



SOUTHERN PLAINS
PRODUCTIONS

WHERE DID
WE GET
ON THE BUS?

WELCOME



Welcome to StoryPop! We're honored to share this evening with you and welcome you to what we believe is Oklahoma's first free-to-the-public professional theatre initiative.

Southern Plains Productions was created in the spirit of a scrappy garage band. As a nonprofit organization that strives to be innovative and resourceful, we've

performed in warehouses, parks, museums, and most anywhere we could gather people to share a story.

And while Southern Plains is a professional arts-production company, we're also, and always will be, an organization built around our community. Even our name is rooted in the place we call home.

StoryPop: Free Playworks represents the next step in our vision for bringing you bold, innovative, and meaningful art. This initiative allows us to take our work on the road throughout Oklahoma City and bring theatre directly to our neighbors. Tonight we kick off the StoryPop series with a production that is particularly relevant for the times we're living in.

At Southern Plains Productions, we believe theatre can be a bridge across division, a space where empathy outpaces rhetoric and where shared humanity transcends political lines. By offering this work free to the public and taking it directly into our schools, we are making a declaration that access matters, stories matter, and that young people deserve to see narratives reflecting the complexity of their world. This is more than a production. It is an invitation--to listen more deeply, to question inherited narratives, and to imagine a future in which every voice has a seat.

We're deeply grateful to our partners for this project, Arts Council Oklahoma City and OKC's Latino Community Development Agency, for helping bring this performance to life. Here's to art, to Oklahoma City, and to celebrating the many diverse voices and perspectives that shape our wonderful community!

Thank you for being here.

In gratitude,

Jackson Gifford
Founding Artistic Director

Ellen Gifford
Executive Director

WHERE DID WE SIT ON THE BUS?



**SOUTHERN PLAINS
PRODUCTIONS**

a non-profit organization under the direction of

JACKSON GIFFORD, *Founding Artistic Director*

ELLEN GIFFORD, *Executive Director*

co-producer

**ARTS COUNCIL OKLAHOMA CITY
ART MOVES**

community partner

**THE LATINO COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

present

WHERE DID WE SIT ON THE BUS?

Written By

BRIAN QUIJADA

Featuring

GERARDO NAVARRO

Costume Design

ARMANDO ORTIZ

Lighting Design

FABIAN J. GARCIA

Sound Design

SALVADOR ZAMORA

Scenography Design

SEBASTIÁN ZAVALZA

Directed by

MOSES GARCIA

Stage Management

JENNA ROWELL

WHERE DID WE SIT ON THE BUS? is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC,
servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection.

Produced for Oklahoma City by Southern Plains Productions.

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SPECIAL THANKS

Allied Arts for supporting the school outreach initiative associated with this performance.

Oklahoma City Community Foundation for supporting this program through their Culture & Community Fund.

Arts Council Oklahoma City: Angela Cozby, Bryan Mitchell, and Dan Tigert.

The Latino Community Development Agency: Silvia Ceballos and Salvador Ontiveros.

The Yale Theater and Steve and Lisa Mason, for their support and for generously donating the venue.

Christine Brubaker for event planning support at The Yale Theatre.

Alex Walkup for technical support at The Yale Theatre.

Dan Tigert for creating the show artwork.

Kristian and Debra Kos for generously providing photography services.

Factor 110 for their continued support of our season.

Race Dance Company for generously providing rehearsal space.

MEET THE CAST



Featuring

GERARDO NAVARRO



Pre-show Music

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BIOGRAPHIES

Fabian J. Garcia (Lighting Designer) is a Texas-born lighting designer based in the Oklahoma City area. His work with Southern Plains Productions includes *Lizzie: The Rock Musical* and *Small Mouth Sounds*. At Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma, his credits include *Lyric's A Christmas Carol*, *Having Our Say*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, and *Frost/Nixon*. Fabian is also the Resident Lighting Designer for the OKC Philharmonic POPS Series, with credits including *Ragtime & All That Jazz*, *The Magic of John Williams*, *Megan Hilty Live!*, and *The Sound of Simon & Garfunkel*.

Moses Garcia (Direction) is a Brooklyn-based Mexican-American stage director, theatre-maker, and arts leader. Fueled by the pulse of emotional dance music, he creates electrifying theatrical worlds where rhythm and feeling collide. He reimagines the American musical form, weaving narratives that confront mental health, digital culture, and identity. He has worked with Nederlander, The Public Theater, Atlantic Theater Company, The New Group, MCC Theater, Center Theatre Group, and the National Alliance for Musical Theatre. He is the Associate Director of *Buena Vista Social Club* (Broadway & North American Tour) and serves on the artistic staff at The Public Theater. Moses earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Directing and Master of Arts Management from Carnegie Mellon University. He's an alumnus of Roundabout Theatre Company's Directors Group, and was recognized as an inaugural scholar for the Cody Renard Richard Scholarship Program presented by the Broadway Advocacy Coalition. He extends his gratitude to Grand Arts High School, Camp Bravo, and the Metropolitan Educational Theatre Network for igniting his love for storytelling.

Armando Ortiz (Costume Design) His work with Southern Plains Productions includes *RENT*, *Lizzie: The Rock Musical* and *The Chinese Lady*. At Lyric Theatre of

of Oklahoma: *The Rocky Horror Show*. He is the founder / owner of The Creative Studio.

Salvador "Suavecito" Zamora (Sound Design) is a sound designer, composer, engineer/producer, and dancer. He's passionate about his border town communities, Latinx culture, and the connection between sound and movement. Originally from San Diego, California, Salvador holds a BA in Interdisciplinary Computer and Art Major (ICAM) and his MFA in Sound Design, both from the University of California, San Diego. Designer credits: *One of the Good Ones* (Kansas City Rep), *The Surgeon and Her Daughters* (Colt Coeur), *Here There Are Blueberries* (Detroit Public Theatre), *Indian Princesses* (La Jolla Playhouse), *How to Put on a Sock* (LJP WOW Festival), *Bunny Bunny* (The Invisible Dog/Mass MoCA), *Primary Trust* (Barrington Stage Co.), *The Grown Ups* (Baby Teeth LA), *The Fires* (SoHo Rep), *Bunny Bunny*, *Dance Nation*, *Hells Canyon* (UCSD). Select associate credits: *Here There are Blueberries* (Stratford East/National Tour), *Sumo* (The Public/LJP). Select assistant credits: *Derecho*, *Babbitt*, *Hunter S. Thompson Musical*, *Love All* (LJP), *Destiny of Desire* (Old Globe). Upcoming: *Indian Princesses* (Atlantic Theater Company), *Camping* (Colt Coeur) @suavecito_sounddesign // suavecito.design

Sebastián Zavalza (Scenography Design) is a Mexican scenic designer with an MFA in Scene Design from Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama (USA), a bachelor's degree in Product Design from ITESM Qro (Mexico), and a specialization in Interior Design from Lorenzo de' Medici Institute (Florence, Italy). Upcoming productions include *The Zionists* at Miami New Drama (FL) & Barrington Stage (MA), *Yo Soy Minerva* at Ecas Teatro (RI), *Lo Que Queda de Nosotros* at Inquieta Compañía (Mexico), and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* at Teatro Santander (São Paulo, BR).

BIOGRAPHIES

Gerardo Navarro (Actor) is a Chicano, born and raised in Los Angeles, California. He was most recently seen in the West Coast Premiere of *Fly Me To the Sun* by Brian Quijada. He is excited and grateful to return to, celebrate, and share Quijada's work with you today. It couldn't be more timely. Un apachito a sus raíces. Carnegie Mellon School of Drama, Class of '23. Some credits include: *August Wilson Monologue Competition* (Mark Taper Forum, CTG/August Wilson Theatre, Broadway), *Henry VI Parts 1 & 2* (The Old Globe), *Esperanza Rising: The Musical* workshop (ASCAP Foundation), *Soul Sacrifice* (Frida Kahlo Theatre), amongst others.

Brian Quijada (Playwright) is an Emmy-nominated actor, playwright, composer, and Artistic Director of The Wild Wind Performance Lab for New Play Development at Texas Tech University. He has spent much of his career performing in Off-Broadway and regional theaters across the country, including The Public Theater, Roundabout Theatre Company, Playwrights Realm, Ensemble

Studio Theatre, Victory Gardens Theater, and Actors Theatre of Louisville. As a playwright and composer, Quijada's work has been developed at Pittsburgh CLO's Spark Festival, Victory Gardens' Ignition Festival, Ars Nova's Ant Fest, New York Stage and Film's Powerhouse Festival, the Kennedy Center's Page-to-Stage, and the O'Neill's National Musical Theater Conference. Commissioning institutions include 1st Stage, Seattle Repertory Theatre, A.R.T., and the Kennedy Center.

Jenna Rowell (Stage Manager) is a Brooklyn-based stage manager with great taste in country music from Texas by way of Oklahoma. SM credits include *La Périchole* (Manhattan School of Music); *Wife Material* (SF Sketch Fest); *Life Sucks* and *The Thanksgiving Play* (OKC Rep); and *Shrek The Musical* (Craft Productions of Okla.). ASM & PA credits include *Road Kills* (Good Apples Collective); *Rusalka* (Manhattan School of Music); *Vietgone*, *The Brothers Size*, (OKC Rep); and *Man of La Mancha* (Asolo Repertory Theatre). www.jennarowell.com

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Executive Director.....Ellen Gifford

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If you'd like to learn more about supporting Southern Plains Productions with a tax-deductible donation, please contact:

Jackson Gifford at jackson@southernplainsproductions.org.

We'd love to welcome you into our community of supporters.

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MISSION, VISION, VALUES



MISSION

Southern Plains Productions seeks to reimagine live theatre with innovative artistic experiences that spark conversations and bring the Oklahoma City community together.

VISION

We aim to become a dynamic force for cultural transformation and community connection in Oklahoma City.

VALUES

Innovation, Artistic Excellence Through Collaboration, Dialogue and Engagement, Courageous Risk-Taking, Inclusive Global Resonance with Local Impact.



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