

**HAVE A BIG TOP DAY!**



**WAITING  
FOR  
BARNUM!**

**STEP RIGHT UP  
WE AREN'T SHY!**

**PITCH A TENT  
WITH US!**

**A SATIRE WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JENNY FOX**

**FEATURING  
CHRISTINA UYENO  
CHRISTOPHER  
BROWN  
GABE SOETAN  
GIGI GUIZADO  
JAZMINE DAVIS  
NICOLE UNGER  
TOM KUNZMAN**



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**“Welcome to the Cuddly Clown! Step right up, we aren’t shy! Pitch a tent with us! Make it a big top day!”**

Waiting for Barnum barks at us to step right up to the mayhem! It’s a Friday evening at the Cuddly Clown, a local circus themed “breastaurant.” Sexy clown servers cater to rowdy and lascivious customers. As the servers battle to assert their identities in a place that relegates them to smiley clowns, we witness an agonizing discovery and shocking violence. All wait for Barnum in the hopes that he will magically fix what is broken. Will he ever show?

Take a peek under the big tent at the ways in which we are all a part of the circus. Amidst awkward PT Barnum quotes and vulgar circus themed drinks and food, Waiting for Barnum explores themes of power and consent and the transactional structure of our world. We are asked as individuals and as a collective to consider how to take action in the face of injustice.



**Contextual notes from Jenny Fox, writer of Waiting for Barnum:**

For many, work is akin to being a clown in a circus.

***“Clowns are the pegs on which the circus is hung.”***

~ Phineas Taylor Barnum (of circus entrepreneur fame)

Within a systemic power imbalance, when we agree to work, do we truly consent? Waiting for Barnum expresses the palpable experience so many identify with; silencing one’s voice and conceding one’s identity in order to survive.

***“To be an oppressor is dehumanizing and anti-human in nature, as it is to be a victim.”***

~ Bell Hooks (in her book *Ain’t I a Woman*)

## Contextual notes (cont)

While experiencing objectification in employment is of specific relevance for those gendered women (particularly those who are vulnerable due to lack of resources and marginalization), all people are invited by *Waiting for Barnum* through the realm of the absurd, to examine not only the specific ways in which our societal structure impacts women, but also to challenge the notion that all people must lose autonomy in the pursuit of income.

***“I never bought a man who wasn’t for sale.”***

~ William A. Clark (after whom Clark County, Nevada was named)

*Waiting for Barnum* tackles the intersectionality between racism and sexism. While the themes explored are particularly relevant to Las Vegas area communities, they are crucial to our society at large. How does one assert and preserve their humanity and identity within a system that would relegate one to a commodified clown?

***“Sometimes it’s more important to be human than to have good taste.”***

~ Bertolt Brecht

(fled Nazi Germany  
as the regime took hold)

*Waiting for Barnum* is both an absurdist nod to the existential dilemma portrayed in Samuel Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot* and an expressionistic highlighting of our current human state of recognizing injustice while being paralyzed into inaction. As individuals and as a collective, how do we unfreeze and take action?



***“Babes, there’s no going back now.  
Smash this circus to the ground.  
Howl fiercely at the moon.”***

~ Jen Campbell

(in her poem *The Woman’s Private Looking Glass*,  
in her collection *The Girl Aquarium*)

## Contextual notes (cont)

Waiting for Barnum depicts misogyny, sexism, racism, and sexual violence in blended styles of satire, absurdism, and expressionism. The satirical portrayal of tropes and stereotypes is intended to challenge harmful cultural norms and support the dismantling of exploitative structures. All collaborators share values as anti-racists, anti-sexists, and anti-misogynists. The creative process was consensual and involved open and direct discussion of the issues and themes herein, assertion of personal boundaries, and prioritizing of one another's wellbeing and identities. During the creative process, collaborators openly expressed their ideas and individual experiences supporting a continuous culture of communication and supportiveness. No humans (or animals, including our official rehearsal dog, Melvin!) were harmed in the making of this performance.

### Content Warnings:

- ~ Profanity.
- ~ Racist and misogynistic language and behavior.
- ~ Sexual assault.
- ~ Mature themes, subject matter, and situations.

### Age Recommendation:

Suitable for most people aged teen and older. Audience discretion is advised.

### Running time:

Approximately 75 minutes. No intermission.

**\*PLEASE KINDLY NOTE\*** This is a workshop performance to support the development of a new play and eventual fully realized theatrical production(s). This workshop offers the audience a compelling performance with minimal production elements (i.e. set pieces and lighting are minimal, etc.). Audiences are invited and encouraged to stay for a brief post show talkback with the collaborators about the themes and ideas.

For information about producing or directing a production of Waiting for Barnum, contact Jenny Fox at [jennyfoxwords@gmail.com](mailto:jennyfoxwords@gmail.com).

# COLLABORATORS



## **Christina Uyeno, Performer - "Takemi"**

Christina Uyeno is an Uchinanchu actress/producer and baby voice actor born and raised in O'ahu, Hawai'i. She was a company actress



for Honolulu Theatre for Youth where some of her favorites include Min-Li in "Where The Mountain Meets the Moon", Mulan in "The Ballad of Mulan", and Pascal in "The Red Balloon". Other credits include the radio play edition of "Today Is My Birthday" by Susan Soon He Stanton with Artist Rep in Portland playing Emily. Various roles at Hawai'i Shakespeare Festival including Dromio, Bottom, and Hero. One half of the improv group

"Musical Healings with Diana and Tina" and other improv shows with ImprovHI. Since moving to Vegas she has co-produced "Hawai'i Talk Story" which focuses on theatrical works from Hawai'i Playwrights with Talk Story Collective, which she co-founded. She made her Vegas debut in "NSFW" at A Public Fit last month and is excited to be a part of this show with Jenny!

## **Christopher Brown, Performer - "Bailey"**

Christopher Brown has 28 years of experience as a professional actor. He has been seen on stages in New York, Nashville, Chicago, Washington D.C. and Las Vegas with companies including Nashville Shakespeare Festival, The Shakespeare Theatre of D.C., Jean Cocteau Repertory, Cockroach Theatre, A Public Fit, among many others. Some roles he has taken on include Benedick in MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, Coriolanus, Macbeth, The Creature in FRANKENSTEIN, Juror 7 in TWELVE ANGRY MEN, Mark Rothko in RED, King Henry in HENRY V, Garcin in NO EXIT, Peter in SILENT SKY, among others. He has directed multiple plays and three of his own films and starred in the role of Jamis in the Syfy miniseries FRANK HERBERT'S DUNE. He was a Blue Man with BLUE MAN GROUP for fourteen years where he performed all over the world. He currently holds the role of Continental Manager at the JOHN WICK EXPERIENCE. He holds a degree in Commercial Music. He studied acting at GATE in New York, The Shakespeare Theatre in D.C., and Steppenwolf in Chicago.



## **Constance Taschner, Sound Designer / Stage Manager**

Constance Taschner is a native to Cave Creek, Arizona. Constance earned her associate degree in fine arts from Scottsdale Community College and her bachelor's degree at UNLV in theatre design and technology. Her most recent credits (as a sound designer) include: Native Gardens, Alabaster, The Lifespan of a Fact, Indecent, X, Dancing at Lughnasa, True West and References to Salvador Dali Make me Hot with A Public Fit; Young Frankenstein with UNLV's Second Stage; and POTUS with Vegas Theatre Company. Constance has been in Las Vegas for almost four years working with this wonderful theatre community and hopes to continue working with everyone in the future.



## **Eric McCammond, Graphic Artist / Front of House**

Eric is a retired Air Force Senior Master Sergeant and current aviation safety analyst. Eric can often be found reading a book, riding his bicycle, or creating crude wearable folk art with objects found in his garage. He was introduced to the wonderful world of theater by his spouse Jenny Fox. His theater experience includes graphic designer on Jenny's recent theater projects and production manager for You Might Think Less of Me. Eric has an MPA in Nonprofit and Community Services..



## **Gabriel Oluwadamilare Soetan, Performer - "Daniel"**



Gabriel is an actor based in Las Vegas, NV. He was born in Chicago, IL. Gabriel has been studying his craft since 2021. His process pertains to a variety of techniques, with his main focus being on the Ivana Chubbuck technique. Gabe is ecstatic and honored to be making his first professional debut with "Waiting for Barnum" written by Jenny Fox. Excelsior.

## Gigi Guizado, Performer - “Dezba”

Gigi Guizado is an award-winning, international actor/writer/director with a BA in Drama from San Francisco State University. Favorite roles include *Antígona* and *The Therapist*, both with The Asylum Theatre; and “The Boar” in the audio drama *We’re Alive: Descendants*. Her translations and 10-minute plays have been

produced in San Francisco, Las Vegas and London, and been published in *Another Chicago Magazine*, *Asymptote Journal*, *The Mercurian*, and featured on Performing International Plays.



Her translation of *The Therapist* by Gabriela Yepes is published .

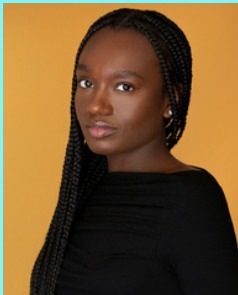
by Inti Press. Her poetry has been nominated for *Best of the Net* and published in *The Emerson Review*, *Rogue Agent Journal*, *Salamander Ink Magazine*, *The Bluebird Word*, *The Platform*, and elsewhere.

Her directorial credits with A Public Fit Theatre Company include staged readings of *Lydia*, *The Lifespan of a Fact*, *Native Gardens*, and a mainstage production of *References to Salvador Dalí Make Me Hot*.

**HONK!!!!!!!**



## Jazmine Davis, Performer - “Malin”



Jazmine Davis is originally from St. Louis, MO. She most recently made her stage debut in *Pipeline* by Dominique Morisseau with A Public Fit Theatre Company. She’s currently studying Improv at Comedy Sportz.

## Jenny Fox, Writer / Director / Producer

Jenny Fox is a performer, writer, director, and producer based in Las Vegas since 1999. Originally from Boston and New York, she has a background in acting, writing, and entertainment production. She received a BFA in theater arts performance from Hofstra University, additional training from the Williamstown Theatre Festival, the Boston University Summer Theatre Institute, and HB Studio NYC. She has been creating characters in the mirror since she was a child.



Jenny premiered her original one person play "You Might Think Less Of Me" in 2023 in which she portrayed multiple characters and will be performing it at the upcoming Fallout Fringe Festival in June 2025 in Las Vegas. Jenny recently performed in A Public Fit's productions of "The Pavilion" as The Narrator and "The Minutes" as Ms. Matz. Jenny has supported many other artists professionally behind the scenes, in production for touring artists, and as a non-profit arts and film administrator.

Jenny is profoundly grateful to the collaborators who dedicated their energy, talents, and creativity to the workshopping of "Waiting for Barnum."





## **Myles Aquino, Videographer**

Myles is a Las Vegas/Los Angeles-based freelance DP/AC and holds a BFA in Cinema Production. Experienced on both large and small crews in the industry for the past five years and counting, he has worked on independent features, short films, commercials, events, and corporate gigs as a director of photography, camera operator, colorist, analog loader, and much more.



Myles is the two-time recipient of both the Aputure Lighting and Kodak Educational Grants for his most recent films, two-time recipient of the Virgil Grillo Outstanding Achievement in Filmmaking Awards from the Department of Cinema Studies at CU Boulder, and a grant winner for the Center for Humanities & Arts' Call to Combat Anti-Asian Racism grant. He has several works that have been admitted into film festivals and continues to experiment with 35mm stills development and works with artists on installation works involving stills and video.

## Nicole Unger, Performer - “Sariah”

Nicole Unger is a coffee-obsessed vegan who has grown up in Vegas.

She got her BA in theatre: stage and screen acting at UNLV. Nicole has continued to work in theatre and film and even ventured out with Disney Cruise Line for a few years. Some of her previous work includes Rachel in *Friends: The Musical Parody*, Annie in *Bridesmaids: The Musical Parody*, Phyllis in *Tapeface*, Henrietta in *Silent*



*Sky*, the Ingenue in *Indecent*, and Mattie in *X*. Nicole also writes, produces, and hosts a podcast with her two best friends called *Mourning Murders*. She most recently had her directorial debut with *NSFW* through A Public Fit Theatre Company. She is super grateful for the support of her friends, family, and her adorable fur babies!

@nicolemarieunger

## Tom Kunzman, Performer - “Johnny”

Tom Kunzman is an actor from Las Vegas, NV. With over a decade’s worth of touring and making albums in the rearview, over the last few



years, he’s begun pursuing his acting career full time. Tom appears in various shows around the city like “Four Chords and a Gun” as Joey Ramone and as Twig, the hyperactive and enthusiastic bot driver at the BattleBots Destruct-A-Thon; as well as a

nice string of short films and independent projects in both Vegas and

Los Angeles.



# HATS OFF TO:

The Asylum Theatre Company for their generous donation to help us “stay on our stilts”!

THE  
ASYLUM  
THEATRE

The following local Las Vegas theatre companies for allowing us to raid their stockrooms so we could “pull it out of our hats”!



The following individuals for their encouragement of this project. They inspired us to "keep the balls in the air"!

Akiko Cooks  
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Jason Nious  
Jayme Clay  
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Timothy Cummings  
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