

WRITTEN BY LAUREN GUNDERSON **DIRECTED BY LINDA BISESTI** 

\$5 General Admission | VIRTUAL



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# THE REVOLUTIONISTS

## Written by Lauren Gunderson Directed by Linda Bisesti

Featuring Natalie Lambert, Sadaf Sharif, Julie Valdez, Leilani Scott Young

> Set Designer Susana Gandara

Costume Designer

Lighting Designer Noé Valenzuela Sound Designer Jorge Macias Projection Designer
Sam Lopez

Dramaturg Franzetta Dorsey Stage Manager Julia Hibner

THE REVOLUTIONISTS is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Commissioned and first produced by Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park.

The Department would like to dedicate our Fall production season to the memory of Connor A. Chuateco

### **CAST**

Olympe de Gouges	ni Scott Young Julie Valdez
ADDITIONAL CREATIVE TEAM Assistant Scenic Designer Arely Del Toro Assistant Costume Designer Erin Nign	
Assistant Lighting Designer  Assistant Stage Manager  No.	Robert Li
PRODUCTION TEAM	
Production Manager Bri Director of Theatre Facillities Jo Technical Director Costume Shop Supervisor Va Assistant Production Manager Scenic Artists Conne	nathan Bastow Kenneth Blenc Innessa Poveda Ariana Michel or A. Chuateco
Properties Artisans H	Rachel Peralta
Light Board Operator Audio Engineer  Video Operator	Joe Loats Lias Bustos Levor Campbell Lictoria Murillo Listina Griego Lalen Jenkins, Chelsea Sykes, Lason Truong Lason Truo

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO**

Jennifer Eichhorn, for her note-taking skills. Isaac Katzanek and the staff at Geffen Playhouse. The staff and students at MediaVision-Cal Poly Pomona.

## **DIRECTOR NOTES**

Lauren Gunderson's play *The Revolutionists* celebrates the lives of four courageous badass women...well *three*, and one very misunderstood Queen of France, Marie Antoinette, who is also outrageous and courageous. All are in conversation, dedicated to establishing the rights of women in Paris, France in 1793.

Gunderson's compelling narrative reverberates in our world today, with humor, sadness and blunt honesty. The attempt to establish balance in an unbalanced world, and to claim a new world order, the upheaval of the status quo, resonates not only in 18th century France, but fiercely during our times now. These women address égalité, liberte, and sisterhood. Our issues in 2021, Black Lives Matter, Women's rights, LBGQT rights, rights for Indigenous people, the fight for the rights of all people, giving voice to the voiceless. How far have we come, and most importantly, how far do we need to go?

Dedicated to the memory of my brilliant mentor Fran Bennett, Poet Ray Amorosi and to the women of the world, especially the women of Afghanistan and Texas! Freedom and choice!

-Linda Bisesti-Reidy, Director



## **CAST**



## **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

Linda Bisesti-Reidy (Director) Linda received her Master of Fine Arts degree from Boston University, School for the Arts. Professor Bisesti is the Head of Acting at Cal Poly Pomona in the Department of Theatre and New Dance. Guest Artist positions include the American Shakespeare Center; The Gaiety School of Acting, (National Theatre School of Ireland); Dublin's Fortune's Fool Productions; Wellesley College and Wellesley College Summer Theatre. Linda's numerous directing credits range from Shakespeare to contemporary playwrights, including Two Noble Kinsmen at the Blackfriars Theatre, The American Shakespeare Center. For Cal Poly Pomona, Department of Theatre and New Dance, Intimate Apparel, one of six invited productions for the Kennedy Center College Theatre Festival, Region 8. A proud member of SAG-AFTRA and AEA, Linda's partial film and TV credits include From Hollywood to Rose, Best Comedy, Hollywood Independent Reel Festival, 2018; For the Love of Money; Killing Time (Sundance Film Festival); The Big Empty; Sacramento, (AFI Film Festival). Partial TV credits: Netflix's Ratched, recurring on ABC's The Conners; HBO's Here and Now; TV Land's Teachers; Pretty Little Liars; Monk; Criminal Minds; Brothers and Sisters; The West Wing; The Practice; and How To Get Away With Murder. Regional theatre credits include the critically acclaimed Los Angeles Women's

Shakespeare Company, performing as Nerissa in *The Merchant of Venice*, Osric in *Hamlet* at the Odyssey Theatre, Sir Andrew Aguecheek in *Twelfth Night*, and Roderigo in *Othello* at the Boston Court Theatre. East Coast regional credits include *Shear Madness*, Charles Playhouse, Boston. West Coast credits include *Inspecting Carol* at Laguna Playhouse, (Backstage Award for Best Comic Performance), *Steel Magnolias* at the Pacific Conservatory for the Performing Arts. SCSF credits include Tamora in *Titus Andronicus*, Nurse in *Romeo and Juliet*, Gertrude in *Hamlet*, Julius in *Julius Caesar*, Maria in *Twelfth Night* and Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*. Linda thanks her wonderful students for their dedication and her husband for his patience, humor and support. She thanks the entire wonderful terrifically talented group of actors, designers, management and crew for their outstanding work on this production of the *The Revolutionists*. Thank you to my wonderful husband Matthew Reidy.

**Arely Del Toro (Assistant Scenic Designer)** is a Junior at Cal Poly Pomona and this is the first show she has the honor of participating in. In High School, Arely participated in her theatre club where she took part as an actor, dancer, and painter for *The Wizard of Oz, How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, and *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. She would like to thank her family, friends, and educators for supporting her passion.

**Susana Gandara (Scenic Designer)** has recently graduated this past Spring, completing Cal Poly's Technical Theatre and Design program with an emphasis in scenic design. During her time there, she was the scenic designer for both *Polaroid Stories* and the virtual production of *Men On Boats*. This is Susana's last production as an undergrad and she would like to show thanks to the entire design and production team as together they created an outstanding performance that pushes creative boundaries to remind us of the importance of women's voices and the need for change as illustrated in the play.

**Julia Hibner (Stage Manager)** is a fourth year at Cal Poly Pomona. She is grateful for the opportunity to had been the Stage Manager for *The Revolutionists!* Her past experiences include being the Stage Manager for *Fefu and Her Friends* and Assistant Stage Manager for SCSF's *King Lear, Polaroid Stories, Tales From The Powder Room*, and *Skin Of Our Teeth*. She wants to thank the Director, Designers, the Faculty, & the Cast for their incredible work & support! Enjoy the show!

**Natalie Lambert (Marie-Antoinette)**, a junior at Cal Poly Pomona, is a transfer from Mount San Antonio College where she earned her Associate's degree in Theater Arts. She is an Education and Community Engagement option. Her passion for theater spans the realm of acting, writing, directing, and design. Her passions outside of theater include poetry, music, dance, and education. When she is not in class or rehearsals, you could find her tutoring at the writing center or working on her own writing projects. In the future, she hopes to teach English and playwriting while pursuing her creative endeavors on the side. She has dreams of graduate school and potentially opening a vegan pretzel business in the future. She is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be back on stage with her amazing cast. To her wonderful director Linda Besisti she wants to express her enormous gratitude for her support and direction in one of the strangest times to be creating

theater. To management, she wants Julia Hibner and Noah Stonecipher to know how much she appreciates their amazing hard work and dedication to this production. She is also incredibly thankful for the outstanding design team and crew that put tremendous, brilliant work on this project. And to Brian Newman, she is incredibly thankful for his dedication to our health and safety in the making of this production. She thanks her family, her wonderful boyfriend, and the entire theater department for welcoming her with warm, open arms.

**Sam Lopez (Projection Designer)** is a recent Cal Poly Pomona graduate. He has previously done props work in the past Cal Poly productions *The Cradle Will Rock* and *Polaroid Stories*. This will be his second show as a Video/Projections Designer, his first being Cal Poly Pomona's virtual production of *ZorroX2*.

**Jorge Macias (Sound Designer)** This is Jorge's third year at Pomona and his third show he has worked on as a sound designer, but this is his first production in person. He is glad to be back on campus and work closely with everyone this year.

**Erin Nign (Assistant Costume Designer)** is a second year student at Cal Poly Pomona. She majors in Design and Technical Production of Theatre with a focus in costume design. In her first year at Cal Poly, she worked as the Assistant Costume Designer for the online production of *Fefu and Her Friends*. She would like to thank her family, friends, and all the wonderful and talented individuals that made this show possible

Rachel Peralta (Properties Artisan) graduated from East Los Angeles College with her AA and AA-T in theater and in her last semester of her General Theater BA at Cal Poly Pomona. Past productions include serving as a Master of Props and ASM at Emerson Theater for *Wait until Dark, Death Trap*, and *Moon over Buffalo*. At the Los Angeles Theater Center, she stage managed the KCACTF award winning ELAC production of *Chavez Ravine* by Culture Clash, for which she won the award for Stage Management Excellence and Stage-Management Team. She prop designed ELAC's production of *The Taming of the Shrew*, which earned her The Society of Props Artisan Managers Award, Don Childs Award and Cross Discipline Collaboration Award. Rachel has had an amazing time collaborating with the great artist of *The Revolutionists* and hopes you as an audience enjoys the show.

**Sadaf Sharif (Olympe de Gouges)** is a third year at CPP, majoring in theatre. She is excited to be performing in her first in-person show in the Department of Theatre and New Dance. Previous show credits include *Fefu and Her Friends*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (Abridged). She is thankful for the opportunity to be able to act in *The Revolutionists* and to tell the story of the play.

**Noah Stonecipher (Assistant Stage Manager)** has worked with director Bisesti on multiple occasions but always as an actor. He is excited and grateful to finally be working with her in a technical aspect. He has spent multiple year working on technical theatre but this is his first time working in stage management. He is grateful to the cast and crew and cannot wait yo see the final product of everyone's hard work. He

would also like to thank his family and friends for pushing him to follow his dreams. **Kelly Tsan (Properties Artisan)** is a third year Theater major with a focus on design and production. Her previous experiences includes being assisstant stage manager for *On The Verge* and *Zorrox2*. She is excited to see this show come to life and would like to thank management, faculty, designers, and actors for making this show possible!

**Julie Valdez (Charlotte Corday)** is a senior who has been acting since she was in high school, participating in productions of published plays like *The Curious Savage* and *California Scenarios*, as well as original pieces like *Lonely, Lone* and *Protest Parade*. She wants to let the cast and crew know that working on *The Revolutionists* has been a truly landmark experience as her first university show and a pleasure to have gotten to work with everyone. Good luck to all.

**Noé Valenzuela (Lighting Designer)** is a third year transfer student at Cal Poly focusing on both Lighting & Sound Design. This is his third production with CPP, and he has participated in many others both on and off-stage throughout high school and community college. Noé is also a musician. He hopes to graduate in the spring and apply his creative and technical skills in design and music towards the field of live entertainment.

Leilani Scott Young (Marianne Angelle) is a senior Civil Engineering major and Theater minor. She currently works at WestLAND Group as their survey mapping intern in Ontario. When she isn't presiding over her club president duties on campus, she is singing, dancing or acting to maintain balance in her world of STEM. She has been ensemble in many musicals such as *In the Heights* and *Legally Blonde*, but this is her debut to show off her dramatic skills in a Lead role. She is very excited to help tell the story of Marianne Angelle and hope to make her parents proud! You can see more of her work next semester as Charity in *Sweet Charity*! Thank you and enjoy the show!

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

**About Us:** Cal Poly Pomona's Department of Theatre and New Dance awards undergraduate degrees in theatre, emphasizing theatrical production and the "doing" of theatre. At the same time, the Department offers courses in all aspects of theatre, both artistic and academic. After completing the theatre major at Cal Poly Pomona, students are prepared to begin their careers or specialized training in professional theatre, television or film; to go for advanced training in graduate schools; or to go into teaching in high schools. We are proud to boast alumnus in numerous professional positions throughout the entertainment industry.

**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.

We thank you for your attendance during this production, and we especially wish to thank the following for their support of the arts here at Cal Poly Pomona:

- Dr. Soraya M. Coley President of Cal Poly Pomona
- Dr. Iris Levine Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Dr. Sara A. Garver Interim Dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences
- The Cal Poly Pomona Foundation for its continuous support of our department



THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

## DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & NEW DANCE FACULTY AND STAFF

Bernardo Solano - Professor, Department Chair Linda Bisesti-Reidy - Professor, Head of Acting C. Julian White - Professor, Movement and Acting Sarah Krainin - Assistant Professor, Head of Design Jesse Portillo - Assistant Professor Brian S. Newman - Assistant Professor

### **Adjunct Lecturers, Theatre**

LilyBartenstein • Barbara Bragg • Tom Bryant Colin Campbell • Doug Cooney • Lisa Sanaye Dring • Joyce Hesselgrave Jill Holden • Michael Kachingwe • Nancy Kyes Paulo Lima • Richard Pluim • Paula Weston Solano • John Sylvain

### Adjunct Lecturers, Dance

Suchi Branfman • Kim Gadlin Zachary Groenewold • Jeremy Hahn • Manny Macias

#### **Costume Shop**

Vannessa Poveda - Costume Shop Supervisor

### **Scene Shop**

Kenneth Blenc - Technical Director Jonathan Bastow - Director of Theatre Facilities

#### Theatre Staff

Marie Maslowski - Department Secretary Chelsea Sutton - Publicist