





WRITTEN BY LUIS ALFARO DIRECTED BY CATHERINE CASTELLANOS
RESTAGED FOR LTC BY SEAN SAN JOSE



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Did you know that nearly 40% of Latino Theater Company's operating budget comes from the generous support of individuals like you? Please consider entering our Circle of Friends and help us move forward in furthering our artistic mission.

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WELCOME TO THE LOS ANGELES THEATRE CENTER

elcome to the Latino Theater Company's 2023 fall season of captivating new work at the Los Angeles Theatre Center!

Showcasing three extraordinarily theatrical voices, this season promises to engage our community in cultural discussions surrounding vital issues of cultural appropriation, spiritual understanding, and the complexities of cultural colonization and exoticization within the Western theatrical canon.

In collaboration with Artists at Play, *This is Not a True Story* by Preston Choi, provides layers and complexities absent from the stereotypical and sexist exoticized gaze of *Madama Butterfly* and *Miss Saigon* and debunks a history of Western Orientalism with sharp humor and grace. Joel Ulloa's *Tacos La Brooklyn* asks his audience to reconsider their biases as he poses questions surrounding complex ideas of cultural appropriation and cultural appreciation. Luis Alfaro's *The Travelers* takes us on a journey into a spiritual world showing us what it means to be human in a harsh, unpredictable, and often cruel world. Latino Theater Company closes our season with our annual celebration *La Virgen de Guadalupe*, *Dios Inantzín*, a pageant play featuring music and dance that retells the story of Juan Diego and his journey of faith, illuminating the power of perseverance and self-belief in the face of obstacles and humiliation.

These vital contemporary works speak to our times and challenge our collective understanding of colonization, religion, and how we consume entertainment in a multicultural society like Los Angeles. Our history is in danger of being forgotten as we face unprecedented challenges together. These remarkable plays provide a human perspective and provoke discussion about the shared desire of our communities, and illuminate our need for cultural dialogue about who we are and how we relate to one another as both individuals and communities from varying cultural backgrounds. They will make you laugh, cry, and meditate on our shared future as human beings.

Thank you for embarking on these theatrical journeys, pondering these profound questions, and embracing the diversity that enriches our world and the human experience.

José Luis Valenzuela

Artistic Director

Latino Theater Co. at The LATC



Thank you



The Sheri and Les
BILLER FAMILY FOUNDATION

Your support makes our season possible!

LATINO THEATER COMPANY IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE MAGIC THEATRE AND HOME RESIDENT COMPANY CAMPO SANTO PRESENTS



LUIS ALFARO

Juan Manuel Amador*
Daniel Duque-Estrada*
Guillermo Yiyo Ornelas
Sean San José
Kinan Valdez
Ogie Zulueta*

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

SCENIC DESIGN

COSTUME DESIGN

LIGHTING DESIGN

SOUND DESIGN

Tanya Orellana

Christopher Sauceda

Grisel Torres / gg

Christopher Sauceda

PROJECTION DESIGN

Joan Osato

MOVEMENT DIRECTOR
Patricia Ong

STAGE MANAGER Lauren Ouan

PRODUCTION MANAGER

May Fei

SCENIC DESIGN COLLABORATOR

Brittany White

ORIGINAL COSTUME DESIGN

Abra Berman

ORIGINAL SOUND DESIGN

Sara Huddleston

DIRECTED BY

CATHERINE CASTELLANOS

RESTAGED FOR LTC BY

SEAN SAN JOSÉ

THE TRAVELERS will be performed without an intermission.

World Premiere Production was Produced by the Magic Theatre and Developed with Campo Santo San Francisco, California

The Travelers is produced by special arrangement with THE GERSH AGENCY, 41 Madison Ave, 29th Floor, New York, NY 10010

This production is supported in part by the Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF) and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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

SEPT 21 - OCT 15, 2022 THE LOS ANGELES THEATRE CENTER

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 Nation. We pay our respect to The Gabrielino-Tongva Nation 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.



JUAN MANUEL AMADOR (Brother Juan) (he/him) Juan Manuel Amador is excited to be making his Los Angeles theatre debut with this special show. Juan is an actor, emcee, DJ, and active member of the Bay

Area's Campo Santo artist collective. Regional Credits: Oedipus El Rev. A Lie of the Mind (Magic Theatre); Romeo y Juliet, Quixote Nuevo (Cal Shakes); Between Riverside and Crazy (San Jose Stage): Candlestick (ACT Costume Shop): Casa de Spirits (Yerba Buena Center for the Arts); To The Bone (Ubuntu Theater Project); Babylon is Burning (Z Space); Superheroes (Cutting Ball Theater). National Tours: Quixote Nuevo (Hartford Stage/Huntington Theatre Company/Alley Theatre); Nogales (Borderlands Theater/Magic Theater): Tree City Legends (Living Word Project). Audio Plays: Hotel Angulo: The Palacios Sisters: Shelter, Web Series: East WillyB. Film: Side Effects (Campo Santo); 406 Bullet. Awards: Connecticut Critics Circle; Grammy Award nominee. You can also hear Juan every weeknight (when he's not performing) 8-10pm on 91.7 KALW in the Bay Area and KALW.org.



DANIEL DUQUE-ESTRADA (Brother Daniel) (he/him) Other theatres include The Play Company and The Women's Project (off-Broadway); California Shakespeare Theater, Shakespeare Santa

Cruz, The Magic Theatre, and Marin Theatre Company, and two seasons with The Oregon Shakespeare Festival, among others. He has been a member of the resident acting companies at The Dallas Theatre Center, and Trinity Repertory Company. MFA from Brown University/Trinity Rep.



GUILLERMO "YIYO"
ORNELAS (Brother Yiyo)
(they/them) is a theatre
creator, teaching artist, and
arts education advocate.
As a first-generation
Mexican-American, they
understand the impact
that an arts education

can have, especially to members of vulnerable communities. Yiyo has worked with local communities to encourage youth and their families to foster creative modes of expression, through the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts, the Teatro Project, and JumpStart, They have served as the Vice-Chair for the Arts Education Alliance of the Bay Area (AEABA) to ensure that arts education be equitable and accessible to all members of the community. Prior to coming to the Bay Area they led a weekly theater workshop for runaway and homeless youth in Redlands, California. As an actor, Yiyo has worked with Campo Santo, Fuse, and foolsFury. Yivo holds a B.A from UC Berkeley. double majoring in Sociology and Theatre & Performance Studies, where they received the Mark Goodson award for 'Distinguished Artistic Talent.



SEAN SAN JOSÉ

(Brother Santo) (he/him) Sean San José is a new works creator. Now, in the first years as the Lead Director of the Magic Theatre in San Francisco, the spaces are filled with Resident Companies and

Artists, all rightfully centering People of Color throughout the organization. Already the new team at the Magic Theatre has premiered works from Tongo Eisen-Martin, Roger Guenveur Smith, Bennett Fisher, Luis Alfaro, Playwright-In-Residence Star Finch, Marc Anthony Thompson (Chocolate Genius Inc.), with new works to come from Ashley Smiley, Virginia Grise and Quetzal, Naomi Iizuka, Richard Montoya, and even more. He is a co-founder of new performances group Campo Santo, who have premiered over 100 new pieces since 1996. He is humbled by his long relationship with Luis Alfaro; honored to

work with LTC; and at LATC, the place where he first saw the amazing Reza Abdoh and Dar a Luz and Culture Clash in one weekend; and spirited by the memory of last experiencing Reina Diane Rodriguez' work here. San José is a proud part of Colman Domingo's production company Edith Productions for film, television, & theatre. MagicTheatre.org/ @campo_santo_fam



OGIE ZULUETA

(Brother Ogie) (he/him)
A versatile artist and a
proud member of both AEA
and SAG-AFTRA, Ogie
has had the privilege of
leaving an indelible mark
in the world of theater.
His journey spans SF/Bay

Area theaters, including notable contributions to Ubuntu Theatre Project, A.C.T., Magic Theatre, Crowded Fire Theater, Ferocious Lotus, and numerous others. On a regional scale, Ogie has lent his talents to renowned productions at La Jolla Playhouse, South Coast Repertory, Mark Taper Forum, Antaeus Theatre Company, and Singapore Repertory, among other esteemed theaters. In the realm of film and television. Ogie boasts an impressive array of credits, including noteworthy appearances in "Day Without A Mexican," "Pink as the Day She was Born", "How to Make your First Billion & Save the World", "The Truer History of the Chan Family", and "You'll lose a good thing" among others. Beyond his on-screen and stage accomplishments. Ogie remains an active and devoted member of Ferocious Lotus Theatre Company and Oakland Theatre Project, where he continually fuels his boundless passion for the arts and creative expression.



KINAN VALDEZ

(Brother Nancho) (he/ him) Kinan is a life-long member of El Teatro Campesino, the famed social justice theater company founded by Luis Valdez. As a theater artist, he explores the intersections between the mundane and the mythic through participatory, community-based performance. Kinan serves a national advisor for the Latinx Theatre Commons and has won several awards for civic engagement, including the TCG/ Peter Zeisler Memorial Award for activism in the theatre field. He has been a lecturer in drama at UC Santa Cruz since 2009.

LUIS ALFARO (Playwright) (he/him) is a Chicano playwright born and raised in downtown Los Angeles. He has received fellowships from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, popularly known as a "genius grant", awarded to people who have demonstrated expertise and exceptional creativity in their respective fields; United States Artists; Ford Foundation Art of Change; Joyce Foundation; Mellon Foundation and is the recipient of the PEN America/Laura Pels International Foundation Theater Award for a Master Dramatist. He was the inaugural Playwright-in-Residence for six seasons at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival (2013-2019); Playwright's Ensemble at Chicago's Victory Gardens Theatre (2013-2020); Inaugural Latinx Playwrights at the Los Angeles Theatre Center (2021-); and Ojai Playwrights Conference member (2002-2022). He developed and produced plays at Center Theatre Group (1995-2005, 2021-2022). His plays include Electricidad, Oedipus El Rey, Moiada, and have been seen at regional theatres throughout the United States, Latin America, Canada and Europe. He is an Associate Professor at the University of Southern California. Luis spent two decades in the Los Angeles Poetry and Performance Art communities.

CATHERINE CASTELLANOS (Director)

(she/her) has been a company member with Magic Theatre's resident theatre company Campo Santo since 2001, creating premiere works with renowned writers Denis Johnson, Jessica Hagedorn, Naomi Iizuka, Octavio Solis, Dave Eggers, Vendela Vida, Juno Diaz, to name a few, and including Luis Alfaro with Alleluia, The Road. As an actor, Catherine

recently appeared as Fefu in Fefu And Her Friends at the American Conservatory Theatre. Other A.C.T. credits are the Ghost of Christmas Present in A Christmas Carol and Between Riverside and Crazy as The Church Lady. She holds thirteen seasons as an Associate Artist with the California Shakespeare Theater in such roles as Prospero in The Tempest, Sir Toby Belch in Twelfth Night, the Nurse in Romeo and Juliet, Queen Margaret in Richard III, Emilia in Othello, to name a few of the 21 roles performed. Other Bay Area credits include The Magic Theatre, San Jose Repertory Theatre, Roe at Berkeley Repertory Theatre, and Phaedra at Shotgun Players. Regionally, Catherine has acted at Yale Repertory Theatre, La MaMa, Arena Stage, Portland Center Stage, and with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's 2016-2020 seasons. She will be returning to OSF for the 2023 season to play Sir Toby in Twelfth Night and Lord Capulet in Romeo and Juliet. Castellanos has worked coaching and teaching restorative justice through theatre art with Community Works West Rising Voices and with the men in blue at San Quentin. Catherine is eternally grateful to have found familia and a home with Campo Santo. Muchas gracias to Brother Sean. Outrageously grateful to be reuniting with Maestro Alfaro's artistry; he never ceases to improve life. To Miles and Gabriel, big heart thanks for their generosity in sharing their mama with the theatre all these years. This is for my father, José Castellanos, who bravely traveled to this country with big dreams, a giant heart, and the strength to withstand struggle. Love to my angel brothers David and Johnny, I carry your love.

TANYA ORELLANA (Set Design)(she/her) designs performance spaces for theatre, opera and immersive experiences. Collaborations include Fefu and her Friends directed by Pam MacKinnon at ACT's Strand Theatre, Oedipus directed by Jenny Koons at The Getty Villa, We the Peoples Before directed by Roberta Uno at The Kennedy Center, The Industry's Sweet Land, an immersive opera directed by Yuval Sharon and Cannupa Hanska Luger at LA State Historic Park, Long Beach Opera's Voices from a Killing Jar by Kate Soper,

directed by Zoe Aja Moore, LEAR by Marcus Gardley directed by Eric Ting at Calshakes, and The Kind Ones by Miranda Rose Hall directed by Lisa Peterson here at The Magic Theatre. She has been a member of Campo Santo since 2008 and is a recipient of the Princess Grace Fabergé Theatre Award. www.tanyaorellana. com. MFA CalARTS.

CHRISTOPHER "SAUCEY" SAUCEDA

(Costume & Sound Design) (ay/guey) is a versatile professional with expertise in various fields of sound, including design, installation art, composition, production, engineering, and new-work development. He has recently collaborated with esteemed individuals and organizations such as Marc Anthony Thompson's *The N*****Lovers*, Miranda Rose Hall's The Kind Ones directed by Lisa Peterson at the Magic Theatre, and Many & More Productions with Sean San José. Christopher's upcoming collaborations will include new-work projects with Ashley Smiley, Virginia Grise & Quetzal, Naomi Iizuka, Richard Montoya, and Ellen Sebastian Chang at the Magic Theatre. In addition to his work in show design, Christopher also produces for the Magic Theatre, hosts a monthly arts event series, engages in graphic design, creates fashion, and is in the process of establishing an all-stage music production label. For any creative inquiries, SAUCEY can be contacted at sauceda.m.chris@gmail.com.

GRISEL TORRES / gg (Lighting Design) (they/she) is a multidisciplinary theatre, sound, and visual artist from Ohlone Muwekma Territory. They hold a Bachelors of Art in Drama from SFSU's School of Theatre and Dance where they studied light design and technical theatre. They primarily design lights for live and filmed movement-based works and theatre and prioritize working on projects that highlight and celebrate the stories of Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous, Disabled, People of color. GG also leads her own project that explores live intuitiveimprovisational lighting scores in collaboration with other artists and musicians. She is currently the Producing Technical Director at the San Francisco experimental dance venue CounterPulse. The art of production and theatre informs GG's investigations in other

mediums by highlighting the importance of ritual, community connection, and making space for transcendence to occur. She is excited to continue exploring this with Latino Theater Company, Magic Theatre, and the Travelers. Follow GG on Instagram @8i8x8i8x8i8

JOAN OSATO (*Projection Design*) (she/her) is Producer for The Living Word Project and the critically acclaimed theater group Campo Santo. As cultural organizer - she works on behalf of national networks, and sits on the boards of the National Performance Network, and the Consortium of Asian American Theaters and Artists. She is an awardee of prestigious grants from the MAP Fund, the Wattis Foundation, Kenneth Rainin Foundation, and the Creative Work Fund. She was the inaugural recipient of SFAC's Artist and Communities Partnership Grant, Theater Bay Area Award for Excellence in Video Design (Tribes by Nina Raine, at Berkeley Rep) and the Surdna Foundation's Artists Engaged in Social Change Award. She has been recognized for her work as a photographer from Artslant, Prix de Photographie, Laguna Arte Prize and has exhibited throughout the San Francisco Bay Area since 2009. In 2019 she received CalShakes Luminary Award for Community Engagement, was named a recipient of Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. YBCA 100, and is an awardee of the Creative Capital along with writer Sunhui Chang.

PATRICIA ONG (Movement Director) (she/her) is a dancer and choreographer, with a creative practice rooted in culture, healing and community. She has performed in the SF Bay Area with the Kendra Kimbrough Dance Ensemble, Alleluia Panis Dance Theater, Erika Shuch Performance Project, Malia Movement Company, Sydney Loyola Dance, Parangal Dance Company, musician/composer Rachel Lastimosa and Sean San Jose. She is deeply honored be immersed in the world of this phenomenal play in Los Angeles with Luis, Sean, Catherine, and the incredible actors and creative team.

LAUREN QUAN (Stage Manager) (she/her) is a Bay Area based stage manager who is excited to be working in Los Angeles for the first time. She has previously worked on other Magic Theatre productions such as: The N* Lovers by Marc Anthony Thompson, Josephine's Feast by Star Finch, The Kind Ones by Miranda Rose Hall, Monument by Sam Chanse and the world premiere of The Travelers by Luis Alfaro in San Francisco. Lauren has also stage managed at other Bay Area theaters such as Aurora Theater and Berkeley Playhouse.

MAY FEI (CONGXIAO FEI) (Production Manager) is a director, actor and writer. Her works at Latino Theater Co. & The LATC include Circle of Imaginistas Reading Series. La Virgen Guadalupe Dios Inantzin, Whittier Boulevard, Melancholia(Tour), (un)documents, Desert Stories For the Lost Girls . Letters From The Black Sea (co-produced and performed at the Getty Villa). Her directing credits include the Musical Utopia Parkway (The Little Theater, UCLA), BFE (online Stream), Entomb (Shanghai, China), YE-ZI (Shanghai China). Her acting credits include I Come To Say Goodbye (25th International Theater Festival in Mexico), Oedipus Rex (Moscow, Russia), Macbeth (National Centre for the Performing Arts, China), The Postman (Tianjin, China). Her writing credits include Parallel Love (24-episode TV series), Entomb (Published on Chinese Writer). She received her MFA degrees from University of California, Los Angeles, and Shanghai Theatre Academy, She received her Bachelor's Degree of Literature from Shanghai Theatre Academy.

The Travelers received readings at Playwrights
Arena in Los Angeles, A.C.T. in San Francisco, Magic
Theatre in San Francisco, and the Ojai Playwrights
Conference.

On the road, The Travelers who helped give voice this play were; Brother Orlando Arriaga, Brother Juan Carrillo, Brother Moises Castro, Brother Will Dao, Brother Justin Huen, Brother Alberto Isaac, Brother Israel Lopez Reyes, Brother Michael Manuel, Brother Xavi Moreno, Brother Gio Ortega, Brother Joe Quintero, Brother Jesus Reyes, Brother Brian Rivera, Brother Eddie Ruiz, Brother Xago Suarez, Brother Rodney To, Brother Trieu Tran, and Brother Juan Villa



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The Eastside Arts Initiative (EAI) is a grant-making program of LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes (LA Plaza) supporting arts initiatives and fostering collaborations for furthering the arts in eastern Los Angeles County.

eastsideartsinitiative.org





THIS IS NOTA TRUE STORY

WRITTEN BY PRESTON CHOI DIRECTED BY REENA DUTT

SEPT 14 **– OCT 15**

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WRITTEN BY JOEL ULLOA DIRECTED BY FIDEL GOMEZ

OCT 29

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OUR LEGACY

Since the company's founding in 1967 by visionary **John Lion**, the Magic Theatre has identified and cultivated writers on the cutting edge of American theatre, serving as a vital center for the creation and performance of new American plays. **Sam Shepard** developed and premiered his Pulitzer Prize-winning *Buried Child, True West*, and *Fool for Love* during his decade-long Magic residency (1974-84), forever altering the shape of American drama.

Magic is, and has been, home to a roster of brilliant artists: Paula Vogel, Soon 3, Athol Fugard, Mark O'Rowe, Nilo Cruz, Octavio Solis, Claire Chafee, Jon Robin Baitz, Anne Bogart, Stephen Belber, Basil Twist, and Rebecca Gilman, Linda McLean, Teresa Rebeck, Lloyd Suh, Julie Marie Myatt, and Christina Anderson. Magic plays have received numerous awards: the Pulitzer Prize for Sam Shepard's Buried Child, ten Obie Awards, the Kennedy Center Award, PEN-West Awards for Drama, Bay Area Critics' Circle Awards, Los Angeles Drama-Logue Awards, and the NAACP Image Award.

A BOLD, NEW ERA

With the appointment of **Sean San José** as the new Artistic Director in June 2021, Magic enters a new golden age, as the first person of color to fully lead the organization in its 50+ year history. With this new leadership Magic is dedicated to making the Magic Theatre a home to more people by rightfully centering Black, Indigenous, and people of color.

While continuing to premiere bold and new plays as The Magic has done for 54 years, it is expanding its vision with exciting new programs: introducing a Residency Program-which includes Home Resident Company Campo Santo and the historic Lorraine Hansberry Theatre (Artistic Director Margo Hall), along with Black Artists Contemporary Cultural Experience (Co-Artistic Directors Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe and Rotimi Agbabiaka), Ellen Sebastian Chang/ Sunhui Chang, the proud new home of the renowned Saint John Coltrane Church, and TigerBear Productions, and the incoming Play On! Shakespeare; new Performances Program, San Francisco Poet Laureate Tongo Eisen-Martin; and our own Resident Artists: highlighting Playwright-In-Residence Star Finch and Resident Curator Juan Amador, Resident Producer Jerome Gentes, and designers Russell Champa, Tanya Orellana, Joan Osato, Christopher Sauceda, and Brittany White, Hybrid Program by Ashley Smiley.

THE CITY INSIDE

2023 marks a dynamic new visual identity, Magic Theatre embraces a shift energetically, artistically, and aesthetically extending into lobby, cathedral, and theatres. Multiple new wall sized murals by local artists Mister Bouncer (Miguel Perez) from the Trust Your Struggle Collective, Adrian Arias, CeCe Carpio, and a space filled with legendary Black art from the Saint John Coltrane Church by Emory Douglas, Mark Roman, and Deacon Mark Doox. The space is open year round now for engagement and entertainment, arts and activation from the plays to the people- the Magic Theatre is Home for bringing the City inside.

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"The Latino Theater Company is among America's great ensembles." American Theater Magazine, 2015

The Latino Theater Company celebrates 38 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. At the Latino Theater Co. our 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; 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.

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213-489-0994

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

Please visit latinotheaterco.org for hours,

BOX OFFICE

before curtain time for same day sales and closes 30 minutes after. Tickets may be purchased 24/7 online via latinotheaterco.

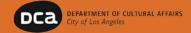
LATE SEATING

We strongly encourage you to arrive at least an hour prior to curtain. This will provide you with plenty of time to park your vehicle and pick up your tickets without feeling rushed. If our concessions for a drink, a small snack or stop by one of our neighboring restaurants

no late seating. If you have to leave a show before its end, please do so between program

NO PHOTOGRAPHY

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Thank your The circles of the covering of the invention

Circles often symbolize harmony, inclusion, and unity. The circle was at the basis of the invention of the wheel, which brought about movement.

Our Circle of Friends donors play an active role in bringing the ater to Los Angeles that reflects the US Latina/o/x experience and the demographics of the city. We gratefully acknowledge their generous support (2018-present).

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