



Cal Poly
Pomona

College of Letters, Arts,
and Social Sciences
THEATRE AND NEW DANCE

THE MISER

March 18 – 25, 2026

University Theatre

Building 25

The 2025–2026 Season is dedicated to Giselle Aguilar.

Department of Theatre and New Dance presents

THE MISER

Written by Molière

Translated and Adapted by James Magruder

Directed by Edgar Landa

Featuring

Kiana Chitsazan, Liam Coan, Aaron Courseault, Natalie Equibel,
Mattie Flores, Benjamin Gertler, Anthony Lee, Meleena Lopez,
River Myaskovsky, Justin Ni, Anya Ramirez, Connor Rice, David Rodriguez,
Nico Salazar, Ethan Serrano, Tessa Speck, Giancarlo Spuru

Stage Manager
Henry Fan

Scenic Designer
Kyla McIntyre

Costume Designer
Haley Rodriguez

Lighting Designers
Janelle Favreau & Jasmine Horn

Sound Designers
Laura Jones & Madison Diaz

Hair & Makeup Designer
Aylin Galvan

Props Designer
Joanna Liñares

Dramaturg
Elizabeth S. Tolentino

There will be one 10-minute intermission.

THE MISER (MAGRUDER) is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Dramaturg Note

The Miser was originally written in 1668 by Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, popularly known as Molière. The play combines typical storylines and stock characters from commedia dell'arte. For instance, he draws from the popular *Innamorati* (*The Lovers*) plotline and develops his own version of the Pantalone character. Commedia del arte began in Italy during the fifteenth century. In the seventeenth century, Italian touring groups began performing in France. This is how Molière learned about commedia dell'arte. He adapted the form by adding French farce to preexisting Italian archetypes. He played a key role in the genre's popularity and integration into French theatrical culture, as Molière's touring acting trope became part of the Comédie-Française—a theatre company that still exists in Paris today.

Molière's characters, however, did not always follow the standardized formats of commedia. He would combine traits from several stock characters to ensure his characters had greater psychological depth. Harpagon, for example, is inspired by Pantalone, a stock character who usually plays the role of the master. The character is also often depicted as a caring father or, in other versions, a man whom people only care for because he is wealthy. *The Miser* is about a widower named Harpagon who puts his greed above his children. He plans to marry them off, so he does not have to financially support their frivolous, materialistic lifestyles. Molière also adapts the role of the *Innamorati*, the lovers who often face obstacles that prevent them from being together. While they are usually bashful and inactive, in Molière's the lovers in *The Miser* work with each other and with the servants, creating plotlines that complicate the story. By taking creative liberties and adapting the genre to his needs, Molière has created complex characters that develop the simple stock characters of commedia.

In the three centuries since its premiere, there have been numerous translations and adaptations of this play. James Magruder and Charles Heron wrote the two most popular recent English translations. Magruder's translation (2005) is a more modern take than Heron's classic version (2017). Cal Poly Pomona's (CPP) production of *The Miser* goes further with its contemporary adaptation of the play in the design and directing. Rather than hoop skirts and tights, the costume design by Aylin Galvan and Haley Rodriguez is inspired by modern fashions. The CPP production's concept of *The Miser* is singular and unique, so please enjoy our modern take on greed, love, and family.

- Elizabeth S. Tolentino, Dramaturg

CAST

Harpagon*	Ethan Serrano
Harpagon**	Justin Ni
Valere	Conor Rice
Elise	Mattie Flores
Cleante	Nico Salazar
Jacques/Jackie	River Myaskovsky
Anselme	Anthony Lee
Claude	Benjamin Gertler
La Fleche	Anya Ramirez
Frosine	Tessa Speck
Simon(e)*	Meleena Lopez
Simon(e)**	Giancarlo Spiru
Brindavoine	David Rodriguez
Mariane	Natalie Equibel
La Merluche	Kiana Chitsazan
Commissioner	Aaron Courseault
Commissioner 2	Liam Coan

**performing 3/18, 3/20, 3/23, 3/24*

***performing 3/19, 3/21, 3/25*

PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager	Jade Cagalawan
Director of Theatre Facilities	Jonathan Bastow
Technical Director	Kenneth Blenc
Costume Shop Manager	Lexy Perez
Crew Manager	Harold Kast
Sound Design Mentor	Erin Bednarz
Lighting Design Mentor	Jesse Portillo
Faculty Design Mentor	Sarah Krainin
Stage Management Mentor	Ariana Michel
Dramaturgy Mentor	Dr. Joshua Truett
Acting Mentor/Vocal Coach/Clowning Mentor	Sayda Trujillo
Assistant Director	Nenetzi Gutierrez
Assistant Director	Dom Carson
Assistant Stage Manager	Chris(tian) Yahir Martinez Paniagua
Assistant Stage Manager	Yewon Kim

Assistant Scenic Designer Javier Zamudio
 LX Programmer/Board Operator Diego A Barrera
 Audio Programmer/Board Operator Nolan Frymer
 Scenic Paint Crew Nenetzi Gutierrez, Sam Ng, Vivian Nuno
 Rowan O’ Sullivan, Anya Ramirez
 Deck Crew Lupe Linares, Leila Muñoz
 Wardrobe Crew Karla Vences
 Props Crew Ethan Serrano, Elizabeth Tolentino
 Scene Shop Crew Ellis Buongiorno, Jadyne Cano, William Phung
 River Myaskovsky, Noelani Sandoval
 Liz Velasco Martinez, Javier Zamudio
 Costume Shop Crew Susanna Cho, Mattie Flores, Dylan Frederick,
 Katherin Jasso, Joshua Maxon, Cherry Serrano, Malayah Wilford
 Electrics Crew Henry Fan, Elisee Moreau, Janice Sim
 House Manager Chelsea Sutton
 Box Office Lily Barnes

**Scan the QR Code to learn more
 about The Miser artists.
bit.ly/miserprogram**



**Join us after the show Tuesday, March 24 for a Q&A with
 the cast and production team of THE MISER.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to Tegan Cohan (Pagan Consultant)

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & NEW DANCE FACULTY AND STAFF

Sarah Krainin - Associate Professor, Department Chair

Bernardo Solano - Professor

C. Julian White - Professor

Jesse Portillo - Associate Professor

Dr. Joshua Truett - Assistant Professor

Sayda G. Trujillo - Assistant Professor

Laura Epperson - Assistant Professor

Donzel Lewis - Assistant Professor

Adjunct Lecturers, Theatre & Dance

Jade Cagalawan • Colin Campbell • Doug Cooney • Zachary Groenewold

Jeremy Hahn • Harold Kast • Paulo Lima • Manny Macias

Aly Mawji • Paula Weston Solano • John Sylvain • Morgan Zupanski

Department Staff

Kenneth Blenc - Technical Director

Jonathan Bastow - Director of Theatre Facilities

Alyssa Martinez - Administrative Coordinator

Lexy Perez - Costume Shop Supervisor

Chelsea Sutton - Publicist

A THANK YOU AND REMEMBRANCE OF PROFESSOR BRIAN S. NEWMAN

At the beginning of this Spring semester, we lost an important part of the CPP Theatre Department's community, Professor Brian S. Newman, who passed away on January 8, 2026. We are deeply saddened by this loss of a beloved colleague, educator, mentor, and theatre professional.

Brian's impact on the institutions, students and artists he served was immense, and his absence is felt across every space he helped shape with care, precision, humor and heart. At the core of Brian's work and relationships was a deep belief in possibility, in what people, ideas and communities could become when met with trust, care and intention.

This production of *The Miser* could not have come together without the help of our community, who has rallied to provide extra support to our staff, faculty and students while we navigate this huge loss in our department.

To learn more about Brian, visit: bit.ly/briannewman



College of Letters, Arts,
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THEATRE AND NEW DANCE



APRIL 17-26, 2026
written by Jessica Huang | directed by Paula Weston Solano

Studio Theatre Building 25-110

bit.ly/cpptheatre
[@cpptheatredance](https://www.instagram.com/cpptheatredance)

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\$15 General Admission
\$12 CPP Alumni
\$10 CPP Faculty/Staff
All Students & Seniors
bit.ly/cpptheatretickets



WELCOME TO THE CAL POLY POMONA DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & NEW DANCE

About Us: The Cal Poly Pomona Department of Theatre and New Dance awards a Bachelor of Arts degree in theatre which emphasizes process and the practical experience of producing theatre. The Department follows the University's "learn by doing" philosophy by offering practice on Mainstage and Studio Theater productions, various workshops, and courses in all aspects of the theatre both artistic and academic. The program stresses concern for students as artists and individuals. Faculty and staff work closely with students to build a solid foundation of knowledge of both the practical and artistic aspects of theatre and dance. Students have the opportunity to participate as actors and dancers and fill leadership roles as designers or in areas of production.

Our Mission: The Department of Theatre and New Dance provides opportunities within a diverse and inclusive environment to explore and develop meaningful, innovative ideas that engage the interdependence of process and creation. Students develop critical thinking and disciplinary excellence through experiential learning, collaboration and interdisciplinary practices to prepare them to be current and relevant artists. Students work within established and experimental processes utilizing trends in new technologies, community and contemporary performance practices.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We at Cal Poly Pomona respectfully acknowledge the original caretakers of this land, the Tongva peoples, and all of their ancestors, elders, and descendants, past, present and emerging. We also recognize this land known as Los Angeles County today is also home to many Indigenous peoples from all over, and we are grateful for the opportunity to live and work here as guests on these lands, the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Tongva.

**Give to the Department of Theatre & New Dance to
support the next generation of storytellers!**



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