

ANDREA ARIEL DANCE THEATRE

PRESENTS

HERE. NOW.

MAY 1-3, 2025 AT 8:00 PM
BOYD VANCE THEATER

Steve Rogers Photography



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ANDREA ARIEL DANCE THEATRE

PRESENTS

HERE. NOW.

May 1–3, 2025

ARTISTIC & PRODUCING DIRECTOR..... Andrea Ariel

ARTISTIC PARTNERS & CHOREOGRAPHERS..... Ciceley Fullylove, Luis Ordaz Gutiérrez,
Anuradha Naimpally, Jun “Sunny” Shen

ADDITIONAL PERFORMERS..... Venese Alcantar, Purna Bajekal
Leopoldo Centeno Roque, Wyntergrace Williams

MUSIC..... Frederico 7, Guitar & Vocals
Claude McCan, Electronics/Keys & Vocals
Rey Arteaga, Congas & Percussion
Bruno Vinezof, Percussion
Andres Acevedo, Bass

PRODUCTION & LIGHTING DESIGNER..... Natalie George

COSTUME DESIGN Kelsey Oliver

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER..... Raquel Rivera

CO-PRODUCER & ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER Colin Lowry

LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR Sadie Lagenkamp

SOUND ENGINEER/OPERATOR Elise Etherton

MULTI-CAMERA VIDEO DOCUMENTATION..... Eric Graham, IC Pictures

VOICE RECORDING & PROJECTIONS..... Hector Daniel Ordaz Gutiérrez

MARKETING & PROMOTION Andrea Ariel & Raquel Rivera

GRAPHIC & MARKETING DESIGN Jeannie Lozano

PHOTOGRAPHY..... Steve Rogers

This performance is approximately 80 minutes without an intermission.



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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Thank you for attending *Here. Now!* We are thrilled you are here, now! My vision for this new work drew inspiration from last season's main production, *Borderless*, which explored how we connect and disconnect across ethnicities and cultures. I wanted to dive deeper into the vast subject of identity, both individual and collective. It has been amazing to work with these stellar artists for a second season, continuing our collaborative process to create together. We held four free Community Voices workshops inviting community members to participate in our explorations, which greatly expanded our perspectives and ideas inspiring our process. Each of the artistic partners have created new works around the many facets of identity which are woven together through "interstitials"—choreography created in a collaborative process with me that explores a wider and collective perspective. I am grateful to each and every one of these artists for being part of shaping the creation of *Here. Now.* I am equally grateful to everyone who has supported this project, and to the community members who shared their ideas and creativity for its development.

ANDREA aRIEL DANCE THEATRE

would like to thank all of
our corporate sponsors on the
pages of this program
who made HERE. NOW. possible.

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OUR MISSION

ANDREA ARIEL DANCE THEATRE bridges the arts and community through multidisciplinary dance performances, community programs, and educational initiatives for youth. We provide opportunities for artists, audiences, and participants to engage in self-expression. Our vision is a more beautiful, connected world through access to creative exploration for all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. We value collaboration, imagination, and impactful experiences that inspire and unite through the power of art.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & SPECIAL THANKS

The City of Austin Economic Development Dept.	Michael Meigs
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HERE. NOW. PROGRAM OF PIECES

PRESENCE

Choreography by Andrea Ariel created in collaboration with the performers
Performed by Ciceley Fullylove, Anuradha Naimpally, Luis Ordaz Gutiérrez,
Jun “Sunny” Shen, Venese Alcantar, Purna Bajekal, Wyntergrace Williams

REMEMBERING FORWARD

Choreographed and Performed by Anuradha Naimpally and Purna Bajekal
The last section is based on traditional choreography by Pt VJ Pillai

This dance journeys through the evolving stages of identity, from the innocence of birth and the guidance of role models to the nurturing embrace of early belonging. It reflects on the thrill of exploration and independence, the weight of crisis, and the healing power of community weaving s these moments into a tapestry of self-discovery, honoring one’s roots and arriving at a moment of wholeness.

STORIES

Choreography by Andrea Ariel created in collaboration with the performers
Performed by Ciceley Fullylove, Anuradha Naimpally, Luis Ordaz Gutiérrez,
and Jun “Sunny” Shen

Devised from stories we shared about an instance that you felt uncomfortable or threatened because of your identity.

CHARACTER CONCOCTION

Choreography by Ciceley Fullylove
Performed by Ciceley Fullylove and Wyntergrace Williams

Growing up I was surrounded by classic cinema, a wide range of music, and fashionable people. Some of it I gravitated to instantly, while other influences took a little longer for me to appreciate. All of these influences are a part of a concoction that has helped to inform my creative process and persona. This piece aims to be a tribute to that journey of creative discovery.

SEE HEAR SAY

Choreography by Andrea Ariel
Performed by Ciceley Fullylove, Anuradha Naimpally, Luis Ordaz Gutiérrez, and Jun “Sunny” Shen

Inspired by what we see and don’t see, what we hear and don’t hear, what we say and don’t say.

MIRROR OF ORIGINS

Choreography by Jun “Sunny” Shen

Performed by Jun “Sunny” Shen and Venese Alcantar

This duet traces the delicate tension of identity—shaped by culture, split by duality. Each dancer moves between harmony and conflict, tradition and transformation, belonging and isolation.

Like two sides of a coin—one face revealed, the other concealed—they mirror the beauty and contradiction of carrying more than one self within.

SHIFTING GROUND

Choreography by Andrea Ariel

Performed by Ciceley Fullylove, Anuradha Naimpally, Luis Ordaz Gutiérrez, Jun “Sunny” Shen, and Venese Alcantar

FEEDBACK-LOOP INTERRUPTED

Choreography by Luis Ordaz Gutiérrez

Performed by Luis Ordaz Gutiérrez and Leopoldo Centeno Roque

This duet that explores the inherent relationship between outer signals and inner frequencies. Have you ever thought how truly deep outside feedback signals are within our internal wiring? And what came first? The signal or the feedback? And what happens when that connection is interrupted?

PARADE

Choreography by Andrea Ariel created in collaboration with the performers

Performed by Ciceley Fullylove, Luis Ordaz Gutiérrez, Anuradha Naimpally, Jun “Sunny” Shen, Purna Bajekal, Venese Alcantar, Wyntergrace Williams, and Leopoldo Centeno Roque



BIOGRAPHIES



ANDREA ARIEL is the Artistic Director of Andrea Ariel Dance Theatre based in Austin, TX where she produces, choreographs, and performs in multidisciplinary dance theatre works created in collaboration with a diversity of artists working in dance, music, theater, multimedia, and visual art. She has created over 50 original works since

forming the company in 1990. Her work has been presented in Texas, California, South Carolina, Illinois, Arizona, New Mexico, Washington, New York and in Europe. She has been a recipient of numerous project support grants and commissions including 35 years as a recipient of cultural arts funding by the City of Austin. Honors for her work include special citations from the Austin Critics Table, *The Sound and Vision Award* for accomplishments in the realm of dance and a commitment to visionary cross-discipline work, and the *Site for Sore Eyes and Ears Award* for invigorating collaborations of dance and music in site-specific performance. Other recognitions include twelve nominations and four awards for LUMEN (2016), HEART (2014) and The Bowie Project: A Rock and Roll Soundpainting (2014, 2015, 2017), also named #2 of the Top Nine Big Bang Dance Concerts of 2015.

Andrea was selected as a Creative Ambassador for Dance in 2014 and 2019 representing the City of Austin in Milan, Italy and Madrid, Spain and participating in the International Soundpainting Think Tank working with artists from over seven countries. She is a Certified Soundpainter and Educator for this revolutionary and boundary breaking form of live composition used in multidisciplinary improvised performances. She formed the Austin Soundpainting Collective to further this work in Austin.

Andrea's choreography for film and television includes commercials for *Shiner Beer*, *KFC*, *Grand Marnier*, *Time Warner*, *HEB* (with Emmitt Smith), and *Reid's Cleaners* starring singer/songwriter *Erin Ivey*, receiving national recognition. Feature films and TV include Rick Linklater's *Everybody Wants Some*, *Waiting for Guffman* directed by Christopher Guest, *Infamous* with Sigourney Weaver and Toby Jones, *Wild Texas Wind* starring Dolly Parton, *As the Bell Rings* (Disney Channel), and *Mama Dallas* an HBO TV series pilot.

As part of Ariel Dance Theatre, Andrea also teaches in the schools through her *ARTSPLUS*, *arts-in-education programs* and facilitates AADT's *Community Voices* program, workshops that bring unique creative opportunities to the community. Other teaching credits include University of Texas, Austin Community College, Austin Lyric Opera, University of Illinois, Texas State University, Creative Arts Studio, (Brooklyn, NY), and the Texas Commission on the Arts, Touring Roster. She earned an MFA in Dance from the University of Illinois where she was the recipient of the Creative and Performing Arts Fellowship Award. Andrea is also an ACE Certified Personal Trainer. www.arieldance.org

ARTISTIC PARTNERS



CICELEY FULLYLOVE is a dancer, choreographer, and singer born and raised in Austin, TX. She gained her BA in Dance Studies from Texas Woman's University and has since performed in dance-works by local choreographers such as Jennifer Sherburn, Spaces of Fontana, Erica Saucedo, and Venese Alcantar. Last summer performed at the Georgetown Palace Theatre in "CATS" in the role of Demeter. Last October she premiered her forty-five minute work titled "Rhythm & Grooves" as a part of ARCOS Presents. An excerpt from that show was performed at this year's Austin Dance Festival. Recently, she choreographed a music video for the music artist Mobley titled "Yesterday's Another Day" - which was just released. This is Ciceley's third show with Ariel Dance Theatre. Her previous work with the company includes "Rally" and "Borderless". She is grateful to share and continue this creative journey with Andrea Ariel and is excited for things to come.



LUIS ORDAZ GUTIÉRREZ is an award-winning theatre director, writer, dancer, producer, and visual designer based in Austin, Texas. As an immigrant artist originally born in Mexico City, his work straddles historical research and performance art in order to reconstruct Latino culture within the United States. For the past 12 years Luis has been the Artistic Director of ProyectoTEATRO, Austin's premiere Spanish-language performing arts company and cultural

organization. In 2014, through an artistic collaboration with another Austin Latino legacy dance company Ballet East, Luis discovered the creative and expressive power of dance. He took his first ballet class at 27 years of age under the artistic direction of Melissa Villarreal and continued to train and perform with Ballet East for the next 10 years. Simultaneously, Luis became a company member with another Austin Latino legacy dance organization, The Aztlan Dance Company, under the artistic direction of Roen Salinas. In 2017, Luis joined the Chamacos Cuban Contemporary Dance Company under the direction of Aurelio Planes and Inna Grudtcina; which led him to receive a scholarship in 2019 and travel to Cuba and train with 4 internationally-renowned companies: Retazos Dance Theatre in Havana and Médula, Danza Libre, and Danza Fragmentada in Guantánamo. In early 2020, Luis was invited to be part of the Andrea Ariel Dance Theatre Company and continues to be immensely inspired and grateful to be creating with the AADT family of dancers and musicians.



ANURADHA NAIMPALLY Being raised by art-loving Indian parents in Canada, Anuradha has had the best of many worlds. Her western upbringing along with her traditional training in India and deep-rooted spirituality, make her a unique teacher and performer of Bharata Natyam dance who connects with people from across the globe. She is founder

and Artistic Director of Austin Dance India, her organization since 1989, through which she trains students, mentors young artists, and presents her work. She is a 2018 inductee into the Austin Arts Hall of Fame for her significant body of work and a juried artist on the touring roster of the Texas Commission on the Arts. The Austin Area Critics' Circle has nominated and awarded her Best Dancer and Production numerous times. She has received several awards in India including Sringeri Mani and Mayura Natya Tarakai. Anuradha is a recipient of the 2020 and 2017 Artistic Innovations Grant from the Mid-America Arts Alliance. Her social practice projects include work with refugee teens, social justice, gender and sexuality, and climate change. Her work with girls' empowerment through dance was featured in the PBS series, Arts in Context. Anuradha can be seen performing at various schools, libraries, museums, and festivals in and around Texas. She is deeply dedicated to cultural representation in arts in education and making programming available to all communities. Interested in creating and performing works that not

only historically preserve artistic traditions, she engages in art for social change to build community and bring awareness to global issues.



JUN “SUNNY” SHEN began his formal dance training during high school, where he learned ballet, Chinese classical opera, and Chinese folk dance. He earned his bachelor’s degree in dance at Beijing Capital Normal University in 2001, and worked with Beijing Dance LDTX as a full-time dancer and choreographer from 2005 to 2009. He has

performed and choreographed many works at worldwide dance festivals including Beijing Dance Festival, Grand Performances (LA), Dance Salad Festival (Houston), Busan International Dance Festival (South Korea), Culture Scapes (Switzerland), Braunschweig Dance Festival (Germany). He has also collaborated with many artists and dance companies such as Willy Tsao, Janis Claxton, Charles O. Anderson, Hugo Dalton, Yago de Quay, Wang Jianwei, Sally Jacques, as well as Ziru Production, Alonzo-King Lines Ballet Training Program, Ellen Bartel Dance Collection, Kathy Dunn Hamrick Dance Company, and Andrea Ariel Dance Theatre. Shen earned his MFA in 2016 at the University of Texas and formed his company Shen Jun Movement Effect. He is currently an assistant professor of dance at Austin Community College, and a principal dancer and choreographer for Blue Lapis Light. In 2018 Shen was awarded Best Dancer by the Austin Critics Table for his performance in *Belonging, Part One*. In 2019, Shen’s work *Centrifugation* was selected to perform at the American College Dance Association, South Central Regional conference.

ADDITIONAL DANCERS



VENESE ALCANTAR is a movement practitioner, choreographer, and educator. venese’s work challenges notions of gender, female archetypes, and the body as landscape. Within her work the observer finds explorations of corporeal wit, human narratives through anthropomorphic expressions, and the intermingling acts of birthing

and composting. her/their work has shown at the Ohr-O’keefe Museum of Art, the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, the Elisabet Ney Museum, Mass Gallery and the Blanton, to name a few. venese has worked with Ormao,

HIJACK, Performing Justice Projects, ARCOS, Girl Forward and others. venese was an artist in residence with Pantera, while conjunctively teaching at Kazan University of Culture and Art, in Kazan, Russia. In addition, some of their teaching experience includes the teaching residency at the Beulah School of Natural Sciences, adjunct at the Colorado Springs Conservatory, the Positive Note Program for people with mixed abilities, Danza facilitator at the Indigenous Cultures Institute and a DEL Arnhold Fellow. venese received their MFA in Dance and Social Justice at the University of Texas at Austin and is currently a local movement practitioner, gardener, social critic and Mother in the Austin area.



PURNA BAJEKAL is a dancer, teacher, choreographer, and dance therapist. She has studied several forms of dance including Bharata Natyam from her mother, Guru Anuradha Naimpally, Artistic Director of Austin Dance India (ADI). In 2011, Purna was a part of ADI's production, *Parampara*, which was awarded Best

Dance Concert award by the Austin Critics' Circle and was named by the Austin Chronicle as one of the top five performances of 2011. In 2012, Purna completed her solo performance or *arangetram*, marking her debut as a professional. In 2013, her performance in *Two Generations, One Tradition* was nominated for Best Duet Performance by the Austin Critics' Circle. For ADI's 25th anniversary in 2016, Purna co-directed *Girl Power!*, an ADI production at The Long Center promoting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Purna continues to teach, perform, and work with ADI on its various projects and productions as well as works in private practice as a Somatic Psychotherapist and Dance Movement Therapist.



LEOPOLDO CENTENO ROQUE Polo is a Nicaraguan dancer with technical training in Modern Dance, graduating from the Nicaraguan Dance Academy in 2021. He has been part of several companies, including *Arte y Danza* (2019–2022), *Seven Dance Company* (2021–2022), and *Ballet East Austin* (2024), where he has gained experience in contemporary

dance, jazz, hip-hop, and Horton technique. His career is marked by stylistic versatility and a constant commitment to artistic expression and professional growth.

Polo es un bailarín nicaragüense con formación técnica en Danza Moderna, egresado de la Academia Nicaragüense de la Danza en 2021. Ha formado parte de diversas compañías como Arte y Danza (2019-2022), Seven Dance Company (2021-2022) y Ballet East Austin (2024), donde ha desarrollado experiencia en danza contemporánea, jazz, hip-hop y técnica Horton. Su trayectoria destaca por la versatilidad estilística y un compromiso constante con la expresión artística y el crecimiento profesional.



WYNTERGRACE WILLIAMS was born and raised in Connecticut to New York before moving to Los Angeles, and now Austin, Texas. In Austin, she instantly connected with the vibrant dance community, which she finds inspiring and welcoming. There, she met Ciceley, a choreographer whose creative vision, deep dance knowledge,

and authentic movement style captivated her. Wyntergrace admires her ability to blend innovation with emotion, making every piece feel alive and meaningful. She is honored to be invited to perform in Andrea Ariel Dance Theatre's Here.Now., and thrilled to be part of this thoughtful production, which celebrates presence and connection through dance. Wyntergrace brings her rich experiences from different cities and her love for movement to the stage, creating a performance that's heartfelt and engaging. Here.Now. is a special opportunity for her to share her passion and connect with audiences in a powerful, present way.

MUSIC



FREDERICO7 (Guitar/Vocals) is a Brazilian-American artist and cultural storyteller known for his fusion of Afro-Brazilian rhythms, funk, and soul. Born and raised in Brazil and shaped by life in Mexico, and Austin, TX, he's led acclaimed projects like Ghandaia and Suns of Orpheus and performed with artists including Grupo Fantasma, Café

Tacvba, and Lee "Scratch" Perry. His debut solo album Exótico Americano topped North American indie world music charts, and his upcoming release Brasileirôu deepens his exploration of identity and diaspora. Festival appearances include SXSW, ACL, and international tours through Mexico, Colombia, and the U.S. More at www.frederico7.com



CLAUDE MCCAN AKA CLAUDE 9 (Keys, Harmonica, Vocals) has been involved in the Austin music scene since the late 70's playing and recording as a keyboard player and singer. He played and worked with Reggae acts Pressure, the Killer Bees, and Raggamassive which is where he cut his teeth as a sought after keyboard player. These

roots lead Claude9 to join forces with hip hop/funk act Afrofreque, Supercreeps and Hail Marley. Claude 9 emerged in the late 90's as one of the first electronic producers out of Austin, Texas. He was a part of several well-received House collaborations in the early 2000's. His background as a live musician brought authenticity to the dub and funk elements in his electronic compositions and more recently to his note worthy collaboration with DJ Manny as Los Bandidos. Currently, Claude9 and Fumihito Sugawara are collaborating on 35MM, a band that is reconstructing the 50-60's lounge music genre with a sultry and polished style, influenced by bossa nova, tango, jazz, surf music, space-age pop, and spy-movie soundtracks. As a producer at his own Claude 9 Studios, Claude continues to produce and record internationally recognized music in the House and Downtempo genres, while still pushing limits and being an influential member of the ever changing Austin music community.



REY ARTEAGA (Congas & Percussion) San Antonio-born solo-artist, frontman-vocalist, multi-genre conguero, bongocero, percussionist Rey Arteaga, a favorite performer in the local Austin music scene, has co-founded or played in some of the best Latin bands in Austin, including Son y No Son, La Tribu, Son Yuma, Centzónle, Melecumbé, Sarah Fox and

Joel Guzman, Sangre de Chango, Ta Mère, & Charanga Cakewalk. For thirty-four years, Arteaga has performed classic repertoire of Cuban son, Colombian cumbia and Mexican bolero and ranchera, renditions of which have ranged from the traditional, to eclectic and innovative. Arteaga has also performed/recorded with Austin-based David Bowie tribute band Super Creeps, A Few Nice Things, 35MM, Gov't Mule, Tiburon, Big Band Tejano, The Brew, Los Satélites del Ritmo, Big Sugar, Sit Down, Servant!!, David Garza, Zoumountchi, Golden Dawn Arkestra, Jesse Vain & The Happy Hour Holiness Movement, The Sahara All-Stars, Bamako Airlines, Paul Klemperer's Manteca Beat, and many others.



BRUNO VINEZOF (Percussion) is a native of Pernambuco-Brazil. Born in Olinda, a city where the traditional arts and culture are stronger than ever, Bruno has extensive experience with music. He has participated in ensembles performing Afoxé, maracatu, forró and coco, as well as in modern bands - always with the influences of his

musical roots. He has played with artists such as: Rabecado, Azabumba, Quarteto Olinda, Renata Rosa, Cascabulho, Pandeiro do Mestre, Mestre Zé Neguinho do Coco, Spock Frevo, Maciel Salu, Alessandra Leão, Mestre Luiz Paixão, Quarteto Olinda, Claudio Rabeca, and many others, including many masters of traditional music. He currently lives in Austin, TX and performs with Mente Clara, Forro de Quintal, Maracatu Texas, Seu Jacinto, Grupo Massa, Leticia Rodriguez, and other artists and projects.



ANDRES ACEVEDO (Bass) Originally from Medellín, Colombia, I am a passionate musician who has found a vibrant home in the diverse music scene of Austin, Texas since 2000. Specializing in bass guitar, I have lent my talents to a variety of bands and genres, showcasing a versatile style that spans Americana, Latin, blues, funk, and

soul. My musical journey in Austin has been rich and varied. I am a key member of several notable bands, including La Frenetika, known for its infectious Spanish dance music, and Kalua, a driving force in the Spanish rock scene. Additionally, I contribute my bass skills to The Shake Wells, where Americana roots run deep. Throughout my career, I have collaborated with esteemed artists such as Latasha Lee, Nubia Emmon, Esteban Alvarez, Tomar Williams, Salih Williams, Latin Dukes, Los Autenticos de Colombia, Pat in the Hat, GRBand, Shanik Hughes, and Tarela, among others. These experiences have not only broadened my musical horizons but also deepened my understanding of different genres and performance styles. Beyond performing, I am dedicated to nurturing Austin's musical community, contributing to its dynamic growth and cultural exchange. My journey from Medellín to Austin has shaped me into a versatile musician with a deep appreciation for cultural fusion and artistic collaboration. Currently, I continue to evolve as an artist, exploring new sounds and pushing the boundaries of musical expression. Whether on stage or in the studio,

my commitment to creating memorable music remains steadfast, driven by a love for the craft and a desire to connect with audiences worldwide.

PRODUCTION



NATALIE GEORGE PRODUCTIONS is an Austin, Texas based company that enjoys making magic with light, producing unwieldy events in unlikely spaces, and exploring conversation through performance. Our team is composed of artists, makers, designers, and dreamers. We work to build new relationships, realize inspiring ideas, engage audiences, and serve the artistic community as we continue to thrive in the changing cultural climate of Austin, Texas. Find out more at www.nataliegeorgeproductions.com



KELSEY OLIVER (Costume Design) is an Austin-born butt who went from competition kid to drill team baby to experimental academic...currently resonating as a physical theatre enthusiast, improviser, and momentumous floorwork practitioner. She's a choreographer, performer, and costume artist, and she loves making artistic funk in whatever medium she can get her hands on. Routinely in scrappy, maximalist, humor-struck collaborations, KO has co-created works with Frank Wo/Men Collective, Rude Mechanicals, Salvage Vanguard Theatre, PerformaDance, Magdalena Jarkowiec, Heloise Gold, Erica Saucedo, Body Shift, + more. She's ½ of Torko Rover, a multi-medium production duo that is crafting gay performance ahrnt in non-traditional spaces. In academic regards, KO received a B.F.A. in Dance in 2015, studying at the University of Texas at Austin and short-term Le Centre National de Danse Contemporaine in Angers, France. She has been an adjudicator, choreographer, and dance instructor for studios and teams throughout Texas. In a nutshell, she likes durational stuff, absurdist stuff, devised stuff, funny stuff, and stuff that gets soakingly athletic. She also loves her queer family with 5 fur floof children.
Kelsey-Oliver.com | @kelsey___oliver



ELISE EHERTON (Audio Engineer) has been a dedicated audio engineer since 2019. Most days are spent recording, mixing, and producing music for local artists. You can catch Elise running and capturing sound at places all over Austin including Bates Recital Hall and KMFA's Draylen Mason Studio.



RAQUEL RIVERA (Production Stage Manager & Marketing Assist.) is a distinguished dance artist and cultural promotor, specializing in traditional Mexican expressions. Her expertise extends beyond dance, encompassing stage design, costumes, and accessories, all rooted in Mexican and Latin American patterns and textiles.

In 2019, she founded the non-profit organization Surem, dedicated to safeguarding and promoting regional Mexican culture from indigenous customs to contemporary creations. With a Bachelor's degree in Mexican traditional dance, Raquel exemplifies a profound commitment to her craft. Through her art, she invites audiences to immerse themselves in Mexican and Latin American heritage, showcasing a legacy of passion, dedication, and love for her cultural roots.

Raquel Rivera es una artista de danza y promotora cultural, especializada en expresiones tradicionales mexicanas. Su experiencia se extiende más allá de la danza, abarcando el diseño escénico, los trajes y los accesorios, todos arraigados en textiles y texturas mexicanos y latinoamericanos. En 2019, fundó "Surem", una organización sin fines de lucro dedicada a preservar y promover la cultura tradicional mexicana regional, desde las antiguas costumbres indígenas precolombinas hasta creaciones modernas y contemporáneas. Su formación académica refleja su dedicación a su oficio, ostentando una licenciatura en danza tradicional mexicana. A través de sus creaciones, Raquel invita al público a sumergirse en la herencia mexicana y latinoamericana, demostrando un legado de pasión, dedicación y amor por sus raíces culturales.



HECTOR ORDAZ (Audio & Projection Design, Assist. Stage Manager) is an Audio Visual Artist, Producer and Director. Originally from Mexico City, Hector is the technical mastermind behind ProyectoTeatro—a Spanish language performing arts company in Austin, Texas. Although his first spoken word was “ball”, giving way to his

affinity with sports, another of his passions is sound and the technical aspects that it encompasses. His first foray into the world of music was as an aspiring DJ in the late 90’s, and from there he began to produce ProyectoTeatro’s audio and video. He later obtained certifications in audiovisual technology from the MVP International Audiovisual Institute, enabling him to work as an audiovisual technician for conferences, concerts and special events of companies such as Apple, IBM, Dell, Porsche, ESPN, Microsoft and many other reputable companies. Having exhausted the corporate world, he then “reintegrated” into ProyectoTeatro and has been an essential part of the company’s vision and technical mission; fusion of different forms of art in a coherent idea on the stage to promote and preserve the Hispanic/Latino culture through the performing arts in Spanish. Hector has over 40 productions with ProyectoTeatro and has collaborated and produced work for Aztlan Dance Company, Ballet East Dance Company, Texas Civil Rights Project, Ground Floor Theatre, Roy Lozano Ballet Folklorico de Texas, Surem Dance Company, Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and most recently the Latino Theatre Company in LA . *“Hacemos arte porque la vida no alcanza”*





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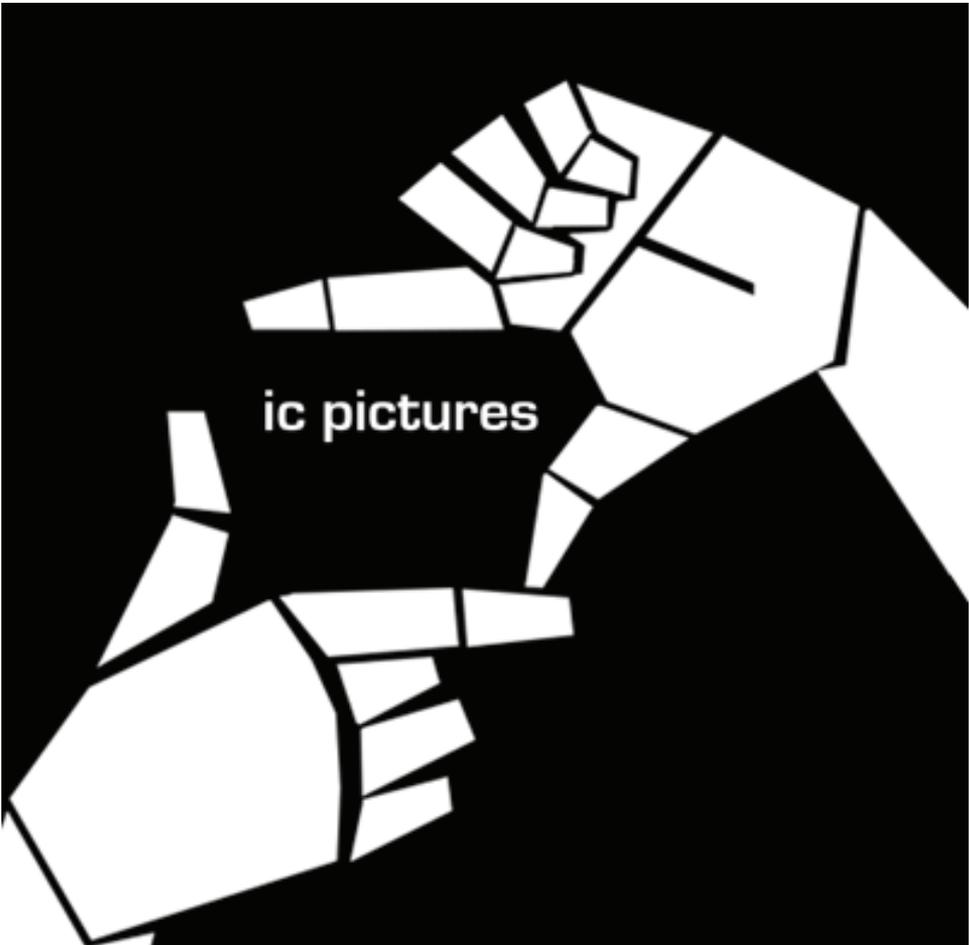


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