### CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS SUMMER WALLACE & BRENDAN RAGAN

# URBANITE THEATRE s a r a s o t a

PRESENTS:

## A SKEPTIC AND A BRUJA

BY ROSA FERNANDEZ APRIL 1 – MAY 1, 2022 This production of A Skeptic and a Bruja is made possible by Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation's generous support of Urbanite Theatre's Diverse Theatremakers Initiative.

CHARLES & MARGERY BARARCIK FOUNDATION

#### Administrative Team

Co-Artistic Director ———————— Summer Wallace

Co-Artistic Director Brendan Ragan

Operations Manager — Jess Pope

#### TAG US!

#### @URBANITETHEATRE







## Running time: 1 hour and 40 minutes with one 15-minute intermission.

#### - A Skeptic and a Bruja Cast

Jess Alisha Espinosa\*

Sam Mercedes White

Remy Jen Diaz

Priscilla Lorinda Hawkins Smith\*

\*Member of Actors' Equity Association

#### - A Skeptic and a Bruja Creative Team

Director Patrice Amon
Production Stage Manager Tori Heikenfeld
Assistant Stage Manager Danielle McKay
Scenic Design Jeff Weber

#### - A Skeptic and a Bruja Creative Team

Lighting Design	Joseph Oshry
Sound Design	The Ragan Bros
Master Electrician & Programmer	Alex Pinchin
Props Design	Drew Phelan

#### - A Skeptic and a Bruja Creative Team

Costume Design	Carmen Amon
Master Carpenter & Illusions	Eugene Alcorn
Scenic Construction	Gary Musick Scenic, Nashville, TN



#### Summer Wallace

#### Co-Artistic Director

As founding Artistic Director of Urbanite Theatre, Summer has directed the regional premieres of *Scorch*, *Northside Hollow* (Winner 2018 Handy Award for Best Direction of a Play), *Dry Land*, *Sam & Lizzie* (reading) and is the producing director for Urbanite's Modern Works Festivals. Regional credits include: Asolo Repertory Theatre, Mad Cow Theatre, Dog Day's Theatre, 1st Stage, Vashon Repertory Theatre, Cumberland County Playhouse, Stage Door Theatre, Lagniappe Theatre, Theatre Lab, Players Theatre, FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training, New College of Florida and the list goes on. Summer is also Producing Director of Two Chicks Production. Upcoming, Summer will be directing *Athena* at Urbanite and is a proud member of AEA and SAG-AFTRA.

#### Brendan Ragan

#### Co-Artistic Director

As a founding Artistic Director of Urbanite Theatre, Brendan has directed the regional premiere productions of *The Smuggler, Sender, The Feast, Wakey, Wakey, The Drowning Girls, Echoes* and *Breadcrumbs*. Recently, Brendan wrote and directed the world premiere of Urbanite's immersive drama *Safe House* and created the one-man audio drama *Conceal & Carry* by Sean Christopher Lewis. Regional directing credits include the Odyssey Play Festival, ThinkTank Theatre, Hermitage Artist Retreat, American Stage, and the FSU/Asolo Conservatory's production of *Reckless* (Handy Award, Best Director). For Single Carrot Theatre in Baltimore, Brendan led the world premiere productions of *La Muñeca, Illuminoctem,* and *A Short Reunion.*www.brendanragan.com

#### Jess Pope

#### Operations Manager/Covid Safety Manager

Jess holds a B.A in Visual Studiesfrom Ringling College of Art and Design and an MFA in Visual Art from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Jess has danced with Moving Ethos Dance Theatre Company since 2008, and is also an instructor at Ringling College of Art and Design. Featuring work at the Historic Asolo Theatre, Urbanite Theatre, Studio 620, Festering Liberation Show at the University of Minnesota Morris in 2019, and Rain Studio and Gallery. Her work explores the intersections of mothering, queer culture and eroticism.

## 

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#### Rosa Fernandez

#### Playwright

Rosa attended Brooklyn College for her BFA in Theater and is a member of the Dramatist Guild. She is honored that her play *A Skeptic and a Bruja* is receiving its rolling world premiere at Urbanite Theatre. Her play *Curse of the Puerto Ricans* will receive its World Premiere at Bishop Arts Theatre Center in August of 2022. Special thanks to Summer for seeing the potential from the early draft, Patrice for believing in vision, and finally, to Jose for being the most supportive person anyone could ask for and holding down the fort so I can make art.

#### Patrice Amon

#### Director

Dr. Maria Patrice Amon is an Associate Artistic Director and Latinx Projects Producer at San Diego REP. She is a southern California based director, dramaturg, producer, and scholar. Directing: *Mojada* (UCSD), *A Zoom of One's Own* (CSUSM), *DREAM HOU\$E* (CSUSM/TuYo Theatre), *Fade* (Moxie Theatre), *The Madres* (Moxie Theatre), *Lydia* (Brown Bag Theatre Company). Patrice is Co-Artistic Director of TuYo Theatre, a 2020 National Directing Fellow, LTC Steering Committee member, and a board member for NNPN. Patrice is an assistant professor at CSUSM. JD: California Western School of Law. PhD: UC Irvine. www.mariapatriceamon.com

#### Mercedes White

#### Sam

Mercedes White is excited to make her Urbanite Theatre debut. Born and raised in Chicago's best neighborhood, Pilsen, she went on to attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she achieved her BFA. Past productions include *One Googol and One* (BATCO), *Lines* (Theatre Lila), *The Brother's Size, The Dutchman, Genesis* (Definition Theatre) *A Raisin in the Sun* (U/S), *Clybourne Park* (U/S), *A Christmas Carol and Assassins* (Milwaukee Rep Theatre). TV credits include *Somebody Somewhere* (HBO), *Empire* (Fox), *Chicago PD* (NBC), and *Southside* (Comedy Central). Gentrification sucks. Kindness is free so give it away.

#### Alisha Espinosa

#### Jess

Alisha Espinosa is an Afro-Boricua storyteller and the Director of Education & Outreach for the Latinx Playwrights Circle. Select Acting Credits: Seize the King (Classical Theatre of Harlem), Our Dear Dead Drug Lord (WP Theatre), Alma (Old Globe), Hamlet (Stage One), Shakespeare: The Remix (Capital Rep), Much Ado About Nothing (KY Shakespeare). Recently, she was in development at PACE University (The Archive) and a finalist for the Eugene O'Neill 2021 NPC (The Language of the Unheard). A selection of her work can be found on the New Play Exchange Network. alishaespinosa.com | @la.espi | MFA, UMKC

#### Jen Diaz

#### Remy

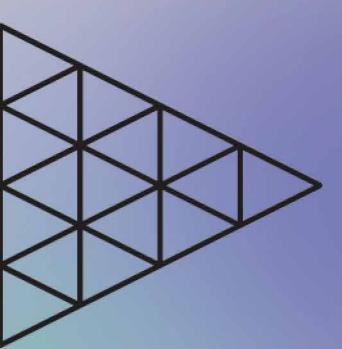
Jen Díaz is Puerto Rico-born, Mississippi-raised, and Orlando-living artist. She is a 2021 graduate of the Atlantic Acting School's inaugural Global Virtual Conservatory, where La Gringa No Baila was born—a solo show that explores identity, connection, & attempts to answer the question "Where are you from?" Jen's work spans from the stage and screen to voiceover and theme parks. Previous stage credits: Daisy Violet the Bitch Beast King (2019 Urbanite Modern Works Festival Winner), Dike (Urbanite Theatre), Harbor (Dog Days Theatre), White Fang (freeFall). Film: Tether (48HFP Best Actress Winner).

#### Lorinda Hawkins Smith

#### Pricilla

Lorinda Hawkins Smith is a native Californian. Her television credits include *Barry, The Wayans Bros,* and *Living Single.* Theater is Lorinda's first love. She has worked with San Diego Rep, Deaf West Theatre, and Robey Theatre Company. Recently, she's been focusing on her solo play series *Justice? Or...Just Me?* The award-winning first play in the series, *The Bite,* has been an official selection of the Hollywood Fringe Festival, Black Voices Solo Fest and Solofest 2022. Lorinda authored and published the first book in the series of the same title. During the pandemic, Lorinda made the award-winning short film *The Virus.* Lorinda is excited to work with Patrice Amon again and can't wait to be part of the world premiere of *A Skeptic and a Bruja.* Lorindahawkinssmith.com





#### Season Six

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#### Tori Heikenfeld

#### Production Stage Manager

Tori is thrilled to be on the Urbanite team for her third production, after stage managing *The Smuggler*. Recent Stage Management credits include *My Lord What a Night* at Florida Studio Theatre, as well as productions with Arden Theatre Company, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Baltimore Center Stage, Theatre Aspen, and Portland Stage Company. She holds a BA in Theatre Production/Design and Public Relations from Susquehanna University. Favorite credits include *Bridges of Madison County* and *A Small Fire*. Many thanks to Kevin, Chloe and the family for their unwavering love and support.

#### Danielle McKay

#### Assistant Stage Manager

Danielle is a theatre artist and alumni of The University of South Florida (B.A. Theatre Arts) and Gulf Coast State College (Liberal Arts, A.A.) where she studied stage managentment and directing. Danielle is a native Floridian and a lover of the ocean, board games and all forms of art! Danielle is incrediby excited to be working with Urbanite Theatre for the first time and is grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with so many talented and inspiring artists! Danielle has previously served as a stage manager for productions at USF including: Cabaret, Orlando: A Biography and various staged readings, and has worked as an assistant stage manager for Stop Kiss at USF and Meteor Shower at Jobsite Theater. A Skeptic And A Bruja is Danielle's second professional credit. Danielle would like to thank her partner and family for thier love and support, and the folks at Urbanite Theatre for bringing her onto this project! Enjoy the show!

#### Jeff Weber

#### Scenic Design

Jeff completed a BA in Fine Arts from SUNY Cortland and an MFA in Scenic Design. From the University of Nebraska. Through his career, as a professional scenic designer, he has designed for corporate events and Theatre. He has had the privilege of designing around the country for such companies as the A Simple Theatre, Spring Opera House, Miss Georgia Pageant, Nebraska Shakespeare Festival, horizon Theatre Company and Super Summer Theatre. He is excited to be a part of this production.



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#### Joseph Oshry

#### Lighting Design

Joseph P. Oshry is glad to be returning to Urbanite Theatre for their world-premiere production of *A Skeptic and a Bruja*. This show marks Joseph's 600th designed project since 1987. Previous lighting work includes designs for such organizations as Asolo Rep, Palm Beach Dramaworks, Maltz-Jupiter Theatre, Orlando Shakespeare Theater, Palm Beach Opera, Opera Tampa, New Orleans Opera, Sarasota International Dance Festival, Ballet Eddy Toussaint USA and the Interlochen Dance Ensemble in Michigan. Joseph has received two Individual Artist Fellowships from the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs and is a four-time recipient of the Theatre Tampa Bay award for outstanding lighting design. He is also a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829 New York and of IATSE Local 412 Sarasota. He has recently published a book entitled Studies of Light. It can be found via https://josephoshry.com/studiesOfLight.

#### The Ragan Bros

#### Sound Design

Brendan and Sean Ragan, real life brothers and best friends, have collaborated on the original scores and sound designs for Urbanite Theatre productions *The Smuggler, Sender, The Feast, The Drowning Girls, Breadcrumbs, Safe House* and the 2021 Modern Works Festival. Together, they also created Urbanite's one-man audio drama *Conceal & Carry.* Sean is a musician, producer and sound designer based in Denver, Colorado. Brendan is a director who makes Sean work in theater as a good excuse to spend time with him.

#### Alex Pinchin

#### Master Electrician & Programmer

Alex has worked with Urbanite in a variety of capacities since 2016 where he served as the sound engineer for *Breadcrumbs*. Alex has been working in theater production for over 15 years now. Graduating from the University of Florida with a B.A. in Digital Arts and Sciences with a Minor in Lighting Design, he has since gone on to become the resident sound designer for the FSU/Asolo Conservatory and Sarasota Contemporary Dance, as well as designing lights and projections across the country. A native of Sarasota he is proud to support the arts in any way he can and strives to inspire youth to explore their creative side.

#### Drew Phelan

#### Props Design

Drew Phelan is the co-founder of Performing Arts for Social Change in Ithaca, NY and teaches martial arts for women and LGBTQ+ youth. Recent theatre credits include Production Manager and Festival Coordinator for Your Real Stories, Production Stage Manager for Urbanite Theatre from 2015 to 2019, *Flying* and *I And You* at Tampa Rep as well as *The People Downstairs* and *Mamma Mia* in the Park at American Stage. They are excited to be joining Urbanite Theatre for the 2021-22 season as the Resident Props Designer. Amanda is a proud of member of the Actors' Equity Association and the Stage Manager's Association.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Jonathan Epstein Weber Scenic Studios Manatee Performing Arts Center Karla Hartley and Stageworks Theatre Tom Hansen Maria Marin Ethan Vail and Asolo Rep CC Carter, Lynn Sheppard and the Garst House

#### Eugene Alcorn

#### Master Carpenter & Illusions

Gene Alcorn served as master carpenter for the last two seasons at Urbanite Theatre. Credits include In a Word, The Niceties, Thanksgiving Play, Sender, The Feast, Safe House, At the Wake of a Dead Drag Queen and The Smuggler. Gene is also a performing Magician and builds magic for other magicians all over the world. His skills are somewhat unique yet combined are an asset to Urbanite Theatre.



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#### Carmen Amon

#### Costume Designer

Carmen Amon is a proud Queer Chicanx Costume Designer in the Greater San Diego area. She is ecstatic to make her Florida debut with Urbanite Theatre. She has been working professionally as a Freelance Costume Designer since 2016. She graduated the same year with a Bachelor's Degree in Theater with an Emphasis in Costume Design from San Diego State University. Her designs have been featured at La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego Repertory Theater, MOXIE Theater, TuYo Theater, Junior Theater and Pacific Ridge School.

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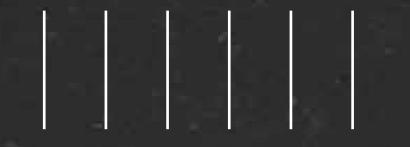
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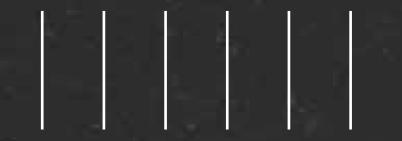
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Mercedes O'Connor
Richard Deppe
Roxanne Permesly



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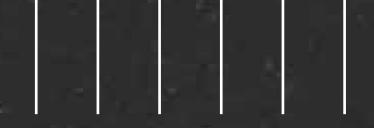
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