YALE REPERTORY THEATRE,  
IN COLLABORATION WITH  
THE SOL PROJECT,  
PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE OF  

**EL HURACÁN**  
BY CHARISE CASTRO SMITH  
DIRECTED BY LAURIE WOOLER Y  

SEPTEMBER 28–OCTOBER 20  

Yale Repertory Theatre (James Bundy, Artistic Director; Victoria Nolan, Managing Director), in collaboration with The Sol Project (Jacob G. Padrón, Artistic Director), presents the world premiere of *EL HURACÁN* by Charise Castro Smith, directed by Laurie Woolery, September 28-October 20 at the University Theatre (222 York Street). Opening Night is Thursday, October 4.

*EL HURACÁN* features scenic design by Gerardo Díaz Sánchez, costume design by Herin Kaputkin, lighting design by Nic Vincent, sound design by Megumi Katayama, projection design by Yaara Bar, magic design by Christopher Rose, puppet design by James Ortiz, dramaturgy by Amauta M. Firmino, technical direction by Philip Alex Worthington, dialect coaching by Cynthia DeCure, casting by Tara Rubin Casting, and stage management by Christina Fontana.

The cast includes Irene Sofia Lucio, Adriana Sevahn Nichols, Jonathan Nichols, Maria-Christina Oliveras, Jennifer Paredes, and Arturo Soria.

An epic hurricane threatens Miami. A mother and daughter ready themselves for the storm as Abuela takes shelter in a world of memory, music, and magic. A powerful tale of family and forgiveness, *EL HURACÁN* reveals what can be rebuilt in the aftermath of life's most devastating tempests—and what can never be replaced.

Development and production support is provided by Yale's Binger Center for New Theatre.

**TICKET INFORMATION AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

Tickets for *EL HURACÁN* range from $12–99 and are available online at yalerep.org, by phone at (203) 432-1234, and in person at the Yale Rep Box Office (1120 Chapel Street). Student, senior, and group rates are also available.
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<td>Preview, Post-Show Conversation</td>
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<td>Saturday, September 29</td>
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<td>Preview, Post-Show Conversation</td>
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<td>Saturday, October 13</td>
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<td>Audio Described, Sign Interpreted Talk Back, Touch Tour</td>
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<td>Saturday, October 20</td>
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<td>Open Captioned, Post-Show Community Conversation</td>
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**ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM**

**CHARISE CASTRO SMITH** (PLAYWRIGHT) is a playwright, television writer, and actor originally from Miami. Her playwriting credits include *Feathers and Teeth* (Goodman Theatre), *Estrella Cruz [The Junkyard Queen]* (Ars Nova/Halcyon Theatre), *The Hunchback of Seville* (Washington Ensemble Theatre/Trinity Repertory Company), *Washeteria* (Soho Rep.), and *Boomcracklefly* (Miracle Theatre). TV credits include *Sweetbitter* (Starz), *The Haunting of Hillhouse* (Netflix), and *The Death of Eva Sofia Valdez* (ABC Studios). Smith is a recipient of a Van Lier Fellowship at New Dramatists and is an alumna of Ars Nova’s Play Group and The New Georges Jam. She holds an M.F.A. from Yale School of Drama.

**LAURIE WOOLERY** (DIRECTOR) is a director/playwright/educator/producer who has worked at theaters including the Public Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Yale Rep (*Imogen Says Nothing*, 2017), Trinity Repertory, Goodman Theatre, Cornerstone Theater Company, and South Coast Repertory. Recent projects: the world premieres of Mary Kathryn Nagle’s *Manahatta* (OSF) and the musical adaptation of *As You Like It* co-created with Shaina Taub (The Public Theater/Public Works). Laurie has developed new work with diverse communities ranging from incarcerated women to residents of a Kansas town devastated by a tornado. She creates site-specific work in locations that range from a working sawmill in Eureka to the banks of the Los Angeles River. Currently, Laurie is the Director of Public Works at The Public Theater. Laurie is the former Associate Artistic Director of Cornerstone Theater Company and Conservatory Director at South Coast Repertory. Laurie teaches at universities across the country and serves on the Board of the Latino Producers Action Network and Latinx Commons, and she is a founding member of The Sol Project.

**GERARDO DÍAZ SÁNCHEZ** (SCENIC DESIGNER) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at Yale School of Drama, where his credits include *Tent Revival* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Other recent credits include *Mud, This American Wife, Re:Union, Yale School of Drag 2017* (Yale Cabaret); and *The Trojan Women* (Yale...
Summer Cabaret). Originally from Guayama, Puerto Rico, Gerardo received a B.A. in environmental design from the School of Architecture at the University of Puerto Rico, with a double major in theatre design and techniques.

HERIN KAPUTKIN (COSTUME DESIGNER) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at Yale School of Drama, where her credits include The Girl Is Chained and Pentecost. Other credits: Marvelous (FringeNYC); The Shakes: Romeo and Juliet (Flea Theater); Cendrillion (Purchase Opera Company); Twelfth Night and Three Birds Alighting on a Field (Purchase Repertory Theatre). She has assisted designers such as Linda Cho, Paul Carey, and Rachel Guilfoyle, among others, and was the design assistant at Long Wharf Theatre assisting Ilona Symogi, Jess Goldstein, Emily Rebholz, and Paul Tazewell. Herin holds a B.F.A. in costume design and construction from Purchase College.

NIC VINCENT (LIGHTING DESIGNER) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at Yale School of Drama, where he designed the lighting for The Girl Is Chained, Passion, Pentecost, and A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Other credits include The Ugly One, The Red Tent, and This American Wife at Yale Cabaret. Originally from Ontario, Canada, Nic has worked with The Shaw Festival, Shakespeare in the Ruff, and The Banff Centre, among others. He holds a B.F.A. in theater performance production from Ryerson University.

MEGUMI KATAYAMA (SOUND DESIGNER) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at Yale School of Drama, where her credits include The Winter’s Tale, Sweat, and the Dwight/Edgewood Project. Other credits: Spine Line Awake: Manuel Neri Redux (Yale University Art Gallery); Non-Player Character, KMS...the feels, Fuck Her, One Big Breath, The Red Tent, The Quonsets, Current Location, Butterfly’s Fear, Silent Sex (Yale Cabaret); and at Yale Rep, Field Guide (associate sound designer), Mary Jane, and Seven Guitars (assistant sound designer/engineer). Megumi is originally from Japan and holds a B.F.A. in theater from the University of Central Oklahoma.

YAARA BAR (PROJECTION DESIGNER) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at Yale School of Drama, where her credits include Death of Yazdgerd. Other recent work includes Near the Krummholtz (Women’s Voices in Theater Festival); Salt Repast (Jerusalem Design Week); Dragaret, Xander Xyst, Dragon: 1, The Red Tent, Butterfly Terror (Yale Cabaret); and Lear (Yale Summer Cabaret). She holds a B.A. in visual communication from Bezalel Academy of Art and Design in Jerusalem, where she worked as a motion and graphic designer.

CHRISTOPHER ROSE (MAGIC DESIGNER) is a magic designer and magician from Las Vegas, Nevada. As the CEO of Artistic Conjuring: An Illusion Design and Consulting Agency, his work has been featured in numerous theatrical productions, Las Vegas casinos, and television programs around the world. For his work on Aaron Posner and Teller’s adaptation of The Tempest, he received a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle award for Magic and Illusion Design. His work has also appeared on the CW Network program Penn & Teller Fool Us, NBC’s America’s Got Talent, Piff The Magic Dragon at Flamingo Las Vegas, CCTV, and many others. Instagram: Mindcontrolartist Twitter: Mindcontrolart

JAMES ORTIZ (PUPPET DESIGNER) is a multidisciplinary artist who is most known for his Off-Broadway creation, The Woodsman, which earned him a 2016 OBIE award for puppet design. Previous credits include The Public Theater, Dallas Theater Center, Theatre for a New Audience, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Soho Rep., Naked Angels, New World Stages, Ars Nova, and 59e59. He is a 2017 Eugene O’Neill residency recipient, 2015 and 2019 Jim Henson foundation Grant awardee, and Co-Artistic Director of Strangemen Theatre Company.

AMAUTA M. FIRMINO (PRODUCTION DRAMATURG) is an interdisciplinary artist, scholar, and a third-year M.F.A. candidate at Yale School of Drama. His writing has appeared in Howlround, Theater magazine, and a recent publication by 3Hole Press.
PHILIP ALEXANDER WORTHINGTON (TECHNICAL DIRECTOR) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at Yale School of Drama, where his credits include Pentecost. He is from Houston, Texas, where he was the Technical Director at Queensbury Theatre. While most of his production credits are for sound design, he has worked as a technician and stagehand for companies including The Alley Theatre, The Miller Outdoor Theatre, Main Street Theatre, Kitchen Dog Theater, and he was the audio supervisor for Shakespeare Dallas for two seasons. Alex holds a B.A. in theater arts with a concentration in performance and technical direction from the University of North Texas.

CYNTHIA DECURE (DIALECT COACH) is a voice, speech, and dialects coach certified in both Knight-Thompson Speechwork® and as an associate teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework®, SAG/AFTRA, and Actors’ Equity, VASTA. Credits include In The Heights (Phoenix Theater, Chance Theater); South Coast Repertory’s The Long Road Today/El Camino Largo de Hoy, Shelter (Center for New Performance); In the Red and Brown Water (CalArts); Showtime’s The Affair. She is an assistant professor of Theater at California State University, Stanislaus. Other teaching: CalArts, UC Santa Barbara, USC, and CSU Los Angeles. She is co-editor of upcoming book, Scenes for Latinx Actors: Voices of the New American Theatre. cynthiadeecure.com

CHRISTINA FONTANA (STAGE MANAGER) previously worked at Yale Rep as assistant stage manager for Native Son by Nambi E. Kelley and as production assistant on Scenes from Court Life, or a whipping boy and his prince by Sarah Ruhl. Christina will complete her M.F.A. this spring at Yale School of Drama, where her credits include Tent Revival, Pentecost, The Hour of Great Mercy, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and Bulgaria! Revolt!. She also stage managed The Trojan Women at Yale Summer Cabaret. Prior to Yale, Christina worked at KÀ by Cirque du Soleil at the MGM Grand and Criss Angel BeLIEve at the LUXOR in Las Vegas. She worked onboard Norwegian Cruise Lines with Blue Man Group, Nickelodeon, Cirque Dreams, Legends in Concert, and The Second City. Christina earned her B.A. in performing arts from Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

THE SOL PROJECT (JACOB G. PADRÓN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR) is a new theater initiative dedicated to producing the work of Latinx playwrights in New York City and beyond. In partnership with leading theaters around the country, The Sol Project amplifies Latinx voices and hopes to build a kaleidoscopic body of work for the new American theatre. The Sol Project launched with the world premiere of Alligator by Hilary Bettis in collaboration with New Georges, followed by the New York premieres of Seven Spots on the Sun by Martin Zimmerman (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater) and Oedipus El Rey by Luis Alfaro (The Public Theater). Sol’s founding artistic collective is Claudia Acosta, Elena Araoz, Adriana Gaviria, David Mendizábal, Kyoung Park, and Laurie Woolery. Partners include Atlantic Theater Company, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Cara Mia Theatre Company, LAByrinth Theater Company, New Georges, MCC Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Playwrights Horizons, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, The Playwrights Realm, The Public Theater, WP Theater, and Yale Rep. solproject.org

ABOUT THE CAST

IRENE SOFIA LUCIO (MIRANDA) Broadway: Wit (Manhattan Theatre Club). Off Broadway: The Undertaking (BAM), Orange Julius (P73/Rattlestick Playwrights Theater), King Liz (Second Stage), Love and Information (New York Theatre Workshop). Regional: Romeo and Juliet, The Master Builder (Yale Rep); Bad Jews (Studio Theatre); Pygmalion (Cal Shakes). Irene co-created and performs in the viral webseries B.U.T.S. (Bilingual, Underrepresented, Titless, Sallies). She was a semi-finalist at the NBC short film festival and twice nominated at the Imagen Awards. Television and film: The Americans, The Bartlett (with Lin Manuel Miranda), Madam Secretary, Gossip Girl, and HBO Latino film Casi Casi. She is a graduate of Princeton and Yale School of Drama and is originally from San Juan, Puerto Rico.

ADRIANA SEVAHN NICHOLS (VALERIA) just completed a sold-out run of Destiny of Desire at Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Other credits include Yale Repertory Theatre (Boleros for the Disenchanted), The Public Theater, Lincoln Center, CSC, Goodman Theatre, South Coast Repertory, Kirk Douglas Theatre, San Diego Repertory, Boston Court, Shakespeare & Company, INTAR, and numerous films and
television shows. As a playwright, her award-winning *Taking Flight* and *Night Over Erzinger*, have been developed at The Lark, Sundance, Mark Taper Writer’s Lab, and South Coast Rep, and have been produced nationally and internationally. Her work is published by Samuel French, Smith & Kraus, *American Theatre* magazine, and Northwestern Press. She teaches workshops blending horses, mythology, and theater as ritual. adrianasevahnnichols.com

**JONATHAN NICHOLS** (ALONSO) Theater: *Little Children Dream of God* (Road Theatre); *Seven Spots on the Sun* (Boston Court); *Elemeno Pea, Anna in the Tropics* (South Coast Repertory); *Beauty of the Father* (Seattle Repertory); *Measure for Measure* (Lincoln Center); *Julius Caesar* (Hartford Stage); two seasons at the Old Globe. National tour: The Acting Company. Television: *Grey’s Anatomy, Major Crimes, Without a Trace, CSI, The West Wing, Friends, Judging Amy, NYPD Blue*. Training: Juilliard, RADA.


**JENNIFER PAREDES** (ALICIA, DR. KEMPER, VAL) is making her Yale debut. Regional: *American Mariachi* (Denver Center for Performing Arts, Old Globe); *Twelfth Night* (Old Globe); *Waking La Llorona, OjO: The Next Generation in Travel* (La Jolla Playhouse/WoW Festival); *Manifest Destinities, Into the Beautiful North, and Rapture, Blister, Burn* (San Diego Repertory); *Seven Spots on the Sun* (InnerMission); *Ballast* (Diversionary Theatre); *Lydia* (Ion Theatre). Education: University of San Diego. Twitter and Instagram @miyao_mix; jenniferparedesactor.com.

**ARTURO SORIA** (FERNANDO, THEO) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate at Yale School of Drama, where his credits include *Everything That Never Happened, Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Pentecost*. Other credits include *Rexy/Jason in The Legend of Georgia McBride* (Guthrie Theater); *The Meal, Débacles* (Yale Cabaret); *Antony + Cleopatra* (Yale Summer Cabaret); *Scenes from Court Life, or the whipping boy and his prince* (Yale Repertory Theatre); *Hit the Wall* (Steppenwolf, Barrow Street); *Olívéro: A Brazilian Twist* (Kennedy Center); *Deferred Action* (Dallas Theater Center); *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Milwaukee Rep); *Water by the Spoonful* (Studio Theatre); *Seven Spots on the Sun* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park); *Oedipus el Rey*, and *Equivocation* (Victory Gardens Theater). His solo show, *Ni Mi MADRE* has been produced at Yale Cabaret and Barrow Street Theatre. B.F.A., Theatre School at DePaul University. ArturoSoria.org @turosoria

**ABOUT YALE REPERTORY THEATRE**

Yale Repertory Theatre, the internationally celebrated professional theatre in residence at Yale School of Drama, has championed new work since 1966, producing well over 100 premiers—including two Pulitzer Prize winners and four other nominated finalists—by emerging and established playwrights. Seventeen Yale Rep productions have advanced to Broadway, garnering more than 40 Tony Award nominations and ten Tony Awards. Yale Rep is also the recipient of the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre.

Established in 2008, Yale’s **Binger Center for New Theatre** has distinguished itself as one of the nation’s most robust and innovative new play programs. To date, the Binger Center has supported the
work of more than 50 commissioned artists and underwritten the world premieres and subsequent productions of 31 new plays and musicals at Yale Rep and theatres across the country—including this season’s *El Huracán* by Charise Castro Smith, *The Prisoner* by Peter Brook and Marie-Hélène Estienne, *Good Faith* by Karen Hartman, and *Cadillac Crew* by Tori Sampson.

Production support for *EL HURÁCAN* is provided by Yale’s Binger Center for New Theatre and the Time Warner Foundation, Inc.

**ALSO THIS SEASON:**

U.S. Premiere

*The Prisoner*
Text and Stage Direction by Peter Brook and Marie-Hélène Estienne
November 2–17

World Premiere

*Good Faith*

*Four Chats about Race and the New Haven Fire Department*
By Karen Hartman
Directed by Kenny Leon
February 1–23

*Twelfth Night*
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Carl Cofield
March 15–April 6

World Premiere

*Cadillac Crew*
By Tori Sampson
Directed by Jesse Rasmussen
April 26–May 18

Yale Repertory Theatre is supported in part by the Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development.

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