Welcome to The Old Globe and this production of El Borracho. Our goal is to serve all of San Diego and beyond through the art of theatre. Below are the mission and values that drive our work. We thank you for being a crucial part of what we do.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of The Old Globe is to preserve, strengthen, and advance American theatre by: creating theatrical experiences of the highest professional standards; producing and presenting works of exceptional merit, designed to reach current and future audiences; ensuring diversity and balance in programming; providing an environment for the growth and education of theatre professionals, audiences, and the community at large.

**STATEMENT OF VALUES**

The Old Globe believes that theatre matters. Our commitment is to make it matter to more people.

The values that shape this commitment are:

**TRANSFORMATION**

Theatre cultivates imagination and empathy, enriching our humanity and connecting us to each other by bringing us entertaining experiences, new ideas, and a wide range of stories told from many perspectives.

**INCLUSION**

The communities of San Diego, in their diversity and their commonality, are welcome and reflected at the Globe. Access for all to our stages and programs expands when we engage audiences in many ways and in many places.

**EXCELLENCE**

Our dedication to creating exceptional work demands a high standard of achievement in everything we do, on and off the stage.

**STABILITY**

Our priority every day is to steward a vital, nurturing, and financially secure institution that will thrive for generations.

**IMPACT**

Our prominence nationally and locally brings with it a responsibility to listen, collaborate, and act with integrity in order to serve.

The Old Globe has embarked on a series of steps to intensify and accelerate necessary change at all levels of our institution. Learn more about this work, including our Social Justice Roadmap, at www.TheOldGlobe.org/Roadmap.

The Theodor and Audrey Geisel Fund provides leadership support for The Old Globe’s year-round activities.
Some months ago, Paula and Brian Powers, stalwarts of Globe philanthropy whose commitment to new writing is already acknowledged in their namesake Powers New Voices Festival, made a transformational gift to this theatre that adds rocket fuel to our efforts in developing new work for the stage. The Powers Fund for New Work allows us to grow our support of new writing and new forms across many platforms, from an expanded New Voices Festival, to more commissions and developmental workshops, and to more staff resources to support this work. We are deeply grateful to Paula and Brian Clark, who are moving the Globe’s already robust approach to making new work into a thrilling new phase.

If any evidence is needed of the impact of the Paula and Brian’s generosity on our programming, tonight’s play is it. We first met playwright Tony Meneses when we read El Borracho in our 2019 Powers New Voices Festival. We recognized in this play a vibrancy and emotional pull that suggest that there’s something not only compelling but also necessary about this writer. As the entire American theatre awakens to the long-neglected imperative that stories hitherto confined to the margins of our national stages be brought front and center, Meneses’s dramatic focus on his Mexican heritage resounds powerfully. Born in Guadalajara and raised in Albuquerque and then on his Mexican heritage resounds powerfully. Born in Guadalajara and raised in Albuquerque and then

Meneses’s plays can be read as chronicles of all that reverberates outward from the hyphen in the term “Mexican-American.” Mexico for him carries all the cultural and political fault lines that rive our relationship with our important neighbor to the south. He recognizes that there’s a Mexico in a fevered corner of the American imagination, and he sees that in this fantasized country, the myths and the contested reality of what immigration means in America collide, dramatically.

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El Borracho refracts this writer’s themes through an intimate lens. It’s a family story about fathers, sons, marriage, and long-held secrets that must be revealed. The immense love that David, the young writer in the play, feels for his father Raul is mirrored by the intensity of Raul’s self-loathing, which has manifested all his life in his chronic drunkenness. Raul is a remarkable creation: one of the most vital life forces I’ve encountered in a new play in a long, long time. His irrationality and his enormous capacity for love make the play utterly compelling, and overwhelmingly moving. It’s never heavy, though. Meneses leavens the scenes with humor and even music, which manage, of course, only to heighten the impact. The writing has a fascinatingly light touch, a sense of decisiveness, and, most impressive of all, an ear for the way that poetry surprises its way into the lexicon of the everyday. Also, in the play Meneses delves into another theme of personal interest, the LGBTQIA+ experience in Mexican-American culture.

We’ve not seen that story onstage very frequently, and in writing it, Meneses breaks new ground. This is a really wonderful play.

We are fortunate that the excellence of El Borracho drew an equally excellent talent into its director’s chair. Eddie Torres has become a Globe regular, to our delight and the delight of our audiences. Exceptionally imaginative and fiercely committed to the truth, Eddie is a key figure in the Globe’s artistic life. With characteristic generosity he has brought to San Diego a group of collaborators who are at the highest level, and that is a testament to the extraordinary work of our SHiley Graduate Theatre Program, he brings a jolt of hometown pride to this production. I thank him, even as I commend to you a wonderful new play by an important American writer who honors the Globe by being part of our newly energized efforts in making new work for the stage.

Thanks for coming. Enjoy the show.
CAST (in alphabetical order)

DAVID ................................................................................................................ Matthew Martínez
ALMA ................................................................................................................... Zilah Mendoza
RAUL ..................................................................................................................... Jesse J. Perez

UNDERSTUDIES .......... for David, Raul – Jose Balistrieri; for David – Marcel Ferrin;
for Raul – Javier Guerrero; for Alma – Sandra Ruiz; for Alma – Lorena Santana

Production Stage Manager .................................................................................. Jess Slocum

SETTING

A small one-bedroom apartment.

There will be no intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Guitar Instruction ............................................................................................... Heather Nation
Movement Consultant ......................................................................................... Regina Fernandez
Fight Coordinator ................................................................................................. Jake Millgard
Assistant Scenic Design ....................................................................................... Eileen McCann
Assistant Costume Design .................................................................................... Shelly Williams
Production Assistant .......................................................................................... Alexis Ellis-Alvarez
Script Assistant .................................................................................................. Karla Garcia
Stage Management Swing ................................................................................... Anjee Nero

The Actors and Stage Managers employed in this production are members of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

Si desea una sinopsis de esta obra en Español o en Inglés, favor de pedírsela al acomodador que le entregó este programa.

If you would like a synopsis of this production in English or Spanish, please request it from an usher.
Tony, where did the inspiration for this play come from?

Tony Meneses: The idea has always been there. *El Borracho* is based on a lot of autobiographical stuff, and I always thought, “Could this be fodder for a play, or is it just too close to home, too personal, to put out there?” But while I was at Juilliard, I studied with Marsha Norman, and her adage is: at some point in your career, you have to write the story that scares you. As soon as she said that, the idea for this play immediately came to mind.

At the end of my tenure in school, I’d written five plays, and I had one last play to write. And I thought, “God, I guess I’ll finally do it now.” I spilled my guts on the page, thinking it might just be a journal entry. Thankfully it wasn’t. As artists, we deal with things in our lives, we go through things, and we make art out of them. I always knew that I’d tackle this at some point, but it took me a little over 15 years to finally write this play.

Eddie, what drew you to this play as a director?

Edward Torres: So much! The realistic quality of the piece, the exchange between the characters, the vibrant conflicts that happen in the story. I mean, it’s just amazing: the idea of a man moving in with his ex-wife and his son—and the secret that’s there, lying underneath. Plus, it’s beautifully told. I thought a lot about how to capture its energy and vigor in the space.

You’ve directed in this theatre at The Old Globe before. Does it feel like an effective space for this particular story?

ET: Oh, God, I can’t wait! The fact that it’s in the round gives the audience different perspectives into the way the characters deal with each other. There’s also an intimacy that’s created in the round. The characters have to expose themselves because no matter what angle, what position they’re in, they’re being seen all the way around. You can’t hide. You can’t hold anything back.

TM: Yes, I think sometimes Latinx artists are only asked to play certain kinds of colors. So we had to make sure that in addition to the big, explosive, vibrant moments, they could be small, simple, and intimate.

ET: And it’s important that there aren’t any villains. In this play they are all human, and they are all more victims than they are villains.

What journey do you hope the audience might have seeing the show?

TM: They damage each other, for sure. And the perception of villainy is certainly there within the characters at times. That’s part of any family drama. I keep joking that Arthur Miller got to write this kind of play, Eugene O’Neill got to mine his family stuff. They weren’t burdened with the cultural implications of doing it or exposing things about their people. This is my version of a classic family drama. The history of the American family drama is, I think, very much in the DNA of this work.

Edward, do you think the material is too close to home to expose it? A lot of people might relate to it.

ET: Yes, it’s funny that you say that, Tony, because as soon as Matthew walked in the room, my hair did stand up and I thought, “Oh, my God.” Because there’s a certain kind of honesty that these roles require: not to make these characters archetypes, not to make them stereotypes, but to make them human beings.

TM: I think sometimes Latinx artists are only asked to play certain kinds of colors. So we had to make sure that in addition to the big, explosive, vibrant moments, they could be small, simple, and intimate.

ET: And it’s important that there aren’t any villains. In this play they are all human, and they are all more victims than they are villains.

What were you looking for when it came to casting these roles?

TM: Working with Jesse Perez was my dream from the beginning. I would even go so far as to say I wrote this play for Jesse. We met at Juilliard, and he’s one of the most talented, amazing human beings you could ever get the opportunity to work with. And Zilah Mendoza, when I saw her on our list of actors—Eddie, I haven’t told you this—but I felt that kind of magic. I just felt it was going to be her from the beginning. Like the universe was setting it up. I’ve been wanting to work with her forever. And when we saw Matthew Martinez in auditions, it felt electric, like the hair stood up on the back of everyone’s necks.

Eddie, when it came to putting the play onstage, what was most important to you?

ET: I felt that the space needed to be contained, because oftentimes smaller spaces allow conflicts to happen more naturally. It allows for more confrontation and more human connection. And I think that there’s a certain kind of truth that happens in a place that’s contained like that—and this piece, it’s pretty explosive. I thought a lot about how to capture its energy and vigor in the space.

**THE PLAY**

Tony Meneses and director Edward Torres discuss bringing a deeply personal story to our stage.

(From left) Playwright Tony Meneses and director Edward Torres. Photo by Mike Hausberg.

El Borracho playwright Tony Meneses and director Edward Torres.
It’s in the Cards

How the game of lotería became a staple of Mexican culture.

By Danielle Mages Amato

Lotería is a traditional game of chance sometimes called “Mexican bingo.” Instead of numbers and letters, lotería cards feature brightly colored images of objects and people like el sol (the sun), el catrín (the dandy), and el gallo (the rooster). To play, the announcer draws a picture from the deck and calls out the name of the image. The announcer may also give clues or improvise verses that describe the image, leading the players to guess. The players then place a bean, rock, or other marker on the corresponding picture on their tabla (a board containing 16 images in a four-by-four grid).

The game has a long and well-traveled history. It originated in Italy, moved to Spain, and finally made its way to Mexico in the 1700s. The iconic lotería images most people know today date from 1887, when artist Don Clemente Jacques mass-produced the cards for sale in Mexico. Jacques’s manufacturing plant also packaged canned food for military rations, and they included lotería games for soldiers to play, which helped the popular spread of the game across the country. It has since become a cultural tradition for Latinos across the Americas.

In recent years, artists have come to lotería anew to reimagine and recreate its iconic images, not only for entertainment, but also to acknowledge the stereotypes and dated views of gender, identity, and class that some of its traditional pictures represent. In 2018, Los Angeles–based artist Mike Alfaro created Millennial Lotería, featuring images like la selfie, el glutem, and el man bun. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic inspired San Antonio artist Rafael Gonzales Jr. to create his Pandemic Lotería. Following the release of its initial card, la cabRONA, Gonzales filled out the deck with icons like el hoarder, el Faucl, and la esperanza (which featured the image of a vaccine needle). The game of lotería continues to grow and change, even as it is played in church halls and living rooms across the United States, Mexico, and beyond.

MATTHEW MARTÍNEZ
(David) Off Broadway: Generation Rise (New Victory), 72 Miles to Go (Laura Pels). Regional: Iphigenia in Aulis (Alexander Kasser Theater). Television: “Power Book II: Ghost” (season 2, episode 8). Training: Alley Theatre, HSPVA, Montclair State University. @matthewmartinezinsta on Instagram.

ZILAH MENDOZA
(Alma) Originated roles: Ana in Lisa Loomer’s Living Out (Second Stage, Mark Taper Forum; Obie Award, Garland Award), Electricidad in Luis Alfaro’s Electricidad (cover of American Theatre magazine), Matilde in Sarah Ruhl’s The Clean House (Yale Rep), Griselda Blanco and Kathy Rundle in Billy Corbin and Aurin Squire’s Confessions of a Cocaine Cowboy (Colony Theatre’s Miami New Drama), Noelle, Bobby, Paloma, and Maria Sol in Jose Rivera’s The Untranslatable Secrets of Nikki Corona (Geffen Playhouse). Other: Associate Artistic Director of Mentor Artists Playwrights Project. mentorartists.org. zilahmendoza.com, @zilahmendoza, @mentorartistsmapp.

JESSE J. PEREZ
(Raul) Craig Noel Distinguished Professor and Program Director of The Old Globe and University of San Diego Shiley Graduate Theatre Program. The Old Globe: Romeo and Juliet. La Jolla Playhouse: Seize the King, San Diego Rep: JQA Off Broadway: Party People (The Public Theater), The Father, A Doll’s House (Theatre for a New Audience), Informed Consent (Primary Stages), Triple Happiness (Second Stage Theater), Barrio Gorríl! (Summer Play Festival), Recent Tragic Events (Playwrights Horizons), In the Penal Colony (Classic Stage Company), Up Against the Wind (New York Theatre Workshop). Regional: many credits across the country. Education: The Juilliard School.

TONY MENESES

EDWARD TORRES
(Director) The Old Globe: Familiar, Native Gardens, Water by the Spoonful; Powers New Voices Festival: What You Are (2017), El Borrocho (2020); Classical Directing Fellow. Recent: Macbeth (Next Chapter Podcasts/Play On Podcasts). Regional: world premiere of Kristoffer Diaz’s The Author’s Entrance of Chad Deity (Victory Gardens Theater/Teatro Vista; Best Play from Chicago Tribune, Jeff Awards for Best Production, Best Director), Geffen, Second Stage, Goodman, Public Theater, Repertorio Espanol, more. Other awards: Latin ACE Award, Artistas de Teatro Independiente Award. Other: Assistant Professor at Wesleyan University, Artistic Director Emeritus at Teatro Vista. Recent performing credits: Downstate (Stepenwolf, London’s National), 2021 Old Shakespeare Fellow.

DAVID ISRAEL REYNOSO

MEXTLY COUZIN
(Lighting Design) Mexican lighting designer based in New York and Los Angeles. The Old Globe: As You Like It, Romeo and Juliet (as assistant lighting designer), Off Broadway/New York: Tones and Bones (Playwrights Horizons), Kimberly Akimoto, Sunday (as assistant lighting designer); Atlantic Theater Company, Temporary Occupant, The Woman’s Party (Clubbed Thumb), Indecent (Juilliard School). Regional: Repertory...
JESS SLOCUM (Production Stage Manager) The Old Globe: Dr. Seuss’s How the Grinch Stole Christmas!, Hurricane Diane, Nora, As You Like It, They Promised Her the Moon, Familiar, The Imaginary Invalid, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Love’s Labor’s Lost, tokyo fish story, In Your Arms, Bright Star, Othello, Water by the Spoonful, Pygmalion, A Room with a View, Robin and the 7 Hoods, dozens more. Regional: Nora (Shakespeare Theatre Company), Indecent, Side Show, Ruined, The Third Story, Memphis, Most Wanted (La Jolla Playhouse), Post Office (Center Theatre Group), Education: Vanderbilt University.

BARRY EDELSTEIN (Ena Finci Viterbi Artistic Director) is a stage director, producer, author, and educator. He has directed nearly half of the Bard’s plays. His Globe directing credits include The Winter’s Tale, Othello, The Twenty-seventh Man, the world premiere of Rain, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Hamlet, and the world premiere of The Wanderers. He also directed All’s Well That Ends Well as the inaugural production of the Globe for All community tour. In January he oversaw the Globe’s inaugural Classical Directing Fellowship program. He recently directed The Tempest with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at Walt Disney Concert Hall. As Director of the Shakespeare Initiative at The Public Theater (2008–2012), Edelstein oversaw all of the company’s Shakespearean productions as well as its educational, community outreach, and artist-training programs. At The Public, he staged the world premiere of The Twenty-seventh Man, Julius Caesar, The Merchant of Venice, Timon of Athens, and Steve Martin’s WASP and Other Plays. He was also Associate Producer of The Public’s Broadway production of The Merchant of Venice starring Al Pacino. From 1998 to 2003 he was Artistic Director of Classic Stage Company. His book Thinking Shakespeare, which was rereleased in a second edition in June, is the standard text on American Shakespearean acting. He is also the author of Bardisms: Shakespeare for All Occasions. He is a graduate of Tufts University and the University of Oxford, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar.

TIMOTHY J. SHIELDS (Audrey S. Geisel Managing Director) joined The Old Globe as Managing Director in 2017. In his time in San Diego, he has enjoyed becoming involved in the community. He currently serves as a board member of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce’s LEAD program; an advisory board member of the San Diego Downtown Partnership; and Vice President of the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership. He brings to San Diego many decades of not-for-profit theatre experience. He was Managing Director of Princeton, New Jersey’s McCarter Theatre Center (2009-2017); Milwaukee Repertory Theater (1998–2009); and Geva Theatre Center in Rochester, New York (1992–1998). He has also held administrative positions at Children’s Theatre Company in Minneapolis, Denver Center Theatre Company, and McCarter Theatre Center in earlier periods of his career. He served as President of the League of Resident Theatres and as Vice President of the board at Theatre Communications Group. He has been the Chair of the ArtPride NJ board; a member of Milwaukee’s Latino Arts Board; and a board member of the Cultural Alliance of Greater Milwaukee. He holds a B.F.A. in Drama Production from Carnegie–Mellon University in his hometown of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
The Old Globe’s youth programs have been popular for many years, but they’ve also evolved over time in wonderful ways. In an effort to provide youth opportunities in our art form, the Globe created the Summer Shakespeare Intensive in 2008, a training program where students auditioned to secure a spot, played specific parts, and, after four weeks of instruction and rehearsals, performed in the Old Globe Theatre, an honor not everyone gets to put on their resume.

Years later, however, following the introduction of our trailblazing Arts Engagement Department in 2015, the newly named Pam Farr Summer Shakespeare Studio has transformed into an ensemble-centered, multi-cast program where every student being their journey with an interview for a spot in the program. Each student is given a chance to be a leading, a comedian, or a role outside their comfort zone, working together to create a one-of-a-kind production.

Spring of 2020 then saw the creation of Theatre Design Studio, a program geared toward students interested in the technical side of theatre. We saw success in the overwhelming response during the application process, and then in our second year, when we hired program alumni as interns.

This momentum helped us launch Creative Youth Studio later that year, a professional development program aimed at providing youth access to industry experts to deepen their artistic repertoire. Old Globe staff curated the first season, pairing a professional with each young participant working in the same discipline. The second season progressed as four interns created a program for youth, by youth. Not only did they curate the guest list, write the scripts, and film the final product, they also selected the topics most important to them and their peers.

Now that we’re back to in-person work, we’ve pivoted again to live programming. Creative Youth Studio will have its in-person debut in the form of workshops, while Theatre Design Studio will do the same with three one-week sessions focusing on props, costumes, and scenic design. And the Pam Farr Summer Shakespeare Studio will return in person after two years of virtual performances.

The best part of our programs, whether online or on our stages, is that no experience is necessary, only curiosity and drive to participate fully. Consider applying for Theatre Design Studio or Summer Shakespeare Studio—applications are open now—or join us on campus for our Creative Youth Studio workshops in February, May, August, and November 2022. It’s a sweet Studio Suite life!

Bobbie Cavnar

BOB FOSSE’S DANCIN’
Original Broadway production created, directed, and choreographed by Bob Fosse
Choreography by Bob Fosse
Direction and musical staging by Wayne Cilento
Produced in cooperation with Nicole Fosse

Bob Fosse’s Dancin’ is Fosse’s full-throated, full-bodied celebration of the art form he loved, practiced, and changed forever. His hit musical masterpiece is reimagined by director Wayne Cilento, who starred in the original Broadway production of Dancin’. Cilento transforms the show’s original vision for 21st-century audiences. Dancin’ brims with Fosse’s warmth, emotion, color, and endlessly influential style rarely seen in modern interpretations of his work. Featuring an eclectic score that spans a multitude of musical genres and an extraordinary cast of Broadway’s most accomplished dancers, Dancin’ delivers the quintessential Broadway experience for Fosse fans and first-timers alike. You’ve never seen Dancin’ like this.

April 19 – May 29

Our 2022 Season features two Broadway-bound musicals, three world premiere plays, a Tony Award winner, two 20th-century classics, a California premiere, and two favorite Shakespeare comedies! Learn more at www.TheOldGlobe.org!

ARTS ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Join The Old Globe’s Arts Engagement Department for a lineup chock-full of exciting events and learning opportunities. Visit www.TheOldGlobe.org/Arts-Engagement to learn more.

MARCH
March 20: AXIS: Nowruz

APRIL
April 16: AXIS: Happy Birthday, Mr. Shakespeare!
May: Creative Youth Studio workshop
May 21: Word Up!

JUNE
June 4:
Globe Learning: Clowning in the Classroom
June 19: AXIS/coLAB: Juneteenth Celebration

MAY
By Melinda Lopez
Directed by David Dower

She was always the good daughter. But now her mother, in the twilight of her life, calls her “mala”—bad to the core. Melinda Lopez’s funny, brutally honest, and ultimately cathartic solo play is an irreverent exploration of how we live, cope, and survive in a challenging moment, and what happens when we strive to be good but don’t always succeed. Theatermania calls it “deeply affecting,” while The Boston Globe named it “one of the best plays of the year. Piercingly honest and exquisitely moving.”

In our commitment to provide access to the widest San Diego audience, The Old Globe will present Mala in Spanish on selected dates.

May 7 – June 12

Our 2022 Season features two Broadway-bound musicals, three world premiere plays, a Tony Award winner, two 20th-century classics, a California premiere, and two favorite Shakespeare comedies! Learn more at www.TheOldGlobe.org!

Happy Birthday, Mr. Shakespeare! AXIS event, 2018.
Photo by Rich Soublet II.

Dates and details subject to change.
The Old Globe is deeply grateful to the many patrons who have made plans to leave a legacy to the theatre they cherish. These gifts ensure that The Old Globe will continue to flourish in the years ahead. Thank you.

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OUR THANKS

The Old Globe is deeply grateful to our Artistic Angels and Benefactors, whose vital support of the Annual Fund helps us make theatre matter to more people. For additional information on how to support the Globe at these extraordinary levels, please contact Llewellyn Crain at (619) 684-4141 or lcrain@TheOldGlobe.org.

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THE ESTATE OF MICKEY STERN
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ANONYMOUS (2)

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