



SHADES AND SHADOWS

A WORLD PREMIERE PLAY

BY WILLIAM BRASSE

DIRECTED BY CC MILLER

THE MAGIC THEATRE

April 30-May 3, 2026

Back with Two Beasts presents

Shades and Shadows

A World Premiere Play

Written by **WILLIAM BRASSE**

Directed by **CC MILLER**

The Magic Theatre • San Francisco

April 30 – May 3, 2026

Opening Night: Friday, May 1 at 8 PM

C A S T

<i>Pythia</i>	Amanda Vitiello
<i>Orpheus</i>	James Mercer II
<i>Aristaeus</i>	Bobby August Jr.
<i>Eurydice</i>	Jessica Bettencourt
<i>Dance Chorus</i>	Teo Lin-Bianco
<i>Dance Chorus</i>	Tatianna Steiner
<i>Dance Chorus</i>	Ella Wright
<i>Violinist</i>	Aureolus K. Stetzel

C R E A T I V E T E A M

<i>Scenic and Set Design</i>	CC Miller
<i>Costume Design</i>	Amanda Hayami
<i>Lighting Design</i>	Riley Richardson
<i>Composer</i>	David Coulter
<i>Choreographer</i>	Iu-Hui Chua
<i>Props</i>	Hanbyul Joo
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Chloe Parmelee
<i>Co-Stage Manager</i>	Elio Amador
<i>Asst. Dir. Observer</i>	Hana Hiratai

THE PRODUCTION WILL RUN APPROXIMATELY 90 MINUTES, NO INTERMISSION

DIRECTOR'S NOTE & PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTE

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Since first reading this play, I had a clear vision of how to bring it to life fully – with music and movement. I am very excited to collaborate with such a brilliant cast and crew, and to have performances at the historic Magic Theatre!

– CC Miller

PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTE

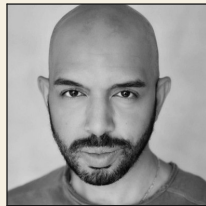
I would ask theatre-goers, what are you looking for in a play? Elegant language? Artistic production? Excellent acting? A story you don't know? A story you know told in a new way? Pathos and humor? *Shades and Shadows* has it all. The prophetess says you will like it.

– William Brasse

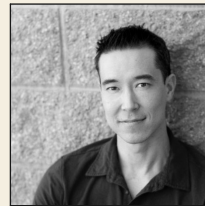
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST?



Amanda Vitiello
Pythia



James Mercer II
Orpheus



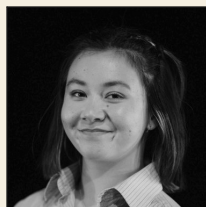
Bobby August Jr.
Aristaeus



Jessica Bettencourt
Eurydice



Teo Lin-Bianco
Dance Chorus



Tatianna Steiner
Dance Chorus



Ella Wright
Dance Chorus



Aureolus K. Stetzel
Violinist

WHO'S WHO?

CC MILLER *Director / Set Designer*



CC Miller is a multidisciplinary artist focused on theatre directing. Alumna of UC Berkeley, B.A. in Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies with a Minor in Creative Writing. Member of The Eco-Performance Lab, co-directing *Earth Prayer* for the Bioneers Conference and Earth Day Festival. Proud SDC Associate Member and Theatre Bay Area Artist.

WILLIAM BRASSE *Playwright*

William Brasse lives in the East Bay, though his origins are in the green forests of Tennessee. He has published three novels and over a dozen short stories. His plays have been performed and read in California, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Minnesota, and New York. This is his second full-scale Bay Area production, the first being *The Trials of Maud Allan* at The Marsh. He is a vegan and a connoisseur of cute animal videos.

AMANDA VITIELLO *Pythia*



Amanda Vitiello is delighted to make her debut at Magic Theatre. Recent credits include Robyn in *Meet Me at Dawn* (Mercury Theater), Maud in *The Trials of Maud Allan* (The Marsh Berkeley), Lina in *Cry It Out* (Cinnabar Theater), and Shakespeare's Joan of Arc in *The Dogs of War* and *Plastic Rose* (Edinburgh Fringe). Past credits: ACT, Opera San Jose, New Village Arts, Gallery Players (NY). MFA Theatre, UC Davis. Film/TV: *Mad Men*, *Meetings*, and the upcoming *Dark Light*.

JAMES MERCER II *Orpheus*



James Mercer II is a Soulaani multi-hyphenate theatre artist from Philadelphia, now based in the Bay Area. Oakland Theater Project: *Angels in America*, *Hamlet*, *Cabaret*, directing *Les Blancs*, co-directing *The Mountaintop*, and assisting on Marcus Gardley's *A Thousand Ships*. Also: American Conservatory Theater, Aurora Theatre, Berkeley Rep. Co-Associate Artistic Director, African American Shakespeare Company. MFA, American Conservatory Theater.

BOBBY AUGUST JR. *Aristaeus*



Bobby August Jr. is an actor and improviser spanning television, film, and theatre. He acted opposite Jessica Chastain in *Dreams*, guest-starred on *Chance* (Hugh Laurie), and appeared in *NBA 2K16* (Spike Lee). Theatre Bay Area TITAN Award recipient. Owner and director of Made Up Theatre, Fremont. MFA in Acting, UC Davis.

JESSICA BETTENCOURT *Eurydice*



Jessica Bettencourt is a New York-trained actor, comedian, and teaching artist. MFA in Acting, The New School for Drama. Past roles: Clara in *33 Variations*, Wendla in *Spring Awakening*, Miranda in *The Tempest*, Electra in *The Libation Bearers*, and Mina in *Dracula*. Her favourite role is being the devoted dog mom to her rescue pup, Party.

TEO LIN-BIANCO *Dance Chorus*



Born and raised in Los Angeles, Teo trained in jazz, contemporary, and tap, with a background in circus arts that informs their dynamic and expressive movement style. With experience performing with Printz Dance Project, Teo is committed to movement as a form of connection and community-building.

TATIANNA STEINER *Dance Chorus*



Tatianna Steiner (she/her) is an Asian American movement artist focused on contemporary and modern dance. B.A. in Dance and Performance Studies, UC Berkeley. Freelance movement artist and co-director of Tether Dance Project, exploring modern and experimental movement through performance and community outreach.

ELLA WRIGHT *Dance Chorus*



Born and raised in the Bay Area, Ella trained at the Academy of Ballet and recently graduated from UC Berkeley. She has performed principal roles in *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker*, and *Emeralds*. With classmates Teo Lin-Bianco and Tatianna Steiner, she co-founded Tether Dance Project. Their debut production, *Flux & Form*, premiered at the Joe Goode Annex in 2025.

AUREOLUS K. STETZEL *Violinist*



Aureolus K. Stetzel is a musician, clothing designer, and artist based in San Francisco. She has been a violin player and singer since early childhood and is excited to return to performance!

IU-HUI CHUA *Choreographer*



Iu-Hui Chua choreographs, performs, directs, and devises physical theater, dance, and video performance. She has presented work at the SF International Arts Festival, Athens Digital Arts Festival, Mondavi Studio, and across North America, Asia, and Europe. She has danced with Anna Halprin, SanSan Kwan, and Guillermo Gomez-Pena. Lecturer at UC Berkeley in TDPS and co-director of the Eco-Performance Lab.

DAVID COULTER *Composer*



David Coulter has written, directed, recorded, produced, and played with Tom Waits, The Pogues, Kronos Quartet, Laurie Anderson, Yoko Ono, Wes Anderson, Marianne Faithfull, Damon Albarn, and Gorillaz. Credits: *A Thousand Splendid Suns* and *Hamlet* (A.C.T.); Legion of Honor, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Stratford Festival. Didgeridoo player to HM Queen Elizabeth II. Betty Mitchell Award winner.

AMANDA HAYAMI *Costume Designer*



Amanda Hayami is an Oakland-based sustainable costume designer with a background in hairstyling, music, and English literature. Through layers of repetition, reused materials, and unconventional experiences, she shapes waste into digestible fashion statements.

RILEY RICHARDSON *Lighting Designer*



Riley Richardson (Any/All) is an up-and-coming Lighting Designer in the San Francisco Bay Area. After graduating from UC Berkeley in 2023, they have worked on *PLEASE DON'T SLOW ME DOWN*, *Flux & Form* by Tether Dance Project, and The Other Minds Festival. Upcoming: *Vox Lumina* at Brava Theater Center in January 2027!

HANBYUL JOO *Props*



Hanbyul Joo (she/they) is a designer and props artisan making her Magic Theatre debut. Berkeley Rep Properties Fellow 2024-2025: *The Aves*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Thing About Jellyfish*. This season: *All My Sons*, *How Shakespeare Saved My Life*, *Mother of Exiles*. Look out for their work in *The Lunchbox*!

CHLOE PARMELEE *Stage Manager*



Chloe Parmelee is a multi-ethnic, queer, neurodivergent, multidisciplinary artist, actor, and stage manager. B.A. Theatre and Performing Arts, Saint Mary's College of California (May 2025). Credits: AlterTheatre, Town Hall Theatre, Last West Inc. This summer she joins Berkeley Rep as Co-Director/Choreographer for their youth program.

ELIO AMADOR *Co-Stage Manager*



Elio Amador (he/they) is a queer Chicane theatre artist based in the Bay Area. They have assistant stage managed for Oakland Theater Project and Crowded Fire Theater, and have acted at Center Repertory Theatre, Theatre Rhinoceros, Play Cafe, and NCTC YouthAware. Also directed for Theatre Rhinoceros, Chanticleers Theatre, and Playground SF's Monday Night Playground.

HANA HIRATAI *Asst. Dir. Observer*



Hana Hiratai is a senior at UC Berkeley, double-majoring in TDPS and Psychology. This is her first time observing as an assistant director, and she could not be more thrilled to be part of this production. She is passionate about bringing positivity, love, and peace to the stage. Hana plans to continue her journey as an actor, dancer, and above all, as a human being who leads with heart.

S P E C I A L T H A N K S

Thank you to the Magic team for all your incredible technical help and support! With appreciation to **Kevin Nelson**, **Enkidu Khan**, **Taylor Gonzalez**, **Sara "Edie" Saavedra**, **Frankenstein**, **Malcolm**, and **Stephanie Holmes**.

T I C K E T S & I N F O

[ShadesandShadows.Eventbrite.com](https://shadesandshadows.eventbrite.com)

www.magictheatre.org

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