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Brava! for Women in the Arts presents the world premiere of

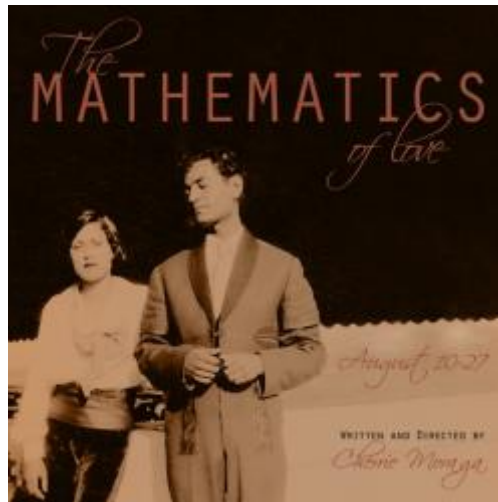
The Mathematics of Love

“Perhaps it was just the cry of a woman wanting freedom.” A *Mexican American* Story

Written by Cherríe Moraga

With Richard A. Bracho

Directed by Cherríe Moraga



August 10 – 27, 2017

**Brava Theater Center
2781 24th Street
San Francisco, CA 94110**

Brava! for the Women in the Arts presents the theatrical world premiere of *The Mathematics of Love* by award winning playwright **Cherríe Moraga**. The production is important to Brava's ongoing efforts in building a stronger presence for professional Bay Area Latinas/Latinx Artists. *The Mathematics of Love* stars Rose Portillo*, George Killingsworth*, Veronica Maynez, Carla Pantoja*, Sarita Ocon*, and Carlos Aguirre.

About the play:

The Mathematics of Love takes place in the lobby of the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel at the turn into the 21st century. Peaches, an aging, mid-staged Alzheimers, Mexican woman and her Anglo husband Poppa, are awaiting the arrival of their out-of-town son, “God.” Enter the 16th century Native female slave-turned-slaveholder, Malinche, wearing red lipstick and sunglasses with “a small pyramid of Louis Vuitton luggage” trailing behind her. Her satirical presence digs up the dirt of a once Tongva landscape, the nagging disquiet of those “Old San Gabriel Mission Days,” and an unreconciled story between mother and daughter. In Peaches’ time-traveling re-encounter with Malinche, she is forced to concede a radically revised ledger on her life; its loves and losses -- the sum of a 500-year-old rupture in América.

About Cherríe Moraga (Playwright and Director, *The Mathematics of Love*)

Cherríe Moraga is co-editor of *This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color*, republished in new edition by SUNY Press in 2015. As a political and literary essayist, she has published several collections of writings, including *A Xicana Codex of Changing Consciousness – Writings 2000-2010*. Moraga is the recipient of the United States Artist Rockefeller Fellowship for Literature, the American Studies Association Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Lambda Foundation’s “Pioneer” award, among many other honors.

Moraga’s most recently premiered play, *New Fire: To Put Things Right Again*, which she also directed, opened at Brava Theater Center in San Francisco in 2012. A collaboration with visual artist Celia Herrera Rodriguez, over three thousand people witnessed the work. In 2017, Moraga will premiere New York, the awarding winning *The Mathematics of Love*, a theatrical conversation forthcoming literary memoir, *The Native Country of a Heart---A Geography of Desire*.

For nearly twenty years Moraga has served as an Artist in Residence in the Department of Theater and Performance Studies and in Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity at Stanford University. She has mentored a full generation of published writers and professional playwrights who credit Moraga as one of their most influential teachers. Cherríe Moraga is an activist writer, who sustains an engaged schedule of appearances on college campuses, at activist and academic conferences and in community settings both nationally and internationally. She is also a founding member of La Red Xicana Indígena, an advocacy network of Xicanas working in education, the arts, spiritual practice, and indigenous women’s rights.

Celia Herrera Rodriguez (Conceptual Design, *The Mathematics of Love*)

Celia Herrera Rodriguez is a painter and installation and performance artist originally from Sacramento. She teaches Xicana Indígena arts theory, history, and practice in Chicano Studies at the University of California, Berkeley and in Diversity Studies program at California College for

the Arts in Oakland, CA. Her work is permanently housed in a number of private and public collections, including the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe and the Gorman Museum of the University of California, Davis. Herrera has exhibited her work and performed at locations throughout the world, from Medellin, Colombia, to Brussels, Belgium, to Alanya, Turkey.

In recent years, Herrera has also worked as conceptual, set and costume designer in collaboration with playwright Cherrie Moraga. Productions include *The Hungry Woman - A Mexican Media* (2005), *La Semilla Caminante* (2010), *Diggin Up the Dirt* (2010) and *New Fire*, produced at Brava Theater Center in 2012.

The Mathematics of Love was made possible in part by a grant from The Creative Work Fund, a program of the Walter and Elise Haas Fund that also is supported by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. *The Mathematics of Love* also received funding from the MAP Fund, supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and was supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For Calendar Editors:

What: Theatrical World Premiere of Cherríe Moraga's play, *The Mathematics of Love*

When: Aug 10 – 27, 2017; Thursdays at 7pm; Fridays and Saturday at 8pm; Sundays at 3pm

Where: Brava Theater Center mainstage, 2781 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110

Events:

Aug 10 & 11 – Preview performances

Aug 12 – Opening Night Performance & After Party (A percentage of ticket sales will be donated to the Chicana/Latina Foundation)

Aug 17 – Post-performance Q&A with Cherríe Moraga and artists

Aug 20 – Post-performance panel discussion with Cherríe Moraga and guests

Aug 24 – Post-performance Q&A with Cherríe Moraga and artists

Tickets: \$40 opening, \$27 Saturdays, \$22 run; \$15 student tickets for Aug 17 & 24 performances only.

Tickets & Info: <https://www.brava.org>

* Member of Actor's Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.