

SANCTUARY CITY



DIRECTED BY
**ANDREA
NUÑEZ**



PRESENTED BY
**GROUND
FLOOR
THEATRE**



BY **MARTYNA
MAJOK**



AT
**GROUND FLOOR
THEATRE**

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Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.trwplays.com

Sanctuary City

Written by

Martyna Majok

Directed by

Andrea Nuñez

<i>Scenic Design</i>	<i>GARY THORNSBERRY</i>
<i>Assistant Scenic Design</i>	<i>SOPHIA GUEYE</i>
<i>Lighting Design</i>	<i>JACQUELINE SINDELAR</i>
<i>Costume Design</i>	<i>CAMRYN PATTERSON</i>
<i>Sound Design</i>	<i>ANTHONY WILLIAMS</i>
<i>Properties & Set Dressing Design</i>	<i>CB FELLER</i>
<i>Production Stage Manager</i>	<i>KELSEY MORINGY</i>
<i>Stage Manager</i>	<i>LINDSEY OLLINGER</i>
<i>Assistant Stage Manager</i>	<i>RYAN ALEXANDER</i>
<i>Intimacy Director</i>	<i>ANDY GRAPKO</i>
<i>Technical Director</i>	<i>NATHANIEL WILLIAMS</i>
<i>Graphic Design</i>	<i>ERICA MORENO</i>
<i>Photographer</i>	<i>CINDY ELIZABETH</i>
<i>EDI Consultant</i>	<i>NICOLE BELL</i>
<i>Social Media Marketing</i>	<i>ANDREA NUÑEZ</i>
<i>Press Representative</i>	<i>NICOLE SHIRO, MOTLEY CREW MEDIA</i>

Cast

<i>G</i>	<i>ARIELLE LEVIN</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>MICHAEL GALVAN</i>
<i>Henry</i>	<i>KRISTIAN BEXAR</i>

Directors Note

How do we describe a play such as Sanctuary City?

Literally speaking, it is a 90-minute play separated into two sections. The first section is told through vignettes of abstract memories interspersed between multiple main events of B and G's last years in high school. The second section shifts in stark contrast, rooting itself in a continuous scene of a realistic time and place- B's apartment during a late hour of the night, years after the end of high school, a few days before the New Year.

Emotionally speaking, the play begins with a character seeking refuge in another character's space. Soon they discover and develop a deep sanctuary within one another. This is a play about love and survival. It is about the significance of revealing intimate truths to ourselves and to those we trust because the truth sets us free. It is about creating a home for yourself with the help of someone else- a home that may house heartbreaking lessons of betrayal. Regardless, it is essential to still let love in.

Historically speaking, 9/11 left a lingering tragedy for the victims as well as the immigrants made out to be villains in the aftermath of immense grief turning into hate. Considering this historical backdrop, it is vital to recognize the good qualities of communication, compassion, transparency, and advocacy severely lacking in the characters' inner lives and within the whole of American society at this point in time.

Sanctuary City is an excruciatingly human play showcasing our universal need for connection and a brave space for us to live out our dreams as safely as we can. Sadly, that is not easily accessible to everyone. As immigrants, these characters are doing their best to create the lives they desire in order to live their best American dream. My sincere intention is to deliver a play that hurts as it heals. Brace yourself for the loving impact. The only way out is through.

SANCTUARY CITY

*had its World Premiere at New York Theatre Workshop, Jim Nicola,
Artistic Director, Jeremy Blocker, Managing Director, 2020*

***SANCTUARY CITY** was developed, in part, at the 2018 Sundance
Institute Theatre Lab*

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Ground Floor Theatre Staff

Co-Artistic Director -----Patti Neff-Tiven

Co-Artistic Director -----Lisa Scheps

Development Director -----Simone Alexander

Social Media Manager-----Andrea Nuñez

Who's Who

Andrea Nuñez (she/them) — Director

Andrea Nuñez is a graduate from The University of Texas at Austin with a B.A. in the Performer's Process major along with a minor in Sociology. Andrea's acting credits with Texas Theatre and Dance include *Love & Information* (UT 2022 Spring), *Sonnets for an Old Century* (UT 2021 Fall), and most recently starred in a film through Austin Community College titled *Offer Only*. Andrea has a love for performance and poetry, dabbling in many forms of performative art such as Burlesque and Vogue. Andrea has been a part of Netflix & Apple TV productions and has done commercial work for Spotify, The University of Texas, as well as other recognizable brands. She is currently the Social Media Marketing Manager for Ground Floor Theatre. Andrea would like to extend her immense gratitude to her colleagues whom have helped her continue to carve a path in the beautiful pursuit of creating vital live theatre.

CAST

Kristian Bexar (he/him) — Henry

Kristian was born and raised in Houston, TX. He graduated with a Psychology degree from the University of Texas at Austin. For the last 3 years, he has been studying Meisner with Laurel Smith-Vouvrey at In the Moment Acting Studios. Kristian has worked on several commercials and short films and this is his first foray into theater. When he's not auditioning or working, he enjoys getting outside to bike, swim, and hike. He is super grateful to the Ground Floor Theatre for this opportunity!

Michael Galvan (he/him) — B

Michael is an Austin based actor who has swiftly carved his own path into the acting community. He has been acting in Austin for the past 6 years and cherishes every moment while on-stage, in front of the camera or being in the booth doing voice work. Some of Michael's well known Theatre credits include *Anna In the Tropics* (Ground Floor Theatre), *Dance Nation* (Theatre En Bloc), *Mas Cara* (The VORTEX). Most recently you can see Michael as the face of the 2022 Austin Community College commercials. Michael would like to thank Ground Floor Theater for having him back and is excited to tell these stories that often go unheard

Arielle Levin (she/her) — G

Arielle is thrilled to be making her theatre debut in *Sanctuary City* with Ground Floor Theatre! Previous credits include student film shorts and quirky music videos for talented local bands. When not acting, you can catch Arielle swing dancing and two-stepping around town, DJing, and hammocking with a good book.

Who's Who (con't)

Ryan Alexander (he/him) — Assistant Stage Manager

Originating from the valley, Ryan Alexander is an Austin based actor with over ten years of professional acting and directing experience. His most notable roles have been Leo in *The Producers*, Chris in *All My Sons*, Nasty Interesting Man in *Eurydice*, and has produced works such as *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [revised]* and *The Real Inspector Hound*. He would like to thank his friends and family for their continuous support, and a very special mention to his loving, supportive, and amazingly talented partner, Lindsey Ollinger.

Nicole Bell (she/her) — EDI Consultant

Nicole is the Co-owner of Full Humanity Consulting is a strategic learning and development professional that has over 19 years of creating training programs that focus on leadership, and equity while creating inclusive, authentic, and liberating learning connections. She is a certified mediator, success coach, and a graduate of both Leadership Women-Leadership Pipeline (2016) and the Essential Class of Leadership Austin (2018). Nicole is a Courageous Conversations about Race Affiliate Practitioner. In March 2023, she was awarded as the People's Choice Equity Champion of Change recipient from DivInc. Nicole focuses on supporting women and families of color. In her spare time, she enjoys comedy shows, movies, tik toks, and eating ice cream with her daughters, Avery, 24, and Zoie, 12.

CB Feller (they/them) — Props, Set Dressing Design, & Scenic Artist

CB is thrilled to be returning as scenic artist for Ground Floor Theatre. You might have seen their previous scenic art in *Anna and the Tropics* which won a B. Iden Payne award for set design. Recent credits include: *Dragonfly Princess* at the VORTEX, *Pippi Longstocking* at ASRT, Properties for *Last Five Years* at GFT. When not doing theatre, CB is a graphic artist working on their web comic about online dating among various other subjects and trying not to trip when they walk.

ANDY GRAPKO (she/her) — Intimacy Director Andy is an Intimacy Director and Coordinator based in Austin; the Resident Intimacy Director for the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of Texas at Austin where she is also a member of the acting faculty. Her intimacy training includes work with Intimacy Directors and Coordinators, Theatrical Intimacy Education, and Intimacy for Stage and Screen. A Stage Directors and Choreographers Society Associate and a member of the Association of Theatre Movement Educators, her recent intimacy credits include *The Pearl Fishers* (Austin Opera), *Big Love* (Texas State), *Fabulous Monsters* (Public Theatre of San Antonio), *Anna in the Tropics* (Ground Floor), *Address the Body!* (UT), *More Blackberries Please* (Cohen Festival), *...but you could've held my hand* (UT), and the feature film *Clock* (Hulu). www.andygrapko.com

SOPHIA GUEYE (she/her) - Assistant Scenic Designer

Sophia is a Louisville-based theatre and film technician. She has recently received her BA in Theatre and Film Production from Berea College, where she worked as the Master Carpenter for the Berea College Theatre Laboratory. Her recent work with BCTL includes *Everybody*, *Ghost Quartet*, *Enchanted April*, and *Urinetown*. Sophia recently Co-Directed and Produced a short documentary titled: *Make it Work: Navigating Black Hair Care*. To get in contact or view some of her work, you can visit SophiaGueye.com

Who's Who (con't)

Erica Moreno (she/her) – Graphic Artist

Erica is an Austin Creative with over 20 years of experience in poster art and graphic design. She continues to expand her creative curiosities with painting, fine art photography, and performance art. Erica's love for theatre, especially musical theatre, started at such a young age and she has a strong passion for her creative work and draws inspiration from her family, traveling, nature and history. "Design is an opportunity to solve a problem with a creative solution. It's a puzzle and I get to arrange the pieces. For me, it's attention to detail and a strong concept. Design can attract attention, make you think, and reveal something new each time you look at it."

Kelsey Moringy (she/her) — Production Stage Manager

Kelsey is a born & raised unicorn of Austin, TX. She studied Performance & Production at Texas State University with an emphasis in stage management & directing. Kelsey would like to thank the creative team and our AMAZING cast for their passion and dedication on this show! Previous Ground Floor Theatre shows Kelsey has worked on include *The Last Five Years*, *Next To Normal*, *Fun Home*, *Single Black Female*, *White Rabbit Red Rabbit*, *Dex & Abby*, *TRANSom*, *There & Back*, and *Anna in The Tropics*.

Lindsey Ollinger (she/they) — Stage Manager

Lindsey is very excited to be a part of this production! After getting her theatrical debut with ACC in 2017, she transferred and graduated with a degree in stage management from The University of Texas. Her stage management credits include local productions such as Ground Floor Theatre's *Unexpected Joy*, ACC's *Fade*, and Penfold Theatre's *Vincent*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support, Ryan for being a constant source of stability and love, her cats for existing, and GFT for welcoming her back time and time again.

Camryn Patterson (she/her) — Costume Designer

Camryn is an Austin based costume designer and recent graduate of the Costume Design program at University of Texas at Austin. She is so excited to make her professional theater debut with Ground Floor Theatre in collaboration with her fellow UT Theater graduate Andrea Nunez as director. For this production Camryn was inspired by the Y2K trend revival in conjunction with street style in New York City. By blending elements of nostalgia from her own childhood in the early 2000s with elements of familiarity in street clothing today, the characters onstage become tangible in our own reality. Fantasy or eloquence has no place in this world of survival, this post 9/11 landscape.

Jacqueline Sindelar (she/her) — Lighting Designer

Jacqueline graduated from Loyola University New Orleans with a BFA in Film & Visual Arts. Since then, she has been working in film, professional theater and live event production for over a decade. Jacqueline has recently had the honor of designing for *Anna in the Tropics* and *Tick, Tick... Boom!* at Ground Floor Theatre. She has also worked as Lead Theatrical Electrician for Color Factory Houston; Lighting Designer for New Manifest Theatre Company and The Back Pack; Lighting Supervisor for Fusebox Festival; and Master Electrician for kidsActing Studio, Austin Shakespeare, and Zilker Theater Productions.

Who's Who (con't)

Gary Thornsberry (they/them) — Scenic Designer

Gary is a Freelance Scenic Designer and a tenure track Professor of Theatre Design at Berea College. They received the B Iden Paine Award for Scenic Design for *rain falls special on me* at GFT and have worked with the wonderful family at GFT for several years. Recent work includes: *The Last Five Years* (Ground Floor Theatre and Deaf Austin Theatre), *Water by the Spoonful* (Different Stages), *Ghost Quartet*, *Everybody*, and *Enchanted April* at Berea college. They are a Disabled Non-binary Queer Appalachian Designer from Poverty. These intersectional perspectives push them to create work that is accessible to all. If you would like to start a conversation or see upcoming work please contact them at garythornsberry.com. Have a wonderful show.

Anthony C. Williams (he/him) — Sound Designer

Anthony a sound designer living in Austin, TX. He studied music at Brooklyn College, New York University and continued his audio studies at Mediatech College. Anthony also taught sound design at the School of Audio Engineering in New York City. He is happy to be doing theater in Austin with his lovely and ultra talented wife Coty who gives him her full support.

Nathaniel Williams (he/him) — Technical Director

Nathaniel has worked with Ground Floor Theatre, Hyde Park Theatre, The Stage Austin, Cold Frame Collective, and Conspirare in various technical roles since moving to Austin in 2021. Nathaniel was Assistant Technical Director for Kalamazoo Civic Theatre during the 2019-2020 season. Nathaniel has a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rice University. Recent credits include *Out of Ink* (Stage Manager, Hyde Park Theatre), *Pageant* (Stage Manager/Technical Director, The Stage Austin), and *Spring Tide* (Technical Director, Cold Frame Collective).

Motley Crew Media — Press Representative

Founded in 2006 by Amy S. Layton, Motley Crew Media is a full-service boutique marketing and public relations firm with a focused expertise in arts and entertainment. Made up of senior-level experienced PR and marketing specialists, the "Crew" helps clients bring their brand to life in the field through passion and commitment, alongside a keen ability to transform concept and vision into precisely executed reality. Sampling of clients include: aGLIFF, Austin Playhouse, Austin Shakespeare, Broadway Across America, Ground Floor Theatre, Hobby Center, Holland Taylor, Impact Arts, Jaston Williams, LTWA, LTZA, Penfold Theatre Company, Tapestry, Texas Performing Arts, The Lost Gonzo Band, and ZACH Theatre among many others. info@motleycrewmedia.com

WARNING

Parts of *Sanctuary City* refers to spousal abuse

Austin Jews & Partners for Refugees



Special Thanks

Ploeger ASL Interpreting, Hyde Park Theatre, The VORTEX, Patrick Anthony, Peter Barlin & 3423 Holdings, Kids Acting, Creative Action Color Squad, Anti-Defamation League, W.A. Brenner, America Archer

America Archer (she/her) is a Rasic . Executive Director of both Vicarious Artistry and Theatre Synesthesia, America believes that each of our nine basic emotions hold equal value in the human experience. As an artist, it is her objective to explore and celebrate each through breath and bravery.

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If you'd like to support this production, click the QR code or Venmo (@GroundFloor) or Pay Pal (lisa@groundfloortheatre.org)



CATCH US IN THE ACT

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the Indigenous lands of Turtle Island, the ancestral name for what now is called North America.

We would like to acknowledge the Alabama-Coushatta, Caddo, Carrizo/Comecrudo, Coahuiltecan, Comanche, Kickapoo, Lipan Apache, Tonkawa and Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo, and all the American Indian and Indigenous Peoples and communities who have been or have become a part of these lands and territories in Texas.

We would also like to acknowledge that East Austin has also been historically home to segregated and under resourced Mexican and Black communities.

As guests, we pay respect to these peoples, past, present, and future, here in their homeland.