glass Menagerie and Stella in A Streetcar Named Desire (Rabbit Bandini Productions). Donna is a graduate of the California Institute of the Arts. @ladyzadeh

Rachael Zambias (Producer) is an award-winning theater producer. Credits with The Echo include: Cry It Out by Molly Smith Metzler (LADCC, Stage Raw & Ovation winner, best production), The Wolves by Sarah DeLappe (LADCC winner, best ensemble), Gloria by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (Stage Raw Award winner, best director & ensemble) and Handjob by Erik Patterson (Ovation nominated, best writing). Rachael holds a BA in Film Studies from UC Berkeley and is part of the production team on "Young Sheldon" Season 5. She is thrilled to share this theater space with you all again.



The Echo would like to thank following for their generosity:

A Boy and His Soul (Owen & DeSalvo CPA Firm) Linda and Ken Adams-Larson Linda Pace Alexander Lindsay Allbaugh David Alpert Jamie Angell Jon Argenziano Kerry Armstrong Chiara Atik Jeffrey Atik Patrick Baker Mike Batistick Ben Benjamin Gigi Bermingham Andrew Bernstein Evan Bernstein Lisa Von Eschen Berry Jay Bevan Biller Foundation Peter Binkow Jas Bohrman Rebecca Bokoch Maddalena Bowers Rob Bradford Christine Bragan Drew Brown Patti and Alan Burjoski Jason Cabral Jason Cahill Dayton Callie Caplin Foundation Carl Capotorto Terence Carfrae Robert Carpino James Parriott and Diane Cary Julie Casey Shawna Casey Vincent Castellanos Sam Catlin Robert Champ Manuel Chica Carla Ching Steven Warheit and Jean Christensen Alex Chu

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Robert Sepulveda

Andrew Shafer Shannon Silber Ruth Simon David Singer Leda Siskind Kari Skogland Michael Slovis Russell Alan Smith Ellen Soo Jevan Soo Lynn St Sauver Lauren Stein Gary Stewart Catherine Stier Traci Stillwell Susan Swinburne Jill Swisher Marylee & Richard Terrano Rich Terrano Allison Elizabeth Thomas Allison Thomas Vicki Thompson Chris Till Jocelyn Towne Sue Ťoyoda David Trainer Beth Triffon Corbett Tuck Deborah Tutnauer, LLC Prince Ty uBreakiFix James Wagner Wes Walker Lesley Ann Warren Cameron Watson Michael Wiles William & Anne Macomber Charitable Fund Libby & Mike Woodbridge Yasmin Yabyabin Kevin Zegers Guy Zimmerman

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Rob McEntegart



Dedicated to nurturing writers and producing new work, the Echo, over its 25 years, has presented 86 Los Angeles premiere productions. Of these, 72 were world premieres and of those, 45 were commissions.

Most recently the company produced Erik Patterson's Handjob and Sarah DeLappe's The Wolves, which was named one of the "Best of 2019" by both the LA Times and KCRW. We were given The Polly Warfield award for our 2018 season by the LADCC while winning Ovation, LADCC and Stage Raw awards for Molly Smith-Metzler's Cry It Out which was also named by both the LA Times and KCRW for their "Best of 2018" lists. Anthony Brynes of KCRW said: "Echo theatre company is on a fierce journey. They are choosing plays that are consistently challenging and all have a deep conscience... If you wanted to pick one small theatre to add to your cultural roster - Echo is the consistent favorite." While Charles McNulty wrote: "The Echo Theater Company production...confirmed just how indispensible 99-seat theaters still are to a healthy theater ecology."

The Echo gratefully acknowledges that our theater sits on land stewarded and cared for by the Kizh, Tongva-/Gabrieleño, and Chumash tribes for generations. We honor and respect these nations, peoples, and their enduring relationship to this land.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Chris Fields
PRODUCING DIRECTOR
Kelly Beech

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Alana Dietze

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Ahmed Best

DIRECTOR OF NEW PROGRAMMING Andrew Shafer

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