# PINCHING

# **PENNIES** WITHPENNY MARSHALL

**DEATH RITUALS FOR PENNY MARSHALL** 

BY

Victor I. Cazares

DIRECTION

Borna Barzin

**PROJECT MANAGER** 

Alfredo Macias

#### CAST

Alton Alburo

Randa Jarrar

Olivia Jiménez

April Matthis

Pooya Mohseni

Ashton Muñiz

Jesús I. Valles

Martin

Manzanita

Frances McDormand

as Madre Cabrona

Fllen DeGeneres

Leo Scorpio,

Esq. MD/PHD MBA

BBSloppyJoe

Penny Marshall

#### **EPISODES**

#### **EPISODE 1**

A Zoom Webinar Offering Financial Advice for OnlyFans Content Creators

#### **EPISODE 2**

Sliding Scales

#### **EPISODE 3**

Dia de la Muerta

**NEW YORK** THEATRE WORKSHOP

Victor I. Cazares is a Tow Playwright in Residence.

#### THE 2020/21 ARTISTIC INSTIGATORS

As NYTW contemplated making work in this time of social distancing, we knew that the artists in our midst would lead the way. In June, we reached out to 27 artists in our community with an open-ended provocation and invitation from Artistic Director James C. Nicola. What follows is part of the prompt that sparked the 2020/21 Artistic Instigator season.

New York Theatre Workshop exists to provide its community a richer, deeper understanding of what it means to live and breathe on this earth right now, and to comprehend how each of our individual experiences interconnects with the others who occupy the world alongside us. We do this by gathering together in a room, at an appointed time, to observe and participate in the ritual re-enactment, by the artists we believe in, of narratives that resonate and illuminate.

COVID-19 has denied us access to the most fundamental parts of this equation: the gathering together for an artistic communion.

But this fact does not eliminate the need we all have for ritual, for revelation, for imagery, for insight. In fact, the isolation, anger and grief have made the need that much more imperative.

With this, the questions for NYTW become: how do we support the artists in continuing to create and articulate? And how do we bring the results to the larger community so desperately in need of inspiration, innovation and healing?

We don't have the answers to what these new forms may be. But we are confident that artists might know HOW to find the answers. To find NEW answers, for changing times and circumstances.

So.

This is an act of provocation on our part. Our intention is to unleash your imaginations and assist you in the conjuring of new ways of providing the sustenance and adventure that our world demands of us

As we contemplate the year ahead, there are so many more unknowns than there are certainties. We're hoping that you can seize this moment of insecurity and turn it around—to repurpose the lack of structure to be a moment of unheard of freedom and opportunity. We challenge you to think wide, and deep, and to go way out on limbs.

#### PROJECT TEAM

#### Victor I. Cazares

Playwright

Victor I. Cazares is a darkly Indigenous Mexican playwright w/ queer poz-y vibes who has had stints at Yale, Brown, and other less prestigious rehabs. Like any border child, they were born twice: once in El Paso, Texas, and another time in San Lorenzo, Chihuahua. Victor is currently the Tow Playwrightin-Residence at New York Theatre Workshop. Plays include: american (tele)visions, The Dead Women of J-Town and Smiley, Ramses contra los monstruos: salmos para el fin del mundo, Religiones Gringas, The Whale Play, and When We Write With Ashes.

#### Borna Barzin

Direction

Borna is an Iranian-American theater director based in Brooklyn, New York and sometimes San Jose, California due to Covid-related technical difficulties. Recent directing credits include Sam Shepard's psychedelic rock musical *The Mad Dog Blues* (The Hive) and Paula Vogel's *How I Learned to Drive* (Sibiu International Theatre Festival). Upcoming projects include Sam Shepard's *The Geography of a Horse Dreamer* (PCTC). Training: Pace University School of Performing Arts, BA Directing. bornabarzin.com

#### **Alton Alburo**

Martin

Alton Alburo has acted with New York Theatre Workshop, Primary Studios, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Ma-Yi, Transport Group, The Flea, Target Margin Lab, Rattlestick/Pride Plays, New Dramatists, NYSAF, The Lark, Bushwick Starr, La MaMa, New Ohio, Colt Coeur, New Light Theater Project, Two Headed Rep, Concrete Temple, PEN World Voices, Children's Theatre Company (MN), ArtsEmerson (MA), Connecticut Free Shakespeare (CT), Red Cloud Opera House (NE), among others. He can also be seen on Netflix in Last Ferry and "Friends From College." Alton is on the board of Undiscovered Countries, a bimonthly new and developing works festival.

#### Randa Jarrar

Manzanita

Randa Jarrar is a writer, professor, and performer. Her newest book is *Love Is An Ex-Country*, a memoir. Most recently, she appeared on Hulu's "RAMY." She lives in Los Angeles.

#### Olivia Jiménez

Frances McDormand as Madre Cabrona Olivia Jiménez (she/her) wears many hats: artist, teacher, community organizer, dog/cat/fish mom... just to name a few. Wearing all those hats has resulted in 1) a strong core & excellent posture, 2) delight in working and playing with all sorts of people, 3) an enduring belief in the power of play. Olivia's curiosity currently lies at the intersections of embodied healing, civic practice, and sustainability. Olivia holds a B.A. in Theater from the University of Southern California and studied interactive storytelling with Deep Dive Austin. She is a company member of the VORTEX Repertory Company and Shrewd Productions, and an Enterprise Rose Artist Fellow working at Foundation Communities in Austin, TX.

#### **April Matthis**

Ellen DeGeneres

April Matthis is an Obie Award-winning actor and company member of Elevator Repair Service.

Off-Broadway: Fondly, Collette Richland (NYTW);
Toni Stone (Roundabout); Fairview, LEAR (Soho Rep); Signature Plays—Funnyhouse of a Negro (Signature Theatre); IOWA, Antlia Pneumatica (Playwrights Horizons); On the Levee (LCT3). With ERS: The Sound & the Fury; Measure for Measure (The Public); Everyone's Fine with Virginia Woolf (Abrons Art Center); GATZ (Perth Festival). Regional: Little Bunny Foo Foo (Actors Theater of Louisville), A Streetcar Named Desire (Yale Rep). TV: "Instinct" (CBS), "New Amsterdam" (NBC). Film: Wendell and the Lemon, Black Card, Fugitive Dreams.

#### Pooya Mohseni

Leo Scorpio, Esq. MD/PHD MBA

Her stage performances include She,He,Me by Raphael Aime Khouri, at National Queer Theater, dir Sivan Battat; Our Town as part of Pride Plays, dir Jenna Worsham; Hamlet in The Play On Festival, dir Ellen McLaughlin; an award winning solo show One Woman, in the United Solo festival, dir Joan Kane; The Good Muslim, dir William Carden at EST. She's guest starred on "Law & Order: SVU," "Falling Water" on USA, "Madam Secretary" and "Big Dogs" on Amazon. Her newest feature film See You Then, dir Mari Walker, will debut in 2021. Represented by Headline Talent Agency.

#### Ashton Muñiz

**BBSloppyJoe** 

Ashton Muñiz is a queer actor, artist, & activist. Select recent credits include *The Inheritance* (Broadway), Taylor Mac's *24-Decade History of Popular Music* (The Kimmel Center/St. Ann's Warehouse/Pomegranate Arts), *Esai's Table* (Cherry Lane), *False Stars* (The Pack Theatre), *And She Would Stand Like This* (Movement Theatre Company). Recently, Ashton has collaborated with various artists and featured in their works at

The Guggenheim (Machine Dazzle), Art Institute Chicago/Swiss Institute/New Museum (Cally Spooner), Biennial Performa/Lehmann Maupin (Nicholas Hlobo) & Pace Gallery (Lilleth Glimcher). Additionally, Ashton has danced for Marc Jacobs FW 2020 (Karole Armitage), A\$AP Rocky (Lab Rat-Sotheby's), Rihanna (MTV VMAs 2016). Muñiz is a co-founder of Legacy: A Black Queer Production Collective & received training at Ithaca College, Moscow Arts Theatre School and Shakespeare & Company.

#### Jesús I. Valles

Penny Marshall

Jesús I. Valles (they/them) is a queer Mexican immigrant, writer-performer from Cd. Juarez/El Paso. Jesús' work has been supported by Lambda Literary, Community of Writers, Idyllwild Arts, Undocupoets, Tin House, and the Poetry Incubator. Their work has been featured in *The New Republic, Quarterly West*, NPR's Code Switch, The Slowdown, and elsewhere. They are the author and performer of (Un)Documents, for which they earned two B. Iden Payne Awards. Jesús is currently OUTSider festival's OUTsider-in-residence and a 1st-year student in Brown's playwriting MFA program.

#### **Alfredo Macias**

Project Manager

NYTW: Endlings, An Ordinary Muslim. Broadway: The Play That Goes Wrong. Off-Broadway: Winter's Tale, The Odyssey, Twelfth Night (Public Theater); Fucking A, Fires In The Mirror (Signature Theatre); Fade (Primary Stages); 50 Shades! The Musical Parody (Maximum Entertainment); Ivy and Bean the Musical (Atlantic Theater, National Tour); Mad Libs Live! (New World Stages). Other NY credits: Nice Fish (St. Ann's Warehouse); Island, Pericles (New York Shakespeare Exchange). Regional: Six The Musical, Endlings, Arrabal (American Repertory Theater), Miss You Like Hell (La Jolla Playhouse), Born For This (ArtsEmerson). Film: The Sonnet Project, Recursion: a short film.

#### SPECIAL THANKS

From playwright Victor I. Cazares: GRACIAS ESPECIALES to my partner Sameer; my sisters Becky, Wendy, and Naveen; my parents Victor, Nereyda, Farida, and Shafiq; to Sean Chamberlain and the ER team at OHSU for saving my life in 2017 after an overdose; to my teachers and friends Patti, Claudia, Sergio, Jorge, Virginia, Rubén, Erik, Patrick, Kareem, Grant, Candy, Kim, Jose, Liam, Grace, Barbie, Berta, Jyothi, Anand, and a pre-pandemic BBRTS.com; to Borna who told me to write about OnlyFans; to my agent Ross who told me to turn *Penny* into a full length project; and finally to the entire staff of NYTW who have become a family and a home and have made me, a queer darkly Indigenous Mexican playwright with Poz-y vibes, feel more valued and vital than I ever have anywhere.

From director Borna Barzin: My mom Behjat Ahmadian and sister Shadee Barzin, Leo Angulo, Vannya Cisneros, Justin Hom and Declan Zhang for their help in the virtual theater workshop, and the amazing artistic and producing team at NYTW: Linda Chapman, Yang-Yang Chen, Aaron Malkin, Jim Nicola, Evan O'Brient, Rachel Silverman, Jeffrey Wallach and Taylor Williams.

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New York Theatre Workshop empowers visionary theatre-makers and brings their work to adventurous audiences through productions, artist workshops and educational programs. We nurture pioneering new writers alongside powerhouse playwrights, engage inimitable genre-shaping directors, and support emerging artists in the earliest days of their careers.

We've mounted over 150 productions from artists whose work has shaped our very idea of what theatre can be, including Jonathan Larson's Rent; Tony Kushner's Slavs! and Homebody/Kabul; Doug Wright's Quills; Claudia Shear's Blown Sideways Through Life and Dirty Blonde; Paul Rudnick's The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told and Valhalla; Martha Clarke's Vienna: Lusthaus; Will Power's The Seven and Fetch Clay, Make Man; Caryl Churchill's Mad Forest, Far Away, A Number and Love and Information; Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen's Aftermath; Rick Elice's Peter and the Starcatcher; Glen Hansard, Markéta Irglová and Enda Walsh's Once; David Bowie and Enda Walsh's Lazarus; Dael Orlandersmith's The Gimmick and Forever; Heidi Schreck's What the Constitution Means to Me; Jeremy O. Harris's Slave Play; and eight acclaimed productions directed by Ivo van Hove. NYTW's productions have received a Pulitzer Prize, 25 Tony Awards, 2 Grammy Awards and assorted Obie, Drama Desk and Lucille Lortel Awards. NYTW is represented on Broadway with Anaïs Mitchell's Hadestown developed with and directed by Rachel Chavkin and the recently announced Sing Street, based on the motion picture written and directed by John Carney, with a book by Enda Walsh, music and lyrics by Gary Clark & John Carney, directed by Rebecca Taichman.

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#### **4TH STREET BAR ASSOCIATION**

New York Theatre Workshop's 4SBA members take advantage of exciting social and cultural experiences while supporting one of the City's leading Off-Broadway institutions. Members of the steering committee are noted in bold. Artist committee members are noted in italics. List reflects updates as of Sept 10, 2020.

Daniel Bailen Phillip Brannon Tansal Arnas Tiffany Babb Christopher Chan Krystle-Mei Chow Ophelia Chua Colleen Claflin Joseph Claro

Amir Arison

Kelly Devine Alexander Donnelly Ita Ekpoudom Lulu Fall Emily Fleisher, in honor of Jeremy Blocker Erica Green Erik Gullberg & Emma Pantel

Emma Hagendorf

Edward Hjerpe Allison Heim Brianne Holland-Stergar Philip Johnson Megan Kingery Rachel Kiwi Praveen Maddela Katrina McCann Anne Myers Gabriella Napoli

Gina Napolitano **Eric Passmore** Jonathan & **Motique Prin** Jeffrey Rohr Naoki Sasamoto Megan Savage Morwin Schmookler Christina See Scott Sinclair

Jessie Shelton Julie Sisson Todd Stecker Corey Steinfast Logan Steinhardt Jennifer Sturman Nicole Sundell Shaina Taub Eric Tipler Mfoniso Udofia Chinasa Ugbuagu Lindsey & Benjamin Weisman Anonymous

#### INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

We would like to especially acknowledge: American Express Philanthropy, Con Edison, Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Leon Levy Foundation, The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Councilmember Carlina Rivera, NYC COVID-19 Response and Impact Fund in The New York Community Trust, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Select Equity Group Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, SHS Foundation, The Harold & Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, Tow Foundation, Venturous Theater Fund of the Tides Foundation, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature for their outstanding leadership in arts funding in New York City.











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#### **MATCHING GIFTS**

NYTW extends its gratitude to the generous companies who match their employees' annual donations:
AllianceBernstein; Aon Foundation; Apple, Inc.; AXA Foundation; Blackrock; BNY Mellon; Chevron; Credit
Suisse; Deutsche Bank Securities; GE Foundation; Google; IBM Corporation; Johnson & Johnson; JP Morgan
Chase; Lord, Abbett & Co. LLC; McKinsey & Company; Merck & Co.; Pfizer Foundation; Rockefeller Foundation;
S&P Global; Select Equity Group, Inc.; William Blair & Company; and Walt Disney Company Foundation

#### LEGACY GIFTS

New York Theatre Workshop is grateful to the following individuals who have included NYTW in their estate plans. Their legacy gifts will be woven into the fabric of our community, supporting the next generation of theatre-makers and theatre-goers.

In Memory of Martha Usdin Tom Jordan James Giblin Jodi Malcom The Dorothy Strelsin Foundation

#### **CATERING SPONSOR**



#### **SEASON SPONSOR**



## **MAKE ART HAPPEN**



Shaun Bengson, Reggie White, Dani Markham, Jo Lampert and Abigail Bengson in Hundred Days. Photo by Joan Marcus

**Each year, New York Theatre Workshop supports nearly 2,000 artists through work both on and off stage.** None of this would be possible without our dedicated donors. Their generous support of our artists, audience and community is what helps bring vibrant programs and productions to life.

#### REPEAT DEFENDERS

The Society of Repeat Defenders is made up of a committed and passionate group of donors who make annual gifts of \$1,500 or more! **Repeat Defenders have access to an intimate and engaged relationship with NYTW** through exclusive benefits including special acknowledgment in our programs. Most importantly, Repeat Defenders get the satisfaction of knowing that their efforts are helping us push the boundaries of what theatre can be and what it can do.

#### 4TH STREET BAR ASSOCIATION

**The 4th Street Bar Association provides the best access to theatre for young supporters.** With organized 4SBA nights, members take advantage of exciting social and cultural experiences while supporting NYTW. Access is available at a variety of levels, providing numerous benefits including tickets and invitations to pre and post-show parties.

#### MAKE ART POSSIBLE

Have you ever thought about supporting a specific production? Investing in an arts education program? Sponsoring the work of a specific artist? Learn about these opportunities—and more—for special gifts by contacting **Leah Cox at LeahC@nytw.org or 646-957-9573.** 

## **IT STARTS HERE**

Join today at NYTW.org, call 646-957-9573 or email Leah Cox at LeahC@nytw.org.

### **SEE MORE ONLINE**

Since April 2020, we've been offering a robust lineup of FREE classes and conversations to sustain a connection with you—our community. If you missed any of these events or want to go back for a second viewing, check out the online archive at <a href="https://www.nytwo.com/ny

#### **MASTERCLASSES**

Go in depth with a master artist to study directing, acting, playwriting, design, teaching theatre online, cabaret performance, and more!

#### **FIRESIDE CHATS**

Informal conversations with some of the incredible artists in our community.

#### **JAM SESSIONS**

We know firsthand the joy of hearing music fill the theatre, so we asked some friends to take over our social media channels to bring some music to your homes.

#### **VIRTUALLY NEIGHBORS**

Whether you're feeling lonely and isolated or you just have some extra time on your hands, we'd love to introduce you to someone else in the community who might also be looking for a little virtual connection.

#### IN GOOD COMPANY

The belief in people coming together and being moved by a shared experience is central to what we love about the theatre; it occurred to us that joining in the preparation and enjoyment of a meal touches on the same emotional impulses—to reach, to connect, to inspire. Find recipe inspiration and more!



# INTERESTED IN MORE? JOIN TODAY!

We've reconceived NYTW memberships this year in response to the physical limitations and financial challenges that continue to impact our community.

From low monthly rates to a variety of levels, we're offering a range of options for members who are unsure when and how often they'll feel ready to return to the theatre-vids who long for the sense of community and the thrill of a new artistic adventure.

#### **LEVEL 1: Pick & Choose**

For \$120/year or \$13/month, you choose the events you'd like to see and we'll hook you up with a discount on one ticket per event.

**REAL TALK:** Unsure when and how often you'll feel ready to return, but still want to experience some of the season while supporting artists in creating new work? This is the package for you!

#### **LEVEL 2: See It All**

For \$240/year or \$26/month, you'll get one admission, free of charge, for all virtual and in-person events

**REAL TALK:** This is your all-access pass to experience the entire season. There's so much that's out of your control right now, but a season membership gives you something to look forward to—a front-row seat for our greatest artistic experiment yet!

#### **LEVEL 3: Double or Nothing**

For \$600/year or \$60/month, you'll get two admissions, free of charge, for all virtual and in-person events. Your membership includes a \$120 tax-deductible contribution which further supports the Artistic Instigators this season. As a thank you, we'll send you a few VIP invitations over the course of the season to take you behind the scenes.

**REAL TALK:** This is an all-access pass for two people for the entire season. Whether you're sheltering together or separately, you'll book your virtual or in-person event tickets via a single account, so there's only one password to remember!

**Join today at NYTW.org.** Not sure which package is right for you this year? Contact Justin at <u>JustinJ@nytw.org</u> or call 646-793-3215.



While the timeline for resuming in-person performances in New York City remains uncertain, these extraordinary artists are imagining work in our present moment that creates community within the given circumstances of social distancing, celebrates the liveness that is inherent in a theatrical experience, and examines the relationship between theatre, distance and technology.

Ayad Akhtar · Hilton Als · Clare Barron & Sam Gold · Lileana Blain-Cruz
David Cale & Dael Orlandersmith · Victor I. Cazares · Rachel Chavkin
Dominican Artists Collective · Rebecca Frecknall & Martyna Majok
Aleshea Harris · Jeremy O. Harris · Modesto Flako Jimenez
Denis O'Hare & Lisa Peterson · Liliana Padilla · Rubén Polendo & Theater Mitu
Martha Redbone & Aaron Whitby · Tina Satter · Geoff Sobelle · Celine Song Whitney
White · Kristina Wong · Doug Wright.

While the Artistic Instigators are supported in their exploration of form and content, audiences will be invited to experience the evolution of the work through work-in-process sharings and behind-the-scenes conversations with artists.

We're asking audiences to take a leap. And what we promise in return is a front-row seat to the unfolding of this experiment—and that the definition of a "front-row seat" will shift throughout the year.

#### THE FALL 2020 LINEUP

#### WHAT THE HELL IS A REPUBLIC, ANYWAY?

Written & Performed by Denis O'Hare & Lisa Peterson

#### **WORKING TITLE: THE TALKING CIRCLES**

Written & Performed by Martha Redbone & Aaron Whitby

#### THE SEAGULL ON THE SIMS 4

By Anton Chekhov · Adapted and Performed by Celine Song

#### PINCHING PENNIES WITH PENNY MARSHALL: DEATH RITUALS FOR PENNY MARSHALL

By Victor I. Cazares · Directed by Borna Barzin

#### THE COOKING PROJECT

Created by members of the Dominican Artists Collective • Directed by Melissa Crespo

#### </remnant>

Conceived & Created by Theater Mitu · Directed by Rubén Polendo

#### TRUMP IS JUST THE NAME OF HIS STORY

Written & Performed by Ayad Akhtar