

ALLEY THEATRE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Casting Announced for 2019 Alley All New Festival

Local and visiting artists join the Alley Resident Company for seven new plays, beginning January 18, 2019

HOUSTON, TX— The Alley Theatre's Alley All New Festival, January 18-27, 2019, features seven playwrights and more than 25 actors from the Alley and around the country. The festival programming includes readings, workshop performances, an Early Draft Preview event of a new musical by Lawrence Wright, and the world premiere production of *The Carpenter* by Robert Askins.

In addition to Alley Resident Company members, many artists have recently appeared on the Alley stage and some are making their Alley debut. Packages and single ticket reservations are available now online at alleytheatre.org/allnew or by calling the Box Office at 713.220.5700.

Alley Resident Company members participating in the festival include **Elizabeth Bunch**, **Dylan Godwin**, **Shawn Hamilton**, **Melissa Pritchett**, **David Rainey**, and **Todd Waite**.

Actors returning to the Alley are **Estée Burks** (*Cleo*), **Juan Sebastián Cruz** (*Cinched and Strapped*), **Adam Gibbs** (*Cleo*, *A Christmas Carol*), **McKenna Marmolejo** (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Spider's Web*), **Lynda Gravátt** (*Barbara Jordan: Texas Treasure*), **David Matranga** (*Holmes and Watson*, *A Christmas Carol*), **Chelsea Ryan McCurdy** (*A Christmas Carol*), **Raven Troup** (*A Christmas Carol*), and **Teresa Zimmermann** (*A Christmas Carol*).

Actors making their Alley Theatre debut include **Orlando Arriaga** (4th Wall Theatre: *Jesus Hopped A Train*, A.D. Players: *The Lilies of the Field*), **Alan Brincks** (Arkansas Shakespeare: *Julius Caesar*, *Love's Labour's Lost*), **Greg Dean** (Catastrophic Theatre: *A Very Tamarie Christmas*, *Middletown*), **Rebecca S'manga Frank** (Red Bull Theatre: *Coriolanus*, Wheelhouse Theater Company: *Romeo and Juliet*), **Gabriel Diego Hernández** (Two River Theater: *El Coqui Espectacular and the Bottle of Doom*), **Lameece Issaq** (Noor Theatre: *Food and Fadwa*), **Paul Juhn** (National Asian American Theatre Company NYC: *Henry VI*, Public Theater: *Hannah and the Dread Gazebo*), **Susan Koozin** (Stages Repertory Theatre: *The Blonde*, *the Brunette*, and *the Vengeful Redhead* and *Always...Patsy Cline*), **Pamela Garcia Langton** (Ohlook Performing Arts: *Catch Me If You Can*, *The Wild Party*), **Raymond J. Lee** (August Wilson Theatre: *Ralph*, Nederlander Theatre: *Honeymoon in Vegas*), **Christina Austin Lopez** (ZACH Theatre: *A Christmas Carol*, 4th Wall Theatre: *Rapture*, *Blister*, *Burn*), **Josh Morrison** (Stages Repertory Theatre: *Nixon's Nixon*, *Orange Flower Water*), and **Carian Lynée Parker** (Alley Teaching Artist and Box Office Associate).

The previously announced **Early Draft Preview** event will showcase excerpts and a conversation with the authors of a new work-in-progress. This year's Early Draft Preview features a new musical about Texas politics by **Lawrence Wright** (Alley's *Cleo*, Hulu's "The Looming Tower") with music by **Marcia Ball** (2018 Texas State Musician of the Year) and **Gordon Wright**.

In addition to festival offerings, Alley All New continues to produce special events throughout the year centered on new work. Past events include Nick Vaughan and Jake Margolin's performance lecture ***A Landing on the Bayou*** and a reading of Eleanor Burgess' new play ***Wife of a Salesman***. The next readings will be March 18, April 29 and June 10. Titles to be announced.

All presentations are free and open to the public. Alley All New programming is recommended for mature audiences. Select performances will be followed by a post-show conversation lead by a member of the artistic staff.

All updates and schedules are available at alleytheatre.org/allnew and [HERE](#).

A full list of festival casting is below:

WORKSHOP PERFORMANCES

[72 Miles To Go...](#) by Hilary Bettis

Directed by José Zayas

Orlando Arriaga

Juan Sebastián Cruz

Gabriel Diego Hernández

Pamela Garcia Langton

Christina Austin Lopez

Workshop Performances: January 19 (2:30 p.m.), January 20 (7:30 p.m.), January 25 & 26 (8:00 p.m.)

[Sophia](#) by Claire Kiechel

Directed by Lisa Peterson

Elizabeth Bunch

Lynda Gravátt

Dylan Godwin

Lameece Issaq

Carian Lynée Parker

Melissa Pritchett

Raven Troup

Workshop Performances: January 18 & 19 (8:00 p.m.), January 20 (2:30 p.m.), January 26 (1:30 p.m.), January 27 (7:30 p.m.)

READINGS

[Whistlin' Dixie](#) by Glen Berger

Directed by Alex Harvey

Elizabeth Bunch

Greg Dean

Rebecca S'manga Frank

Shawn Hamilton

Adam Gibbs

Dylan Godwin

Susan Koozin

David Rainey

Todd Waite

Jack Beetle (pianist)

Readings: January 25 (4:30 p.m.), January 27 (1:30 p.m.)

The Supreme Leader by Don Nguyen
Directed by Brandon Weinbrenner
Alan Brincks
Gabriel Diego Hernández
Paul Juhn
Raymond J. Lee
McKenna Marmolejo
Reading: January 26 (10:00 a.m.)

Amerikin by Chisa Hutchison
Directed by James Black
Estée Burks
Adam Gibbs
Shawn Hamilton
David Matranga
Chelsea Ryan McCurdy
Josh Morrison
Teresa Zimmermann
Todd Waite
Reading: January 27 (10:00 a.m.)

EARLY DRAFT PREVIEW

Mr. Texas by Lawrence Wright, Marcia Ball and Gordon Wright
Teresa Zimmermann
Event: January 26 (4:30 p.m.)

RESERVATIONS AND WEEKEND PACKAGES

Reservations are free and can be made now at alleytheatre.org/allnew.
Weekend packages for January 25-27 , which include prime seating at all presentations, exclusive artist access, and meals between performances are on sale now at alleytheatre.org/allnew. Packages start at \$120 with optional add-ons for *The Carpenter*.

** Reserved package prices reflect the cost of the meals*

PRESS

All workshop performances and readings at the Alley All New Festival are works in progress and not available for review.

Press photos from previous seasons of Alley All New Festival can be found at
2018 - <https://www.alleytheatre.org/press/alley-all-new-festival-eighteen>
2017 - <https://www.alleytheatre.org/press/alley-all-new-seventeen-photos>

2019 Alley All New Festival artists' headshots can be found here:
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/k5okdmnqq3oy1w4/AAAKaXp_Osk7XqohmWP-FQb4a?dl=0

2019 Alley All New Festival artists' bios can be found here:
www.alleytheatre.org/allnew

ALLEY ALL NEW

Alley All New is comprised of a variety of public and in-house programs designed to support playwrights and cater to the needs of each new project. Through this initiative, the Alley produces world premieres, commissions new plays, and supports playwrights year-round. The Alley All New Festival made its debut in 2016. Join the Alley Insider Group by emailing alleyinsider@alleytheatre.org and learn more about new work in development and be the first to hear about Alley All New events. More information and updates can be found on alleytheatre.org/allnew, on Facebook and #AlleyAllNew.

SPONSORS: The Alley All New Festival is generously sponsored by Premier Sponsor Meredith and Cornelia Long and Supporting sponsors The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, Rutger Beelaerts, and Sally J. Langston. The Alley Theatre is supported by the 2017-18 season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of the Alley Theatre; Four Seasons Hotel Houston, the official hotel of the Alley Theatre; and Lynn Wyatt.

ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading nonprofit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Interim Artistic Director James Black and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. Rob Melrose will serve as the Alley's Artistic Director beginning with the 2019-20 Season. The Alley produces up to 16 plays each year in its newly renovated Theatre, ranging from the best current work, to re-invigorated classic plays, to new plays by contemporary writers. The Alley is home to a resident company of actors. In addition, the Alley engages theatre artists of every discipline – actors, designers, composers, playwrights – who work on individual productions throughout each season as visiting artists.

The recent renovation of the Alley's Hubbard Theatre created a new 774-seat state-of-the-art performance venue. Matched with the newly rebuilt 296-seat Neuhaus Theatre, the Alley offers nearly 500 performances each season. The Company reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performance and education programs. Its audience enrichment programs include pre-show and post-performance talks, events, and workshops for audience members of all ages.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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