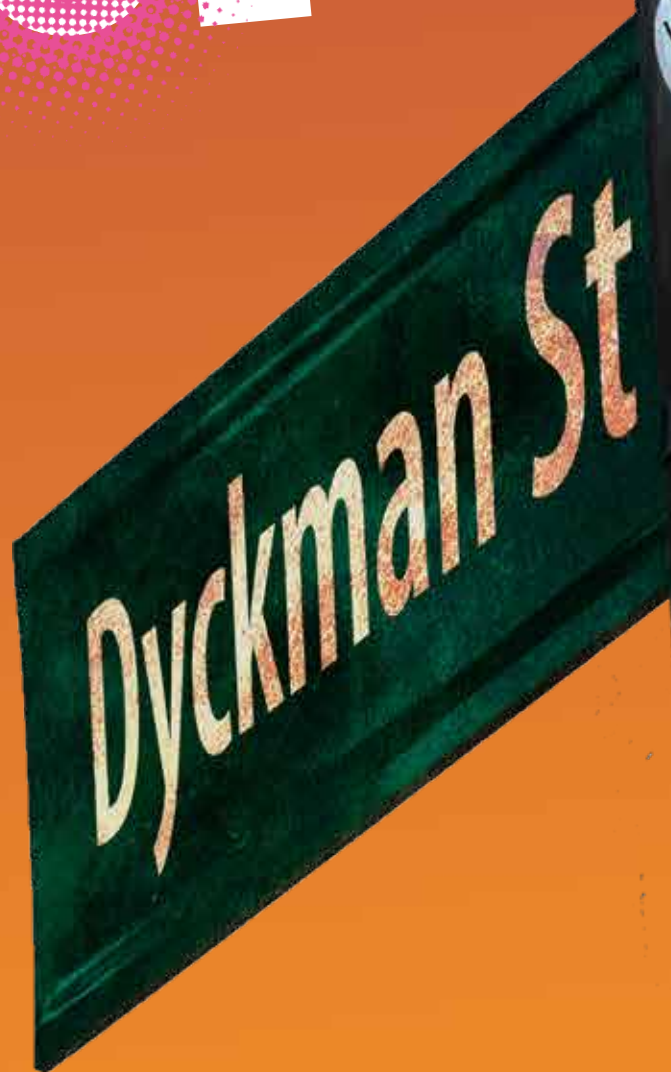


new play

# BEEES & HONEY

in partnership with

THE **SOL** PROJECT



 **MCC  
THEATER**

Our 2022-2023 Season is dedicated  
to MCC Theater's Founding  
Co-Artistic Director  
**BOB LUPONE**  
**(1946-2022).**

# MCC THEATER

**BERNIE TELSEY** and **WILL CANTLER** / artistic directors  
**BLAKE WEST** / executive director

in partnership with the **THE SOL PROJECT**

**ADRIANA GAVIRIA** and **JACOB G. PADRÓN** / artistic directors

present

# BEES & HONEY

by **GUADALÍS DEL CARMEN**

with **MARIBEL MARTINEZ, XAVIER PACHECO**

scenic design  
**SHOKO  
KAMBARA**

costume design  
**DEVARIO D.  
SIMMONS**

lighting design  
**REZA  
BEHJAT**

sound design  
**GERMÁN  
MARTÍNEZ**

original music  
**DILSON**

intimacy & fight  
direction  
**TENIECE DIVYA  
JOHNSON**

specialty choreography  
**MAYTE  
NATALIO**

original scenic  
artwork  
**DANIEL  
PEGUERO**

production stage manager  
**LORI ANN  
ZEPP**

casting  
**THE TELSEY OFFICE  
DESTINY LILLY, CSA**

directed by  
**MELISSA CRESPO**

general  
manager  
**BETH  
DEMBROW**

director of  
finance  
**LIZ  
OLSON**

director of  
development  
**ANNE  
MYERS**

director of marketing  
& audience services  
**ABIGAIL  
LANGSTED**

director of production  
& facilities  
**STEVE  
ROSENBERG**

manager of artistic  
production  
**AYANA  
PARKER-  
MORRISON**

manager of artistic  
development  
**ELISSA  
HUANG**

manager of musical  
programming &  
development  
**SCOTT  
GALINA**

publicity  
**MATT ROSS PR /  
MATT ROSS,  
NICOLE CAPATASTO,  
LIZ LOMBARDI,  
GRACE WALKER**

Presented in the **SUSAN & RONALD FRANKEL THEATER**

BEES & HONEY was developed by Labyrinth Theater Company  
BEES & HONEY was originally developed by The Sol Project during SolFest, 2018

This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

This production is supported by the R&S Shulman Fund at MCC Theater.

The R&S Shulman Fund supports artistic development and production of new plays, as well as development and engagement activities, with a focus on work by African American playwrights

Funding for closed caption performances is provided, in part, by a grant from NYSCA/TDF TAP Plus.

# CAST

Johaira..... **MARIBEL MARTINEZ**  
Manuel..... **XAVIER PACHECO**

assistant stage manager..... **BRILLIAN QI-BELL**



**MARIBEL MARTINEZ**



**XAVIER PACHECO**



# WHO'S WHO

**GUADALÍS DEL CARMEN** (*Playwright, she/her/ella*) is a playwright, screenwriter, and performer from Chicago, based in NYC. She's a writer for the first season of HBO Max's tv adaptation of Stephen King's *It, Welcome to Derry*, and has worked on development projects at FX and Amazon. Guadalís is an Ars Nova PlayGroup Alum, 2020 Steinberg Playwriting Award recipient, and Yale Rep Commissioned Artist. Her plays include *NOT FOR SALE* (UrbanTheater Company, Joseph Jefferson Award New Play Nominee 2019), *MY FATHER'S KEEPER* (The Kilroys Honorable Mention 2019), *DAUGHTERS OF THE REBELLION* (Montclair State University 2019, The Kilroys Honorable Mention 2017), *A Shero's Journey or What Anacaona and Yemayá Taught Me* (Yale Magazine 2019, The Parsnip Ship Podcast Season 4), *BLOWOUT* (Aguijón Theater 2013). *BEES & HONEY* was originally developed in The Sol Project's SolFest in 2018, and received additional development through LAByrinth Theater; it was also part of The Kilroys List in 2019. Guadalís was a Co-Producer of Atlantic Theater Company's African Caribbean MixFest 2021. She's the Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of Latinx Playwrights Circle (LPC), an organization dedicated to developing and nurturing Latinx(e) playwrights and their plays. LPC was a co-producing partner alongside WP Theater and The Sol Project for the Off Broadway production of Christin Eve Cato's *SANCOCHO*. Guadalís has performed in Chicago, NYC, The Repertory of St. Louis, and Actors Theater of Louisville.

**MELISSA CRESPO** (*Director, she/her/hers*) Born and raised in CT, Melissa is a Dominican, Chilean, and Puerto Rican director of new plays, musicals, and opera. She has developed work at The O'Neill, Lark Play Development Center, Playwright's Center, New Dramatists, and more. She is currently the Associate Artistic Director at Syracuse Stage where she has directed *NATIVE GARDENS*, *I AND YOU*, *YOGA PLAY*, and *ESPEJOS: CLEAN*. As a playwright, her play *EGRESS*, co-written with Sarah Saltwick has been produced at Salt Lake Acting Company, Amphibian Stage, and Cleveland Playhouse. Melissa received her MFA in Directing from The New School for Drama and is a Founding Editor of 3Views on Theater.

**MARIBEL MARTINEZ** (*Johaira*) is a multi-hyphenate artist, proudly Black-Latina, with Dominican and Puerto Rican roots. She's been involved with *BEES & HONEY* since its first staged reading at SOL Project's SOLFest in 2018, and is honored to bring Johaira to life for its world premiere. She's an Artistic Producer for the Dominican Artists Collective; she wrote and performed in DAC's "The Cooking Project," presented by New York Theatre Workshop's Artistic Instigators virtual series in 2021. She's part of The Latinx Playwrights Circle community and considers it one of her favorite artistic homes. Credits include, Off-Broadway: *WILL YOU COME WITH ME?* (PlayCo); *JULIUS CESAR* (New York Shakespeare in the Park). Select Regional Theatre:

# WHO'S WHO

MUSHROOM (People's Light); VANITY FAIR (Shakespeare Theatre Company, American Conservatory Theater); CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLY (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park); HENRY V P. 1 (Folger); BLACK JOY PROJECT (JAG). Film / Television: "EVIL" (CBS), "NEW AMSTERDAM" (ABC), "THE WATCHER" (Netflix), "SACRIFICE" (BET+), "DR. DEATH" (Peacock). MFA, UC Irvine.

**XAVIER PACHECO** (Manuel) has been an actor his entire life. In 2013, he won the English-Speaking-Union National Shakespeare Competition. That summer he studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London and played a lead role in a Public Works' production of Shakespeare in the Park, at only 16 years old. In 2015 he graduated from his performing arts high school as Valedictorian of his class. Xavier went on to receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre at Muhlenberg College. Last year he received his MFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Acting Program, where he was also the youngest in his class. He is excited to be making his debut with MCC. Credits include: The Public Theater: RICHARD III. Public Works: THE TEMPEST. NYU Graduate Acting: ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD, ROMEO & JULIET. Epic Theatre Ensemble: HAMLET & OPHELIA, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. New York Classical Theatre: THE WINTER'S TALE. Bay Street Theater: THE TEEMING AUTUMN. Film: ROMEO & JULIET (2021).

**SHOKO KAMBARA** (*Scenic Designer*) Recent Theater: LITTLE GIRL BLUE: THE NINA SIMONE MUSICAL (New World Stages), HER PORTMANTEAU (George Street Playhouse), NEXT TO NORMAL (Syracuse Stage), NATIVE GARDENS (Syracuse Stage, Geva Theatre, Portland Stage), THE PRINCE OF PLAYERS (World Premiere, Houston Grand Opera), THE BARBER OF SEVILLE (Opera Philadelphia, Opera Theatre of St. Louis - St Louis Theater Circle Award for Outstanding Set Design, Opera Omaha), and DON PASQUALE (The Juilliard School). Art Department: "THE TRIAL OF THE CHICAGO 7" (Netflix), "THE GOOD NURSE," "TRANSFORMERS: RISE OF THE BEASTS," "EILEEN," "SEVERANCE" (Apple TV), "DEAR EDWARD" (Apple TV), "THE ENDGAME" (NBC), "KE NUI ROAD" (HBO Max). In cooperation with LAMB Design, Shoko served as a design consultant for The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute Exhibit 2022: "IN AMERICA: AN ANTHOLOGY OF FASHION." She has been the Associate Scenic Designer on over 20 Broadway shows. For more information and to view her portfolio, please visit: [www.shokokambara.com](http://www.shokokambara.com)

**DEVARIO D. SIMMONS** (*Costume Designer, he/him/his*) Broadway: THOUGHTS OF A COLORED MAN. Off-Broadway: TUMACHO, BETWEEN THE BARS, EMERGENCY! and P.S. Additionally, Simmons has had the pleasure of working regionally at: Geffen Playhouse, Clarence Brown Theatre, Center Theatre Group, Asolo

# WHO'S WHO

Rep, The Long Wharf Theatre, Jean's Playhouse, Syracuse Stage and Baltimore Center Stage. Other credits include "RUSTIN" (Netflix), three seasons of AMC's television show "TURN," the second National touring production of IN THE HEIGHTS, and two seasons of the PBS television series "MERCY STREET." Website: [www.devariosimmons.com](http://www.devariosimmons.com) IG: @devariosimmons. Member of United Scenic Artist 829.

**REZA BEHJAT** (*Lighting Designer*) Reza Behjat is an Obie award winning lighting designer based in New York City. He began his career in Iran - where he worked with some prominent directors for several years. Reza's works have been shown on Off-Broadway and in regional theaters across the United States such as The Public Theater, Playwrights Horizons, Atlantic Theater, MCC, Minetta Lane, Lucille Lortel, The Guthrie Theater, Berkeley Rep, Actors Theater of Louisville, and many more. Reza won an Obie Award in the design category for his work on two productions of ENGLISH and WISH YOU WERE HERE in 2023. In addition, alongside the cast and the creative team of ENGLISH, he received a Special Citation from the Obie Award. Also, he is the winner of the prestigious award of The Knight of Illumination for NINA SIMONE: FOUR WOMEN in 2019.

**GERMÁN MARTÍNEZ** (*Sound Designer, he/they/él*) A proud son of immigrant parents, Germán Martínez is a Honduran-American Sound Designer based in NY/NJ. Germán is a Montclair State University alum (2018), holding a degree in Theatrical Production and Design with a Concentration in Sound. Germán is the current Eastern Representative for the TSDCA (Theatrical Sound Designer and Composers Association), an organization composed of professional sound designers and composers seeking to advance the craft of Sound Design through advocacy, mentorship, and outreach in order to strengthen their standing as collaborative artists in the theatre community. His work has been featured at: Portland Stages, Theaterworks Hartford, Women's Project, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Playhouse 46, MCC, American Repertory Theatre, Repertorio Español, GALA Hispanic, George Street Playhouse, Two River Theater, and Trinity Rep. Broadway credits include associating on: INTO THE WOODS (St. James Theatre), THE PIANO LESSON (Barrymore Theatre), OHIO STATE MURDERS (James Earl Jones Theatre), and ROOM (James Earl Jones). As a designer, he seeks work that will uplift and support BIPOC, queer, and immigrant stories in innovative and beautiful ways. Germán would like to thank Melissa and Guadalís, and the MCC team for bringing him onto this incredible piece. He invites any like-minded artists to collaborate. You can keep up with his work on Instagram: @GermanTheSoundDesigner.

**DILSON** (*Composer*) is a Dominican-American performing artist from the Bronx, NY. His talents include creative writing, playing various instruments, spoken-word poetry, singing, and digital production. Dilson



# WHO'S WHO

is in the process of writing his one-man show, BACHATÚ, and is looking to release his first music project, "THE BACHATÚ EP," on all streaming services. Dilson wishes to change the world with his art and community work, aiming to strive for a more progressive and creative future. Some of his work abroad includes teaching English in Haiti and building dorm spaces for underprivileged children in rural India. In New York City, Dilson facilitates music-related workshops and advocates at courtrooms for incarcerated youth, via the Youth Justice Network. Dilson received a Bachelor's of Arts in both English and Music from the University at Albany in 2015. He also received an engineering certification from the Institute of Audio Research in 2017.

**ANDREW DIAZ** (*Prop Supervisor*) Previously with MCC: soft, WHICH WAY TO THE STAGE?, SEARED, ALICE BY HEART, THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE, Broadway: THE SIGN IN SIDNEY BRUSTEIN'S WINDOW, THE THANKSGIVING PLAY, LEOPOLDSTADT, BIRTHDAY CANDLES. Recent Credits: THE WANDERERS, PRIMARY TRUST (Roundabout) WHITE GIRL IN DANGER, CAMP SIEGFRIED (Second Stage), ENGLISH, KIMBERLY AKIMBO (Atlantic Theater). Nickelodeon, Walt Disney Productions, SNL, Henry Hewes Design Award.

**TENIECE DIVYA JOHNSON** (*Intimacy & Fight Director, they/them*) is an Intimacy Director, Fight Director, Stunt Performer, and Movement Storyteller working across television, film and stage. The first Black and first non-binary Intimacy Director on Broadway with SLAVE PLAY and first Black Intimacy Coordinator working on TV/Film, Teniece serves as a resolute advocate for a decolonized collaborative approach to art, Black intimacy, Kink, and Queer representation. They are also the founder of [www.BlackIntimacyConsentCollective.org](http://www.BlackIntimacyConsentCollective.org), a community based organization around Black intimacy, consent, and wellness. Additional credits: "SUCCESSION," "POSE," "RAMY," "HUNTERS," "THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD," WEST SIDE STORY, MJ THE MUSICAL, RICHARD III, and RAQUI on "POWER BOOK II: GHOST."

**DANIEL PEGUERO** (*Visual Artist*) is a multidisciplinary artist and designer of Dominican descent, born and raised in NYC's Washington Heights. From early on as kindergarten Danny displayed an affinity towards the visual arts. His passion carried over through his young adulthood where he was able to hone his skill into a career. After college he set his sight on the fashion design field serving as creative director for various brands like DrunknMunky, Coogi and others. On his 10th year in corporate design Danny experienced something that is common among creatives, burn-out! He lost his love for the craft. Simultaneously he was contacted by a long time friend to help with the art direction of his new restaurant. Before he knew it he was back in his roots painting and collaborating with small businesses on art direction for their spaces. After creating a local buzz as a muralist bigger brands began



# WHO'S WHO

to take notice of his ability to add vibrant street/caribbean flavor to these spaces. Companies such as Footlocker, HBO, and Warner Bros. to name a few off his client list. Danny quoted here “Working on projects with more notable brands has been a welcome pursuit, involving more collaboration and working with other creatives, project managers and technicians is great but I’ll never steer away from the small business that keeps me grounded and continues to be my main source of inspiration. I look forward to working with more small Mom and Pops in my Heights neighborhood”

**MAYTE NATALIO** (*Specialty Choreographer*) is from Queens, New York by way of her Dominican parents. Favorite Choreography credits include THE WINTER’S TALE (DTC/ Public Works), RUNAWAYS (NYU), INTO THE WOODS (Barrington Stage Company), MEASURE FOR MEASURE (The Public Theater/ Mobile Unit 2019), LOVE IN HATE NATION (Two River Theater), HAIR (The Old Globe), KISS MY AZTEC (Hartford Stage), HOW TO DANCE IN OHIO (Syracuse Stage) LA HORA SANTA written, directed and choreographed by Mayte for Ars Nova’s Vision Residency. Broadway: Associate Choreographer, FOR COLORED GIRLS...And coming up is the premiere of the film Playland at the 2023 Tribeca Film Festival.

**ADAM D-F. STEVENS** (*Emotional Support Consultant, they/them*) MA, RDT. They are a Registered Drama Therapist (RDT) who works at the Hetrick-Martin Institute, a non-profit organization that serves LGBTQAI+ youth in NYC. Their role includes supporting queer youth in transforming their loss and grief into unapologetic, abundant joy and empowerment. They are alumni of Marymount Manhattan College and New York University where their areas of study included Theatre Arts and Drama Therapy, respectively. Adam serves as an adjunct faculty member in the Creative Arts Therapy Programs at Antioch University in Seattle, and New York University and Marymount Manhattan College in NYC. In 2020, they were named Artistic Director for the Collideoscope Repertory Theatre Company (CRTC) whose mission is to advance racial justice and healing through artful affinity and performance. Adam’s superpowers are rooted in the fantastical forces of creativity and love.

**LORI ANN ZEPP** (*Production Stage Manager*) Production Stage Manager). MCC: MOSCOW, MOSCOW, MOSCOW, MOSCOW MOSCOW MOSCOW, COLLECTIVE RAGE: A PLAY IN 5 BETTIES, TRANSFERS and YEN. Broadway: JAY JOHNSON: THE TWO & ONLY. Selected Off-Broadway: AN ORDINARY MUSLIM (NYTW); SOMEBODY’S DAUGHTER; THE LAYOVER; KING LIZ; THE OTHER THING; LIPS TOGETHER, TEETH APART; THE SUBSTANCE OF FIRE; MURDER FOR TWO; THE TUTORS; MODERN TERRORISM; WARRIOR CLASS; LONELY, I’M NOT; ALL NEW PEOPLE; BY THE WAY, MEET VERA STARK; BACHELORETTE; YEAR ZERO; WILDFLOWER; BECKY SHAW; ANIMALS OUT OF PAPER; NEXT TO NORMAL; ELECTION DAY; SOME

# WHO'S WHO

MEN; SWIMMING IN THE SHALLOWS (Second Stage); DAPHNE'S DIVE AND THE MOUND BUILDERS (Signature Theatre); I'M GONNA PRAY FOR YOU SO HARD (Atlantic Stage 2); FATHER COMES HOME FROM THE WARS PARTS 1, 2, 3 (Public Theater Lab); A SMALL FIRE (Playwrights Horizons); DOG SEES GOD: CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE BLOCKHEAD (Century Center). Regional credits include WAIT UNTIL DARK (Dorset Theatre Festival); SEDER; THE PIANO LESSON; THE BODY OF AN AMERICAN (Hartford Stage); MOSCOW, MOSCOW, MOSCOW, MOSCOW, MOSCOW, MOSCOW (Williamstown Theatre Festival); OTHER DESERT CITIES (Alley Theatre); THE POWER OF DUFF AND BECKY SHAW (Huntington Theatre Company).

**BRILLIAN QI-BELL** (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Brillian is an SM passionate about making positive changes in her industry & community. She has been a part of advocacy programs such as the Cody Renard Richard Scholarship, Beyond the Stage Door [Baseline Theatricals], & the Harriet Tubman Effect. Previous Work includes- PA: JAGGED LITTLE PILL, 1st National Tour (RCI Theatricals), SUFFS (101 Productions, development), & THE HARDER THEY COME (The Public Theater). ASM: 38TH MARATHON OF ONE ACT PLAYS (Ensemble Studio Theater), HIT THE WALL (Ulowa), THE WOLVES (Ulowa). SM: BREATHE (New Professional Theater), BLKS (Ulowa), MEDIA CLOWN (Ulowa), UIXR THEATER (Ulowa), THE PEOPLE BEFORE THE PARK (Ulowa).

**THE SOL PROJECT** is a national theater initiative dedicated to producing the work of Latiné playwrights in New York City and beyond. Founded in 2016, The Sol Project works in partnership with leading Off-Broadway and regional theaters to amplify Latiné voices and build artistic homes for artists of color. Through the writers they champion, The Sol Project aspires to create a bold, powerful, and kaleidoscopic body of work for the new American theater. The Sol Project launched with the world premiere of ALLIGATOR by Hilary Bettis (New Georges), followed by the New York premieres of SEVEN SPOTS ON THE SUN by Martín Zimmerman (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater) and OEDIPUS EL REY by Luis Alfaro (The Public Theater) in 2017. In the fall of 2018, The Sol Project partnered with Yale Repertory Theatre to produce the world premiere of EL HURACÁN by Charise Castro Smith and in early 2020, partnered with Baltimore Center Stage and The Playwrights Realm to produce the world premiere of RICHARD & JANE & DICK & SALLY by Noah Diaz. In 2022, The Sol Project is partnering with Soho Rep and MCC Theater to produce the world premieres of NOTES ON KILLING SEVEN OVERSIGHT, MANAGEMENT, AND ECONOMIC STABILITY BOARD MEMBERS by Mara Vélez Meléndez and BEES & HONEY by Guadalís Del Carmen, respectively. In addition, The Sol Project produces an annual summer play festival – SolFest – in partnership with Pregones/ Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre to seed the field with new work driven by Latiné playwrights, directors, and actors.

# WHO'S WHO

**THE TELSEY OFFICE** (*Casting*) With offices in both New York and Los Angeles, The Telsey Office casts for theater, film, television, and commercials. The Telsey Office is dedicated to creating safe, equitable, and anti-racist spaces through collaboration, artistry, heart, accountability, and advocacy.

**ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION** ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. Equity is governed by its own members through an elected Council, representing principal actors, chorus actors and stage managers living in three regions: Eastern, Central and Western. Members at large participate in Equity's governance through a system of regional Boards and Committees. Equity has 28 designated area liaison cities with over 100 members each.  
#EquityWorks



The actors and stage manager employed in this production are members of Actor's 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**, a national theatrical labor union.



**Council on the Arts**





# STAFF FOR BEES & HONEY

Company Manager .....	Brendan McNamara
Production Manager.....	Steve Rosenberg
Production Stage Manager .....	Lori Ann Zepp
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Brilliant Qi-Bell
Production Assistant .....	Katie Cherven
Props Supervisor.....	Andrew Diaz
Emotional Support Consultant.....	Adam D-F. Stevens
Visual Artist.....	Daniel Peguero
Assistant Director.....	Maya Quetzali Gonzalez
Assistant Scenic Designer .....	Gaya Chatterjee
Assistant Costume Designer.....	Nia Safarr Banks
Assistant Lighting Designer.....	Taylor Lilly
Associate Sound Designer .....	Daniela Hart
Associate Prop Supervisor.....	Joelle Gonzalez
Associate Choreographer .....	Cedric Leiba Jr.
Technical Director / Deck Carpenter .....	Peter Strand
Carpenters.....	Tait Alcivar, Sean Goerge, Ian Stark, Robert Zevack,
Costume Shop Manager .....	Caitlin Dixon
Wardrobe Supervisor.....	Devon James
Dresser .....	Summer Goldstein
Stitchers .....	Javi Cervantes, Dara Fargotstein
Dyer .....	Sophie Stratyner
Production Audio.....	Max Baines
Sound Board Operator.....	AJ Glover
Sound Crew.....	Max Baines, AJ Glover, Jeffrey Salerno
Production Electrician .....	John Tees III, Jamie Crockett
Lighting Programmer .....	Bev Fermin
Light Board Operator .....	Samuel Ean Grady
Lighting Crew .....	Abalon Cole, Jamie Crockett, Katherine Dumais, Ariana Finamore, Amy Harper, Lazarus Nazario, Vincent Procker, Diane Tees, Alena Thomas, Danielle Verkennes
Key Art Design.....	The Numad Group / Ted Stephens III, Brendan Whipple
Scenery.....	Tom Carroll Scenery
Lighting Rental.....	PRG Lighting
Sound Rental .....	Masque Sound

## CASTING

The Telsey Office  
Destiny Lilly, CSA  
Steven Gutierrez

## SPECIAL THANKS

Tony Shalhoub & Brooke Adams

## MCC THEATER STAFF

Artistic Directors.....	Bernie Telsey, Will Cantler
Executive Director .....	Blake West
General Manager .....	Beth Dembrow
Assistant General Manager/Company Manager.....	Brendan McNamara
Director of Finance .....	Liz Olson
Finance & Business Manager .....	Laura Knutzen
Finance Assistant .....	Hayley Isaacson
Manager of Artistic Production .....	Ayana Parker Morrison
Manager of Artistic Development .....	Elissa Huang
Manager of Musical Programming & Development .....	Scott Galina
Director of Production & Facilities.....	Steve Rosenberg
Facilities Manager.....	Steve Hail
Costume Shop Manager .....	Caitlin Dixon
Production & Facilities Assistant.....	Hannah Hernandez
Building Consultant.....	Jason Walters
Director of Development.....	Anne Myers
Development Consultant.....	Sandra Davis
Senior Manager of Special Events.....	Vinny Martini
Manager of Individual Giving.....	Megan Foehr
Manager of Institutional Giving.....	Carrie O'Dell
Assistant Manager of Development Operations .....	Rebecca DeMarco
Special Events & Individual Giving Associate .....	Kayla Campise
Outbound Fundraising Consultant .....	Kel Haney
Outbound Fundraising Team .....	Sam Hood Adrain, Giuliana Carr, Kristina Dizon, Alessandra Migliaccio, Keith Weiss
Director of Marketing & Audience Services .....	Abigail Langsted
Marketing Consultant.....	Nikki Vera
Audience Services Manager .....	Josué Hernández
Marketing Associate .....	Marcellis Cutler
Marketing Assistant.....	Noah Eisenberg
Graphic Design & Videography .....	The Numad Group / Ted Stephens III, Brendan Whipple, Tony Cotte
Press Representatives.....	Matt Ross PR/Matt Ross, Nicole Capatasto, Liz Lombardi, Grace Walker
House Managers.....	Erik De Jesus, Alejandra Ramos
Assistant House Managers .....	Destiny Rivera, Edgard Toro
Ushers.....	Natalie Almanzar, Al-Akhir Fletcher, Branden Mangan, Luis Martinez, Leandra Torres, Tom Bagley Vas
Box Office Staff.....	Anissa Griego, Judith Jimenez, Branden Mangan
Director of Public Engagement and Education .....	Meggan Gomez
Manager of Education Programs .....	Dee Hughes
Education & Public Engagement Assistant.....	Dom Martello
Brooklyn Youth Company Director .....	Vickie Tanner
Youth Company Performance Lab Co-Directors .....	Jen Shirley, Kevin Carillo
Youth Company Playwriting Lab Director .....	Juan Ramirez, Jr.
Youth Company Playwriting Lab Assistant Director .....	Alexander Lambie
Senior Teaching Artists.....	Matt Higgins, Raphael Peacock
Teaching Artists .....	Marissa Stewart, Vickie Tanner
Youth Company Alumni Fellow.....	Kaisheem Fowler-Bryant
Security Team .....	Allied Universal Security Services
Janitorial Staff .....	Impressive Cleaning Services Inc.
Concessions.....	Sweet Hospitality



# OUR MISSION

**Our mission is to provoke conversations that have never happened and otherwise never would.**

MCC THEATER was founded in 1986 as MANHATTAN CLASS COMPANY by a collective of young actors, writers, and directors determined to steer their own artistic development—and shake things up! That initial group included Artistic Directors **Bernie Telsey**, **Bob LuPone** and **Will Cantler**, since joined by Executive Director **Blake West**. Our increasingly expansive work continues today.

- **WE PRODUCE EXCITING THEATER.** We produce seasons of BOLD new plays and musicals by exceptional ARTISTS.
- **WE DEVELOP NEW WORK.** We develop NEW WORK by emerging and established artists through a rigorous process that encourages CREATIVE RISK-TAKING.
- **WE HONOR YOUNG VOICES.** Each year our education programs use the power of theater to ROUSE the imaginations of over 1200 high school STUDENTS across ALL FIVE BOROUGHES.
- **WE GET PEOPLE TALKING.** COLLABORATION and COMMUNITY are at the core of everything we do.

the CAST of WOLF PLAY / photo by JULIETA CERVANTES





# EDUCATION PROGRAMS

MCC has continued to adapt and innovate to meet the ever-changing needs of our students and community, particularly over these last three years. After seamlessly transitioning to fully remote programming in March 2020, then hybrid after-school and in-school programs in 2021-2022, we are thrilled to be back fully in-person for performances of Performance Lab's UNCENSORED, BKYC UNCENSORED and the Playwriting Lab's FRESHPLAY FESTIVAL in Spring and Summer 2023.

We continue the long and valued relationships with our four partner schools: Manhattan International High School, Baruch College Campus High School, The George Washington High School Educational Campus in Manhattan, and The High School for Public Service in Brooklyn. We are committed to providing quality arts-based education because youth voices matter and creating an inclusive space where everyone's stories are heard can inspire change in ourselves and in society.

MCC THEATER's Education Programs are supported by the Axe-Houghton Foundation, The Emily Davie and Joseph S. Kornfeld Foundation, Harold J. Newman† & Ruth Newman, The Pinkerton Foundation, The Eric Rosedale Playwriting Fund, Tiger Baron Foundation, New York State Council on the Arts, and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the city council.



# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



Our **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT** programs invite audiences to delve deeper into our onstage work as well as build bridges across our community artistically and geographically. Connect with us and each other.

Audience members of all generations have emboldened our work with **VIBRANT DISCUSSIONS**, debates, and reflections that spill out of the theater and fill the streets and continue to reverberate throughout New York City and beyond.

**LET'S TALK:** We invite you to join our Audience Conversations taking place directly after select performances. We also host moderated TalkBacks with our cast and creative teams.

**LET'S ENGAGE:** Community Specific theater nights, panel discussions, and workshops open up the door to wider engagement with our work and our company.

**LET'S WATCH:** Open mic nights and invitations to student staged readings as well as film screenings bring audiences together in a new way to celebrate artists and artistry in a variety of formats.

Thank you to our Public Engagement partners whose collaboration makes our work possible: [Breaking the Binary Theater Festival](#), [Broadway Advocacy Coalition](#), [Broadway Podcast Network](#), [Developing Artists](#), [Epic Theater Company](#), [INTAR Theater](#), [The Mental Health Coalition](#), [MOBI—Mobilizing Our Brothers Initiative](#), [National Queer Theater](#), [People's Theater Project](#), [Poetic Theater Productions](#), [Youth Design Center](#), [Queer Art Fest](#)



# THE ROBERT W. WILSON MCC THEATER SPACE

Inaugurated on JAN 9, 2019, MCC's Hell's Kitchen home, **THE ROBERT W. WILSON MCC THEATER SPACE**, is a state-of-the-art complex designed for us to do what we do best: shake things up. The space houses two theaters, two rehearsal studios, extensive backstage facilities, administrative offices, and ample audience amenities.

**THE NEWMAN MILLS THEATER** is named for Ruth & Harold<sup>†</sup> Newman and Marianne & Steve Mills. As dedicated co-chairs of The Campaign for MCC THEATER, they led a successful fundraising effort in support of MCC's education and artistic programs.

**THE SUSAN & RONALD FRANKEL THEATER** is named for Susan & Ronald Frankel. They have been active with the company since 2015. Susan Frankel is also an MCC THEATER Board member.

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**ROBERT W. WILSON** was a well-known and successful investor from the mid-1960's to the mid-1980's. After retirement, he devoted his life to philanthropy. He was a transformative philanthropist, primarily funding worldwide organizations in the preservation and conservation areas. An avid New Yorker, he was also involved with a number of New York's cultural institutions. He was a major supporter of, and held leadership roles with, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Environmental Defense Fund, The Metropolitan Opera, the Whitney Museum, and the World Monuments Fund. In addition, he and the Trust continue to support the above institutions and The Nature Conservancy, The New York Public Library, Central Park Conservancy, BAM, and the Wildlife Conservation Society.





# LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**MCC THEATER** wants to center our event in practices rooted in fostering community. We acknowledge how the PAST and the FUTURE converge on our PRESENT. MCC'S theater home sits on the UNCEDED land of the LENAPE people. We acknowledge that this stolen land was worked on by enslaved Africans. May this living land acknowledgement—to the LENAPE, their elders past and present, and their future generations, as well as to the experience of enslaved Africans and their descendants, serve as a starting ground for change.

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# THE SOL PROJECT

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**ADRIANA GAVIRIA** / co-artistic director

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## FOUNDING MEMBERS

Claudia Acosta, Elena Araoz, Adriana Gaviria, David Mendizábal, Jacob G. Padrón, Kyoung Park, and Laurie Woolery

## ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

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Resident Dramaturg..... Stephanie Ybarra  
Student Intern & SolFest Dramaturg.....Kaelani Burja

## STAFF

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Producing Associate ..... Isabel Pask  
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# ABOUT THE SOL PROJECT

The Sol Project is an Obie-award winning national theater initiative dedicated to amplifying the voices of Latiné playwrights in NYC and beyond. Founded by Jacob G. Padrón and driven by an artistic collective, The Sol Project works in partnership with leading theaters to center Latiné dramatists and nurture a growing community of Latiné theater artists. With the writers we champion, The Sol Project aspires to create a bold, timeless, and kaleidoscopic body of work for the new American theater.

The Sol Project launched in 2016 with the world premiere of ALLIGATOR by Hilary Bettis in collaboration with New Georges, followed by the New York premieres of SEVEN SPOTS ON THE SUN by Martín Zimmerman (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater) and Oedipus El Rey by Luis Alfaro (The Public Theater). In the fall of 2018, The Sol Project collaborated with Yale Repertory Theatre to produce the world premiere of EL HURACÁN by Charise Castro Smith and in early 2020 partnered with Baltimore Center Stage and The Playwrights Realm to produce the world premiere of RICHARD & JANE & DICK & SALLY by Noah Diaz. In 2022, The Sol Project partnered with Soho Rep for the world premiere of NOTES ON KILLING SEVEN OVERSIGHT, MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMIC STABILITY BOARD MEMBERS by Mara Vélez Meléndez. And in spring of 2023, The Sol Project will partner with MCC Theater for the world premiere of BEES & HONEY by Guadalís Del Carmen, as well as WP Theater and Latinx Playwrights Circle for the Off-Broadway premiere of SANCOCHO by Christin Eve Cato. In addition to productions, The Sol Project advances its mission by producing a yearly new play festival, SolFest, in partnership with Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater, while also supporting writers through readings, workshops, a podcast (SolTalk), and ongoing symposia. In 2023, The Sol Project was awarded an Obie Grant, Off-Broadway's highest honor, for their unprecedented championing and support of Latiné voices in the theater and in recognition of outstanding achievement in Off-Broadway and Off-Off-Broadway theater during the 2020-2022 season.

The artistic collective includes Adriana Gaviria (Co-Artistic Director), Rebecca Martínez, David Mendizábal, Jacob G. Padrón (Co-Artistic Director), Julian Ramirez, and Laurie Woolery. George Strus is the Artistic Producer. Isabel Pask is the Producing Associate. Brian Herrera is the Resident Scholar. Stephanie Ybarra is the Resident Dramaturg. Kaelani Burja is our Student Intern and SolFest Dramaturg. For more information, visit [solproject.org](http://solproject.org).

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Thank you to our generous Producer's Circle level & above patrons who provide major support of our mission to provoke conversation among artists, audiences and students. Members receive benefits that provide exclusive access to the process of making theater at MCC and follow a play's journey from the page to the stage. To learn more, please contact Megan Foehr at 212-727-7722 ex. 233 or [mfoehr@mcctheater.org](mailto:mfoehr@mcctheater.org).

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The Robert W. Wilson  
Charitable Trust  
Ted Stephens III,  
The Numad Group  
Lia Vollack  
Barry Weissler  
Elizabeth & Ken Whitney

**PLAYWRIGHT**

Dianna DiMenna  
Joanne & Ellen Flanagan  
Chelsea Kellogg  
Susan Lichenstein &  
John Rokacz  
Barbara Manocherian  
The Movado Group  
Foundation  
Fiona Rudin  
Jac Scheiner  
Carol & Joel Thea  
Jon Wasser

**DIRECTOR**

Ole Andreassen  
Lynn Angelson  
Emily Baugher  
David Boccuzzi  
Mel & Linda Brosterman  
Javan Bunch & G-III  
Apparel  
Scott Burns  
Linda & Arthur Carter  
Mary Cirillo-Goldberg  
Graham Coleman  
David Crane & Jeffrey Klarik  
Kareem Crayton  
Creative Artists Agency  
Kelly Fowler Hunter  
Jill Furman

Roy Furman  
Amy & Frank Garrison  
Michael Greif  
Iliana Guibert  
Glenn Gunderson  
Peter Hedges &  
Susan Bruce Hedges  
John Homan  
The John Gore  
Organization  
Deborah & Mark Kopinski  
Linda F. Lynn  
Peter McKown  
Jessica Mitchell  
Jennifer Namoff  
Michael Neuwirth &  
Lynda Greenblatt  
Greg Nobile  
Naked Nutrition  
Paige Price  
Diarmuid Quinn  
Fernando & Cynthia Rivera  
Joseph Rokacz &  
Lawrence Gordon  
Susan Rosenberg &  
Peter Braverman  
Debbie Rovner  
Neal Rubinstein  
Laura Santisi &  
Richard Johnson  
Steve Shane  
Barbara Shulman  
Helene Stein  
Jenni Swan  
Frederick Taylor  
W. Scott Thomas  
United Talent Agency  
WME Agency

*List as of 4/18/23*

# THE CAMPAIGN FOR MCC THEATER

MCC THEATER is proud to thank everyone who has supported the Campaign for MCC THEATER. You helped make our dream of a home of our own a reality. Our new home allows us to deepen our mission and encourage greater collaboration amongst all of our artists, students, and audiences.

Special thanks to The Office of the Mayor of New York City, Eric Adams; The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Commissioner Laurie Cumbo; The New York City Council, Speaker Adrienne Adams; and the Office of Manhattan Borough President, President Mark D. Levine, for their dedication to the arts and their foundational support for this project.

Ruth & Harold Newman†  
Julie & Marc Platt  
The Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust

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Susan & Ronald Frankel	Dede Harris	Susan Bruce Hedges
Cathy Glaser & Steve Semlitz	Claudia & David Hirsch	Doug Hughes
Howard Gilman Foundation	David L. Lloyd, Jr. & Meg Mortimer	Leslie Larson & Don Katz
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Roy Furman, Jill Furman and Stephanie Furman Darrow	Janine & Jonathan Whitney	Robert & Fulvia McCrie
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Javan Thomas Bunch	Jan & Will Cantler	Roselle Baldwin Productions
Burnt Umber Productions	Elizabeth Columbo	Sherry Schwartz
Rachel & Melvin Epstein	Katherine & Costa Darras	Ted Stephens III & Dmitry Yakimchuk
Emma A. Sheafer Charitable Trust	Brian Davidson & Michael Schultz	Jenni Swan
Lori & Edward Forstein	Carol G. Deane	Bernard Telsey & Anne Marino
Jerry Frankel †	Jody Falco & Jeffrey Steinman	Joan Weingarten & Bob Donnalley
	Cynthia & Herbert Fields	Patty & Mark Willis
	Amy & Frank Garrison	
	Mary Cirillo-Goldberg & Jay Goldberg†	
	Peter Hedges &	

*List as of 4/17/23*

The funds listed below provide ongoing support to several of MCC's key initiatives.

**THE GARY PLATT INITIATIVE FOR NEW MUSICALS** supports artistic development and production of new musicals.

**STEVE RICHARDSON AND KIRK RUBI COLLEGE MENTORSHIP FUND** supports MCC Youth Company college and career preparation activities.

**ERIC ROSEDALE PLAYWRITING FUND** supports the annual FreshPlay for the MCC Youth Company.

**THE R&S SHULMAN FUND** supports artistic development and production of new plays, with a focus on work by African American Playwrights



## ARTIST COUNCIL

MCC THEATER wishes to acknowledge Artists and Industry Leaders who have generously donated their time and talent to support MCC THEATER's mission through our Education & Outreach programs, annual MISCAST Gala, and Online Auction.

Ramón Real Vargas Alanis	Halley Feiffer	Ingrid Michaelson
ChiChi Anyanwu	Beanie Feldstein	Lin-Manuel Miranda
Annaleigh Ashford	Dominique Fishback	The National Black Theater
Nissy Aya	Lenni Yesner Foreman	Ana Nogueira
Melissa Barrera	Jennifer Garner	Kelli O'Hara
McKinley Belcher III	Paige Gilbert	Leslie Odom Jr.
The Billie Holiday Theater	Ross Golan	Al Parker
Jocelyn Bioh	Renee Elise Goldsberry	Annie Paul
Nick Blaemire	Leslie Grace	Piper Perabo
Brooklyn Academy of Music	Heather Headley	Dylan Pickus
Norbert Leo Butz	Lucas Hedges	Billy Porter
Christian Cacigal	Joshua Henry	Isaac Powell
Sandra Caldwell	Andrea Hiebler	Travis Raeburn
Nicole Capatasto	Cheyenne Jackson	Amrita Ramanan
Juan Castano	Evan Jonigkeit	Lauren Ridloff
Kristian Charbonier	Jai'len Josey	Nicolette Robinson
Sarah Chavez	Alex Lacamoire	Susan Rudick
Kenneth Cole	LaChanze	Christina Russo
Julissa Contreras	Cedric Lamar	Thomas Sadoski
Kareem Crayton	Robert Leng	Phillipa Soo
Gavin Creel	Victoria Libertore	Gabriella Steinberg
Trip Cullman	Judith Light	Marisa Tomei
Hugh Dancy	Eric Lockley	Kelly Marie Tran
Robin De Jesus	Donja R. Love	Aaron Tveit
Developing Artists	Zosia Mamet	Channie Waites
Edison Ventura Mata Diaz	Julianna Margulies	Adrienne Warren
Ivon Edebiri	Jose Solis Mayen	Alice Whitley
Raul Esparza	Rob McClure	Patrick Wilson
Robert Fairchild	Idina Menzel	The Women's Project
	Laurie Metcalf	Kit Yan

# THE GARY PLATT INITIATIVE FOR NEW MUSICALS

The GARY PLATT INITIATIVE FOR NEW MUSICALS supports the costs of developmental readings, workshops, and new musical productions at MCC, with the goal of inspiring new voices and adding to the American musical theater canon.

The Initiative was formed in 2019 by Julie and Marc Platt and their family to honor the memory of their uncle and great-uncle, Gary, whose lifelong love of musical theater instilled in them a passion for this unique storytelling art form.



the CAST of ONLY GOLD / photo by DANIEL J. VASQUEZ

To learn more about THE GARY PLATT MUSICAL THEATER INITIATIVE, please contact Anne Myers at (212) 727-7722 ext. 236 or [amyers@mcctheater.org](mailto:amyers@mcctheater.org).



# OUR 2022-23 SEASON

OCT 2022

new musical

# ONLY GOLD

music and lyrics by **KATE NASH**  
book by **ANDY BLANKENBUEHLER** and **TED MALAWER**  
directed and choreographed by **ANDY BLANKENBUEHLER**

JAN 2023

critically acclaimed play

SOHO REP's

# WOLF PLAY

in collaboration with MA-YI THEATER COMPANY

by **HANSOL JUNG**  
directed by **DUSTIN WILLS**

MAY 2023

new Off-Broadway play

# BEEES & HONEY

in partnership with THE **SOL** PROJECT

by **GUADALÍS DEL CARMEN**  
directed by **MELISSA CRESPO**

MAY 2023

new play

# WET BRAIN

co-production with **Playwrights Horizons**

by **JOHN J. CASWELL, JR.**  
directed by **DUSTIN WILLS**



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*\*A one-time \$12 per package handling fee will be included.*

**Call (646) 506-9393 or visit [MCCTHEATER.ORG](http://MCCTHEATER.ORG) to save.**

The logo for MCC Theater features a red, three-dimensional square icon on the left, followed by the text "MCC" on the top line and "THEATER" on the bottom line, both in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The entire logo is set against a dark blue background.

**MCC**  
**THEATER**