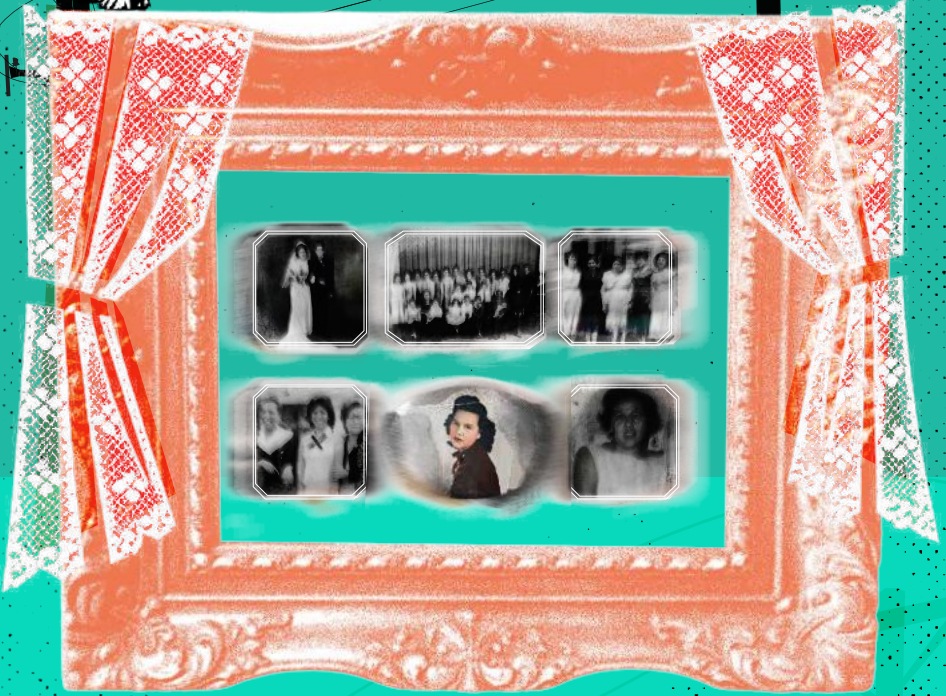


LATINO
THEATER
CO.



THE STORY TELLER OF EAST LA



41 YEARS
AS A COMPANY
FAMILIA
COMMUNITY

20 YEARS
AT THE LATC

ONE BOLD
2026
SEASON

LATINOTHEATERCO.ORG

WELCOME!



At Latino Theater Company, we believe theatre is a place where people come together to be seen, to be heard, and to feel part of a community. In times like these, that feels more important than ever.

People need community. They need to feel validated and understood. They need a place where they can laugh, cry, and simply be themselves. A place where they can feel like a full human being. Theatre gives us that space. It allows us to sit together, reflect together, and remember that we are not alone.

In moments like the one we are living through now, art matters. Art is resistance. Theatre is resistance. Through storytelling we confront the realities of our time and challenge audiences to look at the world, and at one another, with honesty and empathy.

These are turbulent times. It can feel easier to look away or simply go along with the flow. But theatre asks something different of us. It asks us to face the world as it is, to listen carefully, and to speak honestly about what we see.

Sometimes that means we have to speak louder.

As we looked at the plays in this spring season, a connection began to emerge. These were all female centered stories and dealt with the pressures they face. Family expectations. Identity. Responsibility. The choices they must make and the strength it takes to carry them.

Tonight you will be seeing the world premiere of ***The Storyteller of East LA***, written by founding Latino Theater Company ensemble member Evelina Fernández, and also developed through our Circle of Imaginistas. The play explores memory loss, caregiving, family conflict, and the sustaining power of love. Rooted in the voices and experiences of our community, it reminds us how storytelling itself helps families navigate moments of struggle.

Many members of the Latino Theater Company ensemble come together for this production. When artists who have worked together for years return to the rehearsal room, something special happens. There is trust. There is openness. There is space to question, explore, and build something meaningful together.

We started the season with ***Level Up!***, written by Gabriel Rivas Gómez and commissioned through Latino Theater Company's Circle of Imaginistas. The play follows Desi, a trans tween who feels safest expressing herself inside a virtual gaming world. At its heart, ***Level Up!*** is about identity, family, and the courage it takes to be honest about who you are.

Producing work like this reflects something essential about why this theatre exists. We are committed to creating space for artists to share their voices and tell stories from their communities. One of the most rewarding parts of our work is seeing a new playwright step onto the stage for the first time. These

voices challenge us and expand the conversation.

We close the spring season with ***Carlota: Alhajero de Secretos***, written by Rodrigo García and Ugho Badú and performed in Spanish with English subtitles. Set inside a carefully ordered household, the play explores the powerful relationships between mothers and daughters and the consequences of secrets kept too long.

As the year continues, we expand our work beyond our stages with a special presentation of Sophocles' ***Antigone***, adapted by Evelina Fernández, which I will direct at the Getty Villa's outdoor classical theater. Reimagined within a pre-conquest Aztec world, the production brings an ancient story into direct conversation with our histories and the present moment, asking enduring questions about justice, power, and moral responsibility.

With that, we move into our fall season.

We present ***Speaking in Tongues***, a new work by MacArthur "Genius Grant" recipient Luis Alfaro, developed through our Circle of Imaginistas. Set within a struggling Pentecostal congregation in California's Central Valley, the play explores faith, community and survival in a rapidly changing social and political landscape.

We continue our ongoing collaboration with Artists at Play with ***The Dance and the Railroad*** by David Henry Hwang, a powerful early work that reflects on the lives of Chinese laborers during the 1867 railroad strike, and the enduring human need for art, dignity and expression.

We also present ***Yamel Cucuy*** by Glass Half Full Theatre, a visually striking and haunting work that blends puppetry, live performance

and folklore to explore borders, fear, and the strength it takes to move forward.

Together, these productions reflect what Latino Theater Company has always tried to do. From the beginning, our focus has been simple. Make theatre for the people of Los Angeles, with the artists who live here, and tell stories that matter to the communities that shape this city.

The struggles faced by women, by Latinos, by immigrants, by LGBTQ communities, and by many others are not distant issues. They are part of our daily lives. Theatre allows us to confront those realities honestly while also celebrating the resilience, humor, and humanity that sustain us.

Our invitation to you is simple.

Come with no fear. This theatre is a place to gather, reflect, and embrace one another, even those we may not yet know. We need that right now.

Thank you for being here.



JOSÉ LUIS VALENZUELA

Artistic Director

**TAKE THE MUSIC OF
THE STORYTELLER
OF EAST L.A.
WITH YOU.**

**Scan the QR code
with your camera
phone to listen to
songs featured in
the production
and experience
another layer of
the story
wherever you are.**



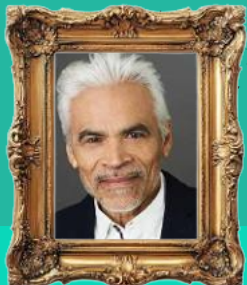
LET'S GET SOCIAL!
@latinotheaterco



MEET THE FAMILIA



BRENDA BANDA



SAL LOPEZ



RUTH LIVIER



BLANCA ISABELLA
PALLINI



LUCY RODRIGUEZ



ZILAH MENDOZA



MAYA MALAN-GONZALEZ



DIANA BURBANO

THE STORYTELLER OF EAST LA

BY **EVELINA FERNÁNDEZ**

Brenda BandaMary
Ruth Livier*Josefa/Vanessa Soto
Sal Lopez*Serafina
Zilah Mendoza*Grace
Blanca Isabella Pallini*Lulu
Lucy Rodriguez*Mercy

Understudies: **Diana Burbano***, **Maya Malan-Gonzalez***. Understudies never substitute for a listed performance unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance.

* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

Scenic Design
PRAIRIE T TRIVUTH

Costume Design
NAILA ALADDIN SANDERS

Lighting Design
JOSH EPSTEIN

Sound Design
JOHN ZALEWSKI

Projection Design
YEE EUN NAM

Movement Coordinator/Choreographer
URBANIE LUCERO

Stage Manager
ALEXA WOLFE

Production Manager
MAY FEI

Casting Director
LOLÁRIO CASTING

Assistant Stage Manager
MARTHA ESPINOZA

Wardrobe Supervisor
MANEE LEIJA

DIRECTED BY
JOSÉ LUIS VALENZUELA

THE STORYTELLER OF EAST LA will be performed without an intermission

Please Note: There is no photography or filming of any kind allowed during the performance.
Please turn off all electronic devices, including cell phones.

THE STORYTELLER OF EAST LA was commissioned and developed in Latino Theater Company's Circle of Imaginistas playwriting group.



ABOUT THE ARTISTS

BRENDA BANDA (*Mary*) is an actress and entrepreneur best known for her role as Norma on *Gentefied*. Other credits include *Grey's Anatomy*, *Shameless* and *This Fool*. A force on screen and in business, she merges purpose with power, helping women build wealth, confidence, and control. When not on screen she is a holistic empress championing female leadership and financial literacy—because power looks better when women own it. Follow her @SheRunsTheShow_CEO

RUTH LIVIER (Josefa/Vanessa Soto) Ruth loves working with Latino Theater Co. at The LATC where she was last seen in *The Little King of Norwalk*, *American Mariachi*, *The Sweetheart Deal*, and *Three Sisters*. She has played lead roles at South Coast Repertory (*Destiny of Desire*, *Neva*, *Lovers and Executioners*, *La Posada Mágica*), The Kirk Douglas Theatre (*A Perfect Wedding*, *Neva*), Long Beach Opera (*Indian Queen*), Cornerstone (*Pedro Play*), La Jolla Playhouse (*Neva*), East LA Classic Theater (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hedda Gabler*), MET (*Sexo, Pudor y Lágrimas*), The Elephant Theater (*Lost Angeles*), Friends & Artists (*The Threepenny Opera*, *De Dónde u/s*), *'Dentify Crisis*), The Goodman (*Destiny of Desire*), Cincinnati Playhouse (*Destiny of Desire*), Denver Theater Center (*Just Like Us*), and The Guthrie (*Shane u/s*). She has toured with Eugenio Derbéz in *Latinologues*. Ruth is part of the MCU playing Elena Chavez in *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness*. Other film, TV & web credits include *Drag Me to Hell*, *Resurrection Blvd.*, *Switched at Birth*, *Ylse*. Voice-work: Pixar's *Coco*, Disney's *Cars on the Road*, *Elena of Avalor*, *Handy Manny*, *Call of Duty MW*, *Dead Rising 3*, *GTA*, *Sly Cooper 3*, among others. IG: @RLivier. #Abolish ICE.

SAL LOPEZ (Serafina) Sal is a founding member of the Latino Theater Company. Work with the Company: his one man show *This Is A Man's World*, *American Mariachi*, *Tacos La Brooklyn*, *Whittier Boulevard*,

Premeditation, *August 29th*, *La Victima*, *Luminarias*, *Dementia*, *Solitude*, *Habitat*, *Wild In Wichita*, *La Olla*, *A Mexican Trilogy - Faith, Hope, Charity*, and the lead in *La Virgen de Guadalupe*, *Dios Inantzin*, performed every year at The Cathedral Of Our Lady Of The Angels. Other plays include *You Should Have Stayed Home*, *Morons* for Radar L.A., *Blade To The Heat*, *Bandito* and *Zoot Suit* for the Mark Taper Forum, *Selena* (musical) at the Ricardo Montalban Theater, *La Posada Magica* for South Coast Rep, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for East L.A. Classical Theater, *Corridos Tales Of Passion And Revolution* and *La Virgen Del Tepeyac* for Teatro Campesino, and *Lorca Child Of The Moon*, *Young Lady From Tacna*, and *Wanted Experience Operators* for The Bilingual Foundation Of The Arts. Broadway: Linda Ronstadt's *Canciones de mi Padre* at the Minskoff Theater. Current Films: *F1*, *The Rip*, *Atropia*.

ZILAH MENDOZA (*Grace*) Zilah is thrilled to be a part of Latino Theater Company's Succession. Her last appearance with LTC was the remounting of *Whittier Boulevard* in 2024. Zilah originated the following roles: Monse in *Tacos La Brooklyn* (Latino Theater Company), Ana in Lisa Loomer's *Living Out* (Mark Taper Forum, Garland Award)(Off Broadway, Second Stage, Obie Award), *Electricidad* in Luis Alfaro's *Electricidad* (cover of American Theatre Magazine), Matilde in Sarah Ruhl's *The Clean House* (Yale Rep), Griselda Blanco/Kathy Rundle in Billy Corbin and Aurin Squire's *Confessions of A Cocaine Cowboy* (The Colony Theatre Miami New Drama), Perla in Juliette Carillo's *Plumas Negras* (Cornerstone), Josefina in Luis Alfaro's *Mojada* (The Getty Villa), Magda in Josefina Lopez's *An Enemy of the Pueblo* (Casa 0101), Noelle/Bobby/Paloma/Maria Sol in Jose Rivera's *The Untranslatable Secrets of Nikki Corona* (The Geffen Playhouse), Alma in *El Borracho* (The Old Globe). Her

PRODUCTION BITES

television credits include recurring roles on *Bosch: Legacy*, *King of Queens*, *Reba*, *MAD TV* and guest starring roles on *Grey's Anatomy* and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, to name a few. Zilah is Associate Artistic Director of Mentor Artists Playwrights Project - MAPP, a community-based arts program working with indigenous and diverse communities throughout North America. @zilahmendoza @mentorartistsmapp www.mentorartists.org www.zilahmendoza.com

BLANCA ISABELLA PALLINI (*Lulu*) is honored to be returning to Latino Theater Co. where she was last seen in *Just Like Us* and *La Virgen De Guadalupe, Dios Inantzin*. Blanca received her BFA in Acting from Boston University and has trained at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA). Her recent theatre credits include: *Just Like Us* (Marisela), *Henry IV* (Hotspur) and *Yerma* (Yerma). Recent film credits include: *Cups* (2025) and *Sesasi* (2025). Blanca was recently awarded "Best Actress" for her performance in *Just Like Us* by LA Theatre Bites, and has received awards for her work in film including "Best Actress in a Lead Role" for *Lolo*. Blanca is proud to be a part of the world premiere of this beautiful story and dedicates this performance to her family. Follow her on instagram @blancaaisabella

LUCY RODRIGUEZ (*Mercy*) is exceedingly grateful to be back on stage in this beautiful production. She is proud to be a founding member of the Latino Theater Company (LTC) and currently serves as an Associate Artistic Director. LTC Theatre credits include *Whittier Boulevard*, *Premeditation*, *A Mexican Trilogy*, *Solitude*, *Faith*, *Melancholia*, *La Victima*, *Dementia* (2002, 2010 and 2017), *August 29*, *The Promise*, and *La Virgen de Guadalupe: Dios Inantzin*, which has been presented every December at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in

downtown L.A. for over 20 years! Other theatre credits include *Real Women Have Curves* at San Diego Rep (World Premiere), *A Christmas Carol*, *Man of the Flesh* at South Coast Rep. ¡Bocón! at The Mark Taper Forum. Film credits include *Moe*, *Species* and *Deception*. Television credits include recurring roles on *ER* and *Sunset Beach*. She studied at The Lee Strassberg Theatre Institute in West Hollywood and received a B.A. in English-Communication Arts from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, her hometown. Being involved with The Latino Theater Company has been one of the craziest and most rewarding experiences of her life; it is more than a professional commitment, it is her chosen family. After 40 years, she is grateful for the fantastic group of artists known as The Succession that are preparing to take the helm in a few years. She is grateful to her husband Albert for his unwavering love and support during their 42 years of marriage. She dedicates her performance to her beautiful daughters Isabel and Jessye – always listen to your heart and follow your dreams — and to all those caring for loved ones that have the “forgetting condition,” as playwright and friend, Luis Alfaro, calls it.

DIANA BURBANO (Understudy) is a Colombian-American actor, playwright, and fierce advocate for Latine stories on stage. An Imaginistas playwright at Latino Theater Company, her play *Reinas* is being developed through the Circle of Imaginistas playwrighting group. Los Angeles appearances include work at Center Theatre Group and The Geffen Playhouse. Her plays have been produced and developed at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Latino Theater Company, Artists Repertory Theatre, and Artists Repertory, among others, including *Ghosts of Bogotá*, *Sapience*, *Fabulous Monsters*, *Policarpa*, and *Beheading Columbus*. Her work is published with Concord and YouthPLAYS, and anthologized in *Speculative Fiction* for

PRODUCTION BIOS

Dreamers and The Routledge Companion to Latine Theatre and Performance. A SAG-AFTRA, AEA, and Dramatists Guild member, she serves on the Dramatists Guild Council and is a teaching artist at South Coast Repertory and CSULB. She is the Literary Director at Breath of Fire Latina Theater Ensemble, mentoring BIPOC writers in free community programs. Awards: 2021 Jane Chambers Award, 2023 O'Neill Finalist (*Beheading Columbus*), 2022 O'Neill Semifinalist (*As Girls Go*). Named a La Vanguardia Latino Innovator Shaping the Future of the Arts by the Los Angeles Times.

www.dianaburbano.com

@ladianaburbano

MAYA MALAN-GONZALEZ

(Understudy) (she/ella) is an ensemble member with Studio Luna and Interim Artistic Director of Milagro. Stage credits: *Adiós Mamá Carlota* (El Teatro Campesino); *Quixote Nuevo* (Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Seattle Rep, South Coast Repertory and Portland Center Stage); *Persuasion* (San Jose Stage Company); *Wolf at the Door and Lydia* (Milagro); *The Times, Generation Sex and Luna Unlaced* (Studio Luna); *Deferred Action* and *De Troya* (Cara Mia Theatre). Screen credits: *Lessons in Chemistry* (Apple Original), *Friends in High Places* (Pocha Productions), *My Friend Frida* (Haze Grey Pictures). Voiceover work: *Women of Fire* (Audible Original), and her story *Down the Side of the Mountain* is featured in *Talking While Female and Other Dangerous Acts* (Audible Original). Maya received her B.F.A from The Theatre School at DePaul University. Visit www.mayamalangonzalez.com to learn more.

EVELINA FERNÁNDEZ

 (Playwright)

Born and raised in East LA, she writes about the Mexican Diaspora in the U.S. She is a Founder and Resident Playwright at the Latino Theater Company @ The LATC. Her plays include *Sleep With The*

Angels, The Mother Of Henry (L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Award, L.A. Times Critic's Choice), *A Mexican Trilogy: Faith, Hope & Charity* published by Samuel French (L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award), *Solitude* (L.A. Times Critic's Choice), *Dementia* (L.A. Times Critic's Choice, Glaad Media Award For Outstanding Theater Production In Los Angeles), *La Virgen De Guadalupe, Dios Inantzin* (featured in both The LA Times and The NY Times), *Premeditation*, and the *Premeditation Podcast*. Other plays include *Sleep With The Angels, Luminarias, La Olla* and *Liz Estrada In The City Of Angels*. Next Up: *Blow Away The Clouds* at The Pacific Playwrights Festival at SCR in May 2026, and an adaptation of *Antigone – Antigone: In The Language Of Kings* at The Getty Villa in Summer 2026. She dedicates this play to her beautiful mother Esperanza Ontiveros.

JOSÉ LUIS VALENZUELA

 (Director)

José Luis Valenzuela is the visionary Artistic Director of the Latino Theater Company at The Los Angeles Theatre Center, and serves as Emeritus Distinguished Professor (formerly Head of the MFA Directing Program) at UCLA's School of Theater, Film & Television. For more than 30 years, he has championed Chicana/Latina theater—founding the Latino Theatre Lab at The LATC in 1985 and establishing the Latino Theater Initiative at the Mark Taper Forum in 1991—while directing acclaimed works like *Premeditation, Solitude, Dementia, A Mexican Trilogy, and Whittier Boulevard*. Nationally, his credits include *Macbeth* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and Karen Zacarias's *Destiny of Desire* at Arena Stage, South Coast Rep, Goodman Theatre, OSF, Cincinnati Playhouse, The Guthrie, and Milwaukee Rep. Internationally, he has directed *Peer Gynt* at Norway's Norland Theatre and Manuel Puig's *Kiss of the Spider Woman* at the National Theatre of Norway. He produced landmark national and international festivals—Encuentro (2014), Encuentro

PRODUCTION BIOS

de las Americas (2017), and Encuentro: A National Theatre Festival (2024), and co-directs the National Latinx Theater Initiative, which provides multi-year grants to Latinx theaters. His contributions have earned him the 2024 Gordon Davidson Award from the Stage Directors & Choreographers Foundation, and the 2025 Stage Raw Lifetime Achievement Award. He also served on the 2025 Pulitzer Prize Jury for Drama.

PRAIRIE T. TRIVUTH (Scenic Design) Prairie T. Trivuth is a Production Designer and member of the Art Directors Guild Local 800 as a Set Designer. Her Los Angeles area work includes *Library Of Maps* at the RMS Queen Mary; the premiere of Pulitzer Prize winning composer Kate Soper's *Romance Of The Rose* at the Warner Grand Theater; the premiere of *Isola* at Compound Long Beach with director George R. Miller; and the All-Oliveros season at Long Beach Opera with director James Darrah. Other theatrical highlights include *Fist* at HAU Hebbel Am Ufer Berlin performed by Johanna Hedva, *Other Seasons* by Nikita Gale at Performa NYC Biennial, and associate design work on the Broadway opening of Camille A. Brown's revival of *For Colored Girls* with designer Myung Hee Cho. She holds an MFA in Scenic and Production Design from UCLA and a Bachelor Of Architecture from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. @prairietrivuth www.prairiet.com

NAILA ALADDIN SANDERS (Costume Design) is pleased to be invited to contribute to this production. Past Latino Theater Company productions were *The Road Weeps*, *the Well Runs Dry*; *Premeditation*; *La Olla*; and *Whittier Blvd*.

JOSH EPSTEIN (Lighting Design) is excited to be designing his first Latino Theater Co. project. Notable local productions include *Noises Off*, *The Inheritance*, *A Wicked Soul on Cherry Hill*,

The Legend of Georgia McBride (Geffen Playhouse), *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Fantasticks* (Pasadena Playhouse), *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *God of Carnage*, *The Staircase*, *Galilee 34* (South Coast Rep), *Foursome*, *Cult of Love* (IAMA), *November*, *Race* (Center Theater Group). Additionally, his work has been seen in theatres across the country, including the Guthrie Theater, Steppenwolf Theatre, Arena Stage, Goodman Theatre, Trinity Repertory Company, Cincinnati Playhouse, Baltimore Center Stage, and Alliance Theatre. In addition, Epstein is an ensemble member at the IAMA Theatre Company and is on the faculty at Chapman University. He is an LA Ovation and Knight of Illumination Award winner and a Helen Hayes Award nominee. He was a recipient of the NEA/TCG Career Development Program for Designers and served as a Eugene O'Neill Playwrights Conference Artistic Council member for many years. Epstein received his MFA from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife and three daughters. joshepsteindesign.com

JOHN ZALEWSKI (Sound Design) is proud to have worked with the Latino Theater Company on over 11 productions and their various iterations since 2007, including *A Mexican Trilogy*, *Solitude*, *Destiny of Desire*, *Sleep With the Angels*, *Tacos La Brooklyn* and *The Little King of Norwalk*. He helped develop *The Day Shall Declare It*, an immersive performance installation with Wilderness (Ovation Award for Sound, 2015) in London and Los Angeles. Regional work includes Humana Festival, Oregon Shakespeare Festival (*Macbeth*), Goodman Theater, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Alliance Theater, Portland Center Stage, Guthrie. In 2025 he took The Useless Room's production of *The Undouble* to the Venice Biennale de Teatro and LaMama, NYC. He has taught and frequently designs at

PRODUCTION BIOS

Occidental College. Awards include eight LA Stage Alliance Ovation Awards, seven LA Weekly Awards, nine Backstage Garland Awards, five LA Drama Critic's Circle Awards, a Technical Design Career Achievement Award in 2025, and two Stage Raw Awards. Currently he is working on a fantastical audio play by Jose Cruz Gonzalez and *In Other People's Shoes* called *The Wondrous Adventures of Pia Sandía*.

YEE EUN NAM (Projection Design) Yee Eun Nam is thrilled to return to her artistic home, Latino Theater Company, where she has designed numerous productions since 2015. Recent credits include *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X* (Metropolitan Opera), *Yellowface* (Roundabout Theatre Company), and *Did You Eat? 밥 먹었니?* (The Public Theater). Her opera and music work includes the Metropolitan Opera, Detroit Opera, Opera Omaha, LA Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, the Kennedy Center, San Francisco Symphony, REDCAT, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, New World Center, and The Soraya. Theatre credits include Audible Theater, Ma-Yi Theater Company, Goodman Theatre, Mark Taper Forum (Center Theatre Group), A.C.T., South Coast Repertory, Pasadena Playhouse, Geffen Playhouse, Kansas City Rep, Deaf West Theatre, Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Getty Villa, and more. Yee Eun is a two-time Lucille Lortel Award nominee and a recipient of the LADCC Theatrical Excellence Award for CGI/Video. She is a member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829. She teaches scenic and projection design at UCI. www.yeeeunnam.com @yeenam

URBANIE LUCERO (Movement Coordinator/Choreographer) Urbanie's many works with the Latino Theater Company include: *Mascogos*, *American Mariachi*, *Tacos La Brooklyn*, *Whittier Boulevard*, *Sleep With The Angels*, *The Mother Of Henry*, *La Olla*, *Premeditation*,

Solitude, *Dementia*, *La Victima*, *Faith*, *Hope*, *Charity*, and *La Virgen de Guadalupe*, *Dios Inantzin*, in which she also portrays La Muerte. She was a member of the dance troupe Mexican and has been featured on stage, television and film. She performed on Broadway and off-Broadway in Linda Ronstadt's *Canciones De Mi Padre* as a featured dancer. She's performed at The Grammys and Great Performances for PBS. Urbanie has done numerous commercials and danced under the direction of Kenny Ortega. Urbanie choreographed the restaged production of *Eastside Heartbeats* at Casa 0101 in Boyle Heights.

ALEXA WOLFE (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be stage managing *The Storyteller of East LA!* Alexa is an AEA stage manager whose recent credits with the Latino Theater Company include *Mascogos*, *Just Like Us* (2025), *Encuentro 2024: We Are Here, Presente!*, *American Mariachi*, *Tacos La Brooklyn*, *Whittier Boulevard* (2023), and *La Virgen de Guadalupe*, *Dios Inantzin* (2023-2025). Alexa acted as tour manager on Shakespeare by the Sea's 2025 touring productions and has stage and production managed for companies throughout Southern California including Little Fish Theatre, The Electric Company Theatre, California Repertory Company, Woodcraft Rangers, Stagehouse Theatre, Theatre Threshold, Lime Arts Productions, and Lower Depth Theatre. @alexawolfestage

MAY FEI (CONGXIAO FEI) (*Production Manager*) is the production manager at the Latino Theater Company. Her work with the company includes *Encuentro 2024*, *a National Theatre Festival*; *La Virgen de Guadalupe*, *Dios Inantzin*; *Whittier Boulevard*; *Tacos La Brooklyn*; *Ghost Waltz*; and the entire 2025 Season . In addition to her role as production manager, she is also a director and actor. Her selected directing credits include the musical *Utopia Parkway* (The

PRODUCTION PARTS

Little Theater, UCLA), *BFE* (online stream), and *Entomb* (Shanghai, China). Her selected acting credits include *I Come to Say Goodbye* (25th International Theater Festival, Mexico), *Oedipus Rex* (Moscow, Russia), *Macbeth* (National Centre for the Performing Arts, China), and *The Postman* (Tianjin, China). May holds MFAs from both the University of California, Los Angeles, and the Shanghai Theatre Academy.

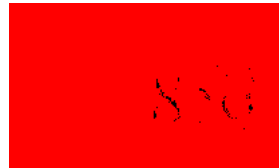
MARTHA ESPINOZA (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Originally from Mexico with a background in Architecture, Martha worked as an ASM for *Sleep with the Angels*, *Whittier Boulevard*, *American Mariachi*, *La Virgen* and *Just like Us*. Martha was part of the team of Native American Voices and worked as a Production & Costume Designer for the indie films *Love Doll*, *Chalino*, *Static* and *The Cradle*. Martha is thrilled to be part of *The Storyteller of East LA*, bringing to life this wonderful production, and is hoping that you enjoy the show!

LOLÁRIO CASTING (*Casting Director*) is committed to diverse representation on stage and screen, with a focus on uplifting voices from communities that have historically gone unheard. *The Storyteller of East LA* marks the company's fifth production with the Latino Theater Company. Recent casting credits with the company include *Just Like Us* by Karen Zacarías, *Mascogos* by Miranda González, and *Level Up!* by Gabriel Rivas Gómez.

MANEE LEIJA (*Wardrobe Supervisor*) has been involved in many roles within the Costume world since 2010: designing backstories, tailoring characters, and maintaining wardrobe looks, to name a few. They learned to appreciate garments and stylish statements translating traditional ideas into fresh new perspectives for the stage by attending fashion programs at Pasadena City College and Technical Theater programs

at East Los Angeles College. Their favorite part of the creative process would have to be the many opportunities to collaborate with amazing and talented individuals.

SPECIAL THANKS TO
Claire Fraser Walsh for creating the wings featured in this production.



This theater operates under an agreement with Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. The director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC). Lighting, sound, and scenic designers are represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829, IATSE.

WHEN WE COME TOGETHER, GREAT THINGS HAPPEN!

Our donors play an active role in bringing theater to Los Angeles that reflects the U.S. Latino experience and the demographics of the city. We gratefully acknowledge their generous support.

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Latino Theater Company is committed to connecting teatristas with comunidad. Your support makes sure that there's a space where our communities are heard and seen. It is what keeps our stages alive, our youth programs free, and our home at the Los Angeles Theatre Center a vibrant hub of cultural experiences. When our community is going through challenging times, we continue to ask urgent questions, offer hope, togetherness, and solidarity, expanding the narrative of what American theater can be.

Please consider making a contribution to Latino Theater Company and help us move our artistic mission forward. By making a one-time or sustaining donation, you'll enjoy benefits that enhance your theater-going experience throughout the year..

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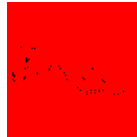
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The Latino Theater Company celebrates over 40 years of commitment to creating exciting, thought-provoking theater for the LA community. Founded at the LATC in 1985 with Artistic Director José Luis Valenzuela, the company has significantly contributed to the advancement of U.S. Latino Theater. In 2006 the City of Los Angeles awarded LTC with a 20-year lease to operate the Los Angeles Theatre Center, which was extended in 2021 for another 25 years to 2056. As operators of The Los Angeles Theatre Center, the Latino Theater Company’s mission is to provide a world-class arts center for those pursuing artistic excellence; a laboratory where both tradition and innovation are honored and honed; and a place where the convergence of people, cultures, and ideas contribute to the future. We are dedicated to contributing new stories to the American theater repertoire and increasing opportunities in theater for underserved communities. As the nation's largest theater company serving Latinx audiences, we produce work by local playwrights and highlight new voices within the Latinx, First Nation, Black, Asian American, Jewish American and LGBTQ+ communities. Located in Downtown Los Angeles, our world-class arts complex has 80,000 square feet of performance, office and gallery space.

As an organization dedicated to providing space for artists from many cultural backgrounds, we want to acknowledge that the building where The LATC is located, in which we gather to share stories, is on the unceded lands of the Gabrielino-Tongva and Kizh people. We pay our respect to the Gabrielino-Tongva, Kizh, and other Indigenous caretakers of these lands and waters; and to their elders who have lived here, who live here now, and who will live here in the future. We extend that respect to all Indigenous people who join us for programming at The Los Angeles Theatre Center.

CONTACT

Latino Theater Company at
The Los Angeles Theatre Center
514 S. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

213-489-0994

Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Please visit latinotheaterco.org for hours, parking and more information.

BOX OFFICE

The Box Office window is open one hour before curtain time for same day sales and closes 30 minutes after. Tickets may be purchased 24/7 online via latinotheaterco.org/tickets

WARNING: The photographing or sound recording of any performance or the possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside this theater, without the written permission of the management, is prohibited by law. Violators may be punished by ejection and violations may render the offender liable for money damages.

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As a courtesy to the artists and fellow patrons, we kindly request that you turn off cell phones, all electronic devices, and anything that may emit light before the performance begins. Please refrain from talking or making disruptive noises during the performance. Photography and the use of electronic recording devices are not permitted during the performances.

The Latino Theater Company is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

The Los Angeles Theatre Center is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department and is operated by the Latino Theater Company.



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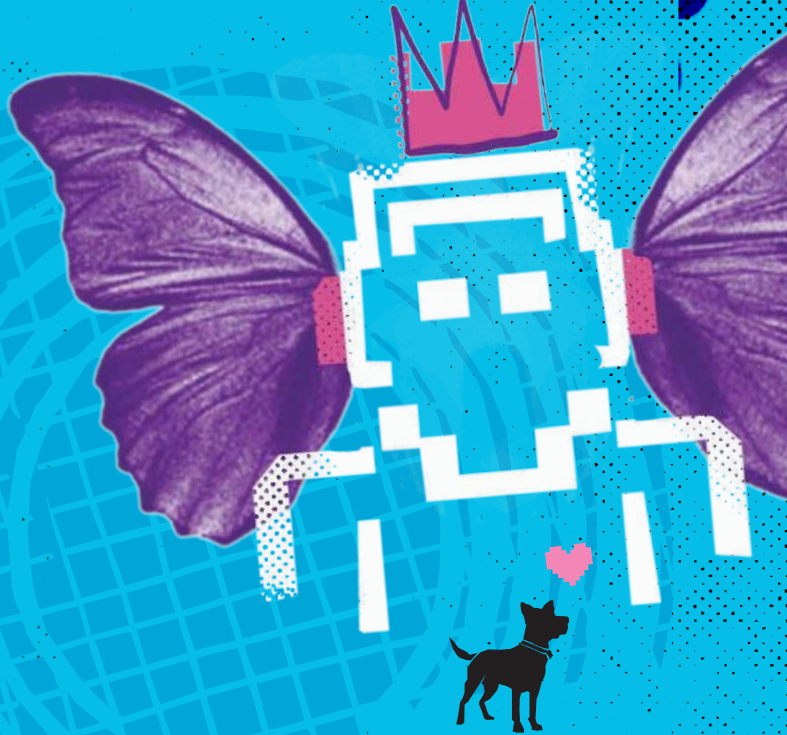
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Since opening in 1985, The LATC has appeared in over a hundred motion pictures, television shows, commercials, and music videos.

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