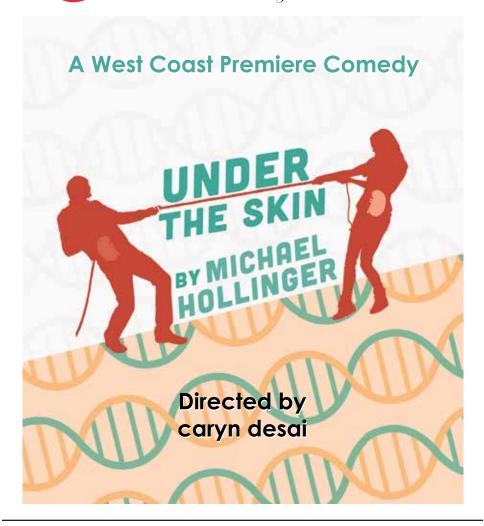
International City Theatre





2023 SEASON SPONSORS:

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Honorary Producer:

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Beverly O'Neill Theater 330 E. Seaside Way Info: 562-436-4610

Website: InternationalCityTheatre.org

Previews: Apr. 26 & 27 Opening Night: Apr. 28 Performances through May 14 Thurs-Sat and Previews at 8 p.m. Sundays at 2 p.m.

A Note from the Artistic Director|Producer, caryn desai



Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.—Nelson Mandela

Western theatre's roots began as escapist entertainment and as a means of civic engagement in Greece during the 6th Century BC. Theater encouraged Greeks to "become more moral by processing the most important issues of the day," through both tragedy and satire. The Ancient Greeks took their entertainment very seriously

and used drama as a way of investigating the world they lived in, and what it means to be human. Theatre does not only act as entertainment; it holds up a mirror to society and influences introspection. You can discover something new about yourself and the world you live in by watching what unfolds in front of you. If you want to understand the issues and concerns of society at any given time, read the plays of that period. Supporting new works and writers who address today's issues and concerns is a part of an ancient tradition of cultural reflection and entertainment. It is our mission and our legacy.

International City Theatre wants to ensure the future of this most human art form which is why we also make a huge investment in education to introduce youth to live theatre. Theatre arts education reinforces literacy and language skills, supports creative and critical thinking skills, builds confidence and teamwork, and teaches discipline. Here is a brief summary of our programs:

- Free Family Saturday Theatre program introduces children to a one-hour live theatre presentation that is often interactive with the audience
- Performing Arts Classroom Teaching (PACT) provides 3 sequential, curriculum-based workshops in third grade classrooms which includes writing and performing a play
- Summer Youth Conservatory trains children 7 to 15 in acting, singing, dancing and playwriting. This year's conservatory runs July 3 to July 27
- Students to Stage provides free or reduced-priced tickets to middle, high school and college students to our main stage productions
- Internships for arts administration or production

More information can be found on our website. www.ictlongbeach.org

You can help introduce youth to the theatre through these programs and help ensure the future of theatre. Thanks for sharing time with us today. Enjoy the show!

Artistic Director/Producer: caryn desai
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Program Designer: Denis Nigos
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International City Theatre

Your Award-winning Professional Regional Theatre
Presents

Under the Skin

by Michael Hollinger Directed by caryn desai

PRODUCTION

Director/Producer: caryn desai Scenic Designer: Tim Mueller Lighting Designer: Donna Ruzika

Resident Costume Designer: Kimberly DeShazo

Sound Designer: Dave Mickey

Resident Property Designers: Patty and Gordon Briles Resident Hair and Wig Designer: Anthony Gagliardi Production Stage Manager: John H. Freeland, Jr. *

Assistant Stage Manager: Lorenzo Marino

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Resident Casting Director: Richie Ferris, CSA

Wardrobe Crew: Alice Kanzler Sound Crew: Sarai Sarmiento

Master Electrician: Daniel Moorehead

Photographer: Kayte Deioma House Manager: Linda Miller

CAST (in alphabetical order)

Lou Ziegler: Tony Abatemarco *

Marlene Hayes/Dr. Badu/Barista: Tanya Alexander *

Raina LaMott: Allison Blaize *
Jarrell Hayes/Hector: Julian Smith

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

Place: A hospital room in Philadelphia. And many other locations. But always a hospital room.

Time: The present, mostly.

Running Time: Approximately 135 minutes

SPECIAL THANKS!

A special thanks to our Medical Consultant, Dr. Minnie Douglas, who has kindly and generously shared her time and expertise on this production.

As a courtesy to the actors onstage and your fellow audience members, please turn off your cell phone, beeper or any electronic device that might make noise during the performance. Also, if you use your cell phone during intermission, please ensure that your phone is turned off before you re-enter the auditorium. Thank you for your cooperation!

The videotaping or making of electronic or other audio and/or visual recordings of this production and distributing recordings or streams in any medium, including the internet, is strictly prohibited, a violation of the author(s)'s rights and actionable United States copyright law. For more information, please visit: https://concordtheatricals.com/resources/protecting-artists

Michael Hollinger (Playwright) is the author of Ghost-Writer, Opus, Tooth and Claw, Red Herring, Incorruptible, An Empty Plate in the Café Du Grand Boeuf, and Tiny Island, all of which premiered at Philadelphia's Arden Theatre Company. These plays have enjoyed numerous productions around the country, in New York City, and abroad. His musical A Wonderful Noise (co-authored with Vance Lehmkuhl) has received the Frederick Loewe Award for Musical Theatre, the "In the Spirit of America" Award from the Barbara Barondess MacLean Foundation, and a developmental production at Creede Repertory Theatre. His translation/co-adaptation (with Aaron Posner) of Cyrano De Bergerac premiered in 2011 at the Folger Theatre in Washington, D.C. Other awards include a Harold & Mimi Steinberg New Play Citation from the American Theatre Critics Association, a Roger L. Stevens Award from the Kennedy Center's Fund for New American Plays, a Mid-Atlantic Emmy Award, an Edgerton Foundation New American Plays Award, the F. Otto Haas Award for an Emerging Theatre Artist, three Barrymore Awards for Outstanding New Play, a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award, nominations for Lucille Lortel and John Gassner Awards, and fellowships from the Independence Foundation, Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation, and Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Michael is an Associate Professor of Theatre at Villanova University, and a proud alumnus of New Dramatists.

caryn desai (Director/Producer) is an award-winning director with awards and nominations from LA Drama Critics Circle, LA Weekly, Drama-Logue, Robby, Ovation and NAACP for her productions. Recent directing: Valley Song, Art, Daisy, Beast on the Moon, Cardboard Piano, Uncanny Valley, and Doubt. Selected credits: Other Desert Cities, Red, God of Carnage, Backwards in High Heels, Dinah Was (most L.A. Ovation award nominations) "Master Harold" ... and the boys, A Shayna Maidel, Shakuntala (also adapted by her), Rashomon, Our Town, The Importance of Being Earnest, Contradictions (her original work), Antigone, and Oedipus. Selected musicals: Raisin (LADCC "Best Production"), Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Once on This Island, and Tapestry. caryn is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. She has an MFA in directing from UC Irvine, a BA from CSU, Long Beach in acting and directing, an AA from LBCC, and a certificate from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, London. She has certificates in Arts Administration, Marketing and Fundraising. With a full Fellowship, she completed an Executive Program at Stanford University's Graduate School of Business as one of 50 arts leaders in the nation selected for the initial program. Additionally, she completed an Executive Coaching Program through the Hudson Institute, Santa Barbara. She has served on grant panels for the county and city and as a speaker/panelist for the SRO Theatre Conference at USC on Best Practices, the Technical Theatre Conference about the role of a director, and more. She represented ICT as a National Participant for the Listening Post Project with Johns Hopkins University and was named "Enterprising Woman in the Arts" in Long Beach. caryn was honored with the "We Can Do It" Award from the Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Foundation and nominated as an Amazing Woman in the Arts. She taught college for more than 25 years and received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Long Beach City College. She served as a Dramaturgical Responder for the graduate playwriting students at USC and served as Vice Chair for the LA Producers League for Large Theatres. In 2016 she was the keynote speaker at the Disneyland Hotel for INTIX. That same year she accepted the LA Drama Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Season and was recognized as a 2016 Community Hero by the African American History & Culture Foundation. In 2018 caryn was named Distinguished Alumna from the College of the Arts at California State University, Long Beach. Prior to the pandemic, she returned to teaching Nonprofit Arts Management at CSU, Fullerton. Most recently she was honored to be included on the Long Beach City College Hall of Fame and to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Long Beach NAACP.



Tony Abatemarco (Lou) was Co-Artistic Director at Skylight Theatre Company. Awards: Ovation for Lead Performance —*The Mystery of Irma Vep*, LA Weekly (multiple), two NEA Directing Fellowships. 3x LA Drama Critics' Nominee (Lead Performance), most recently for: "Rothko" in *Red* here at ICT where he's also appeared in *Beast on the Moon, The Price, A Walk in the Woods*, and *Trying*. Regional credits: CTG, Geffen, South Coast Rep, Pittsburgh Public, Santa Fe Stages,

Williamstown, Arena, Folger. In NY: Rattlestick, Public Theatre, Cherry Lane. Director: on Broadway (Julie Harris, *Lucifer's Child*) & in London's West End (*Catwalk Confidential*). On camera work includes the limited series *The Shrink Next Door, How To Get Away With Murder, Beverly Hills Ninja 2, Town & Country, Sleeping with the Enemy*, HBO's *Sacrifice, The L Word, E.R., Frasier*, etc. and ten Nat'l commercials. Teacher: USC (retired) & SMC Emeritus College (endowed chair). Playwright: LA Weekly & DramaLogue awards. His volume of collected plays – "ACTION/ITEMS, The Collected Plays of –" is available at amazon.com. Thrilled to be back at ICT under caryn's direction. He dedicates this one to A & A and to Joe.



Tanya Alexander (Marlene/Dr. Badu/Barista) is a high school valedictorian, an alumnus of AMDA-New York, and a Summa Cum Laude/Phi Beta Kappa graduate of St. Louis University's theatre program. An artist of the stage, screen, and radio, her credits include Off Broadway: In Dahomey, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Crimson Landbeats; National Tour: The Wiz; LA local: Nothing But the Truth & Clybourne Park (Mark Taper Forum), Honky (San Diego Rep), Day of Absence (A Noise Within),

Human Interest Story (Fountain Theatre), Mono/Poly (Odyssey Theatre), Future Sex (Lounge Theatre), SuperNatural: The Play (Chromolume Theatre); Comedy Clubs: The Laugh Factory, The Comedy Union; Poetry Sets: Nuyorican Poets Cafe, Da Poetry Lounge, S.W.A.A.M; Film/TV: Bliss, The Shield, Law & Order: SVU, Murder Among Friends, Coroner: I Speak for the Dead, Bones, Lucky Louie, Recovery, Material Girls, Minty, Beyond Doubt, Humble Pie; Voiceover: Tombraider, Fire Escape, Amazon, Indeed, WeWork, CalFresh, SoCal Edison, Coca Cola, T-Mobile, California Tobacco Control. She has released two spoken word albums and received the keys to the city of Jennings, MO (her hometown!). Follow @Tanyisms on Instagram.



Allison Blaize (Raina) is a New Orleans native based out of Los Angeles and the southeast. She has a BA in Theatre from the University of New Orleans and attended conservatory at AMDA. Allison is thrilled to be back at International City Theatre! She was most recently seen in *Tribes* by Nina Raine at Le Petit Theatre in New Orleans. Other theatre credits include: *Incels and Other Myths* (Boston Playwright's Theatre); *West Adams* (Skylight Theatre-LA Times CC) *Spanish Prayer Book* (Road

Theatre); Cardboard Piano (International City Theatre); Splintered Soul (International City Theatre); Stupid Kid (Road); ESR (24th St); The Play About the Baby (Road-LA Times CC); No Place to be Somebody (Robey). TV/Film: Sacrifice (BET); Obliterated (Sony/Netflix); Elephants (Amazon Prime); Sometimes Our Friends Come Over (VimeoOnDemand); Remaining Light. www.allisonblaize.com



Julian Smith (Jarrell/Hector) is a Los Angeles based actor, writer and singer. He is originally from Daytona Beach, Florida and has developed his résumé working in film, television, community, regional and educational theatre around the Orlando area. After receiving his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre, he moved to Los Angeles to make an impact in the entertainment industry. Recently, Julian has appeared in The Wayward Artist Theatre's production of *Actually* by Anna Ziegler where he was

nominated for an OCTG Award for Outstanding Lead Performance in a Play. When Julian is not performing, he is a resident teaching artist in the Los Angeles area, where he shares his knowledge, experience, and passion for theatre with children.

Tim Mueller (Scenic Design) The set design for *Under the Skin* is the first show at ICT for Tim Mueller. He is currently full-time faculty at Golden West College in Huntington Beach where he teaches scenic, lighting and projection design as well as scenic painting and stagecraft. Tim designed and built his first theatrical set in 1984 and since then he has completed more than 1000 projects in theater, corporate events, theme park décor, live events, holiday décor, TV and film and other areas of entertainment. In 1996 Tim founded and lead Gothic Moon Productions, a professional scenic company, that, among other projects, built seven shows for ICT between 2005 and 2007. He closed the company in 2012 for a career in full-time teaching. The thing that he enjoys most about all the projects he works on is the opportunity to collaborate with other artists as we all work together to tell the story you now see on stage.

Donna Ruzika (Lighting Designer) has had the pleasure of designing for ICT since 1999. Favorite productions include Lady Day at the Emerson Bar and Grill, Marry Me A Little, Flyin' West, Around the World in Eighty Days, Shipwrecked! and The Legend of Georgia McBride. Donna has also created lighting for the Utah Shakespeare Festival, South Coast Repertory, Kansas City Repertory, Laguna Playhouse, Ebony Repertory Theatre, Pasadena Playhouse, The Colony Theatre, the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and FCLO, where she designed over 100 musicals as Resident Designer. Donna has been the associate lighting designer for sixteen productions for the Los Angeles Philharmonic's summer musicals at the Hollywood Bowl, also for the 2013 The Simpson's Take the Bowl and the 2017 The Muppet's Take the Bowl. Her award-winning lighting has also been seen in Barcelona, Spain; Bogota, Columbia; and Cairo, Egypt.

Kim DeShazo (Resident Costume Designer) is Costume Instructor for the Theatre and Dance at El Camino College as well as resident costume designer for International City Theatre. Other theatres that have showcased her skills include Pasadena Dance Theatre, L.A. Opera, Long Beach Opera, Shakespeare Festival/LA, the Gary Marshall Theatre, the Odyssey Theatre, Theatricum Botanicum, PCPA and Ebony Rep. College collaborations include designing for the Theatre as well as the Dance Department at Chapman University, and at UCI, Cal State Dominguez Hills, College of the Canyons, LB City College, and Mt. San Antonio College. Her work has been seen at industrial shows for Nike, Adidas, Skechers, Cherokee and Diesel clothing. Commercials include AFLAC, Target, Disney, McDonald's, and Mattel. Television credits range from The Real, The Price is Right, and an Ozzy Osbourne's Variety show, to work for the Academy Awards, Nickelodeon, and the Disney Channel.

Dave Mickey (Sound Designer) has designed sound, video, interactive, and lighting for theatre productions at Off-Broadway's Theatre Row, 59E59 NYC, Virginia Stage Company, International City Theatre, The Colony Theatre, The Rubicon Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, South Coast Repertory, the Chance Theatre, the Blank Theatre, and Syzygy theatre. Mr. Mickey is a Co-Host of THE CUE podcast about show control. He won the 2014 NAACP Best Sound Design for BREATH & IMAGINATION and the Robert E. Cohen Sound Achievement Award, a national award in sound design sponsored by USITT, three Editor Choice Awards from the Maker Faire, Honorable Mentions for the Garland Awards, Outstanding Achievements by StageSceneLA.com and nominations for the LA Weekly Theater Awards. Mr. Mickey holds an MFA form the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) and is the Associate Dean for the College of the Arts at CSUF.

Patty and Gordon Briles (Resident Property Designers) have joined their artistic skills as Property Designers for ICT. Gordon's three-dimensional work in ceramics and fine arts and Patty's work in theatre, design and illustration have enabled them to collaborate on both property and set dressing. With the assistance of their son, Christopher, it has been an ongoing family production. Their work has included award-winning designs and Ovation nominations as producers as well as designers for theatre and Emmy nominations for television. Their theatre work has been seen at (Inside) The Ford Theatre, John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, the Odyssey, the Edgemar and The Matrix. Both work with young artists at Loyola and El Camino College.

John H. Freeland, Jr. (Production Stage Manager) Is thrilled to be back at ICT. Past ICT productions include include Marry Me A Little, Closely Related Keys, A Splintered Soul, Daddy Long Legs, Home and The Legend of Georgia McBride. Most recent productions in the United States: Shanghai Sonatas: A New Musical In Concert, Le Dernier Sorcier (The Last Sorcerer) 1867 (The Wallis), Lady Day At Emerson's Bar & Grill (freeFall Theatre, Florida). Diane Rodriguez's The Sweetheart Deal, JazzAntiqua Dance & Music Ensemble. Lula Washington Dance Theatre (tour), Kids In The Spotlight Screening and Awards. Europe: Edinburgh Festival Fringe (Scotland), International Theatre Festival of the Blind and Visually Impaired (Croatia). Directing credits: Riot/Rebellion (Skirball), Shoot (Croatia), Krip Hop Nation-Where Are My Cripple Homies At (Watts Village Theatre), Sloan

Robinson's *Bananas: The Day in the Life of Josephine Baker*. John is a board member of The Unusual Suspects Theater Co. USTC's mission is to mentor, educate, and enrich youth in under-resourced communities through the creation of collaborative, original theatre. He attended Wesleyan University in his hometown of Middletown, CT.

Lucy Pollak (Publicist) has been providing publicity services to the Los Angeles performing arts community for the past 28 years – and her very first client was International City Theatre, with which she has proudly continued to work to this day! Prior to that, she was production manager/staff producer at the Odyssey Theatre, where she co-produced over 100 productions with artistic director Ron Sossi. She is the recipient of a Los Angeles Drama Critic's Circle Award (*Master Class*), an L.A. Weekly Award (*Mary Barnes*), four Drama-Logue Awards (*Mary Barnes, Idioglossia, Accidental Death of An Anarchist, It's A Girl!*), and a Women in Theatre Recognition Award. She has served on the boards of directors of the Los Angeles Theatre Alliance (L.A. Stage Alliance), Women in Theatre.

Michael Donovan Casting (Casting Directors) has cast over 125 shows here at ICT. Michael Donovan is the recipient of 9 Artios awards, presented by the Casting Society of America for Outstanding Achievement in casting. Richie Ferris has 3 Artios awards. The company's credits include shows produced at the Ahmanson Theatre, the Mark Taper Forum, the Hollywood Bowl, the Wallis Annenberg, Pasadena Playhouse, Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Geffen Playhouse, the Getty Villa, the Soraya, Laguna Playhouse, La Jolla Playhouse, the Garry Marshall Theatre, Ebony Repertory Theatre, San Francisco Symphony, Arizona Theatre Company, Arkansas Rep, Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Indiana Rep, the Totem Pole Playhouse, and the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. Other credits include numerous films, TV shows and commercials. Michael is President of the Board for the Foundation for New American Musicals, and serves on the Board for Camp Bravo.

Shashin Desai (Founding Artistic Director/Producer) led ICT throughout its first 25 seasons, guiding over 120 productions to its stage and winning over 200 awards for himself and the theatre while running the company in the black for 22 out of 25 years. After ICT's Silver Jubilee Season, in March 2011, Shashin stepped down passing the baton to the new generation of leadership. Since 2011, the same skills he used to visualize stories on stage with trained actors, physical compositions, and use of color and light are the same skills he is now applying to his singular focus - Photography, devoting his time to an art book project, ASIA CONNECTIONS: COMPELLING FACES AND IMAGES IN SEARCH FOR STORIES. To that end, the past years have involved extensive travel to India, Thailand, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Turkey, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, Japan, Sri Lanka, Morocco, and South Africa. According to him, "Many more countries to travel, many more moments to capture." The journey continues. To see his captivating work please go to his website below and share your thoughts on his work: www.shashindesaiconnections.com Also, see him on Instagram: @shashindesai

We are grateful to the following companies and organizations for their contributions and support of International City Theatre:



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ADDRESS					*Opening Night includes after-show cast party **Week 2, Sunday - Post-Show Talkback with cast ***Like all non-profit theatres, ticket		
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"A gem of a play, one of the sweetest nights of theater you're likely to see... not-to-be-missed." – The Providence Journal

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DEATHTRAP by Ira Levin (Oct 18-Nov 5)

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