

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 20, 2021
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Brava presents

THE PALACIOS SISTERS

A radionovela inspired by Chekhov's *Three Sisters*
Co-conceived by Adrian Alea & Cristina García

JUNE 4 - 30, 2021
AUDIO ON DEMAND



Written by **Cristina García**
Directed by **Adrian Alea**
Music by **Omar Sosa** and **Greg Landau**

With

Tessa Koning-Martinez as Olga | **Angela Hernandez** as Mari | **Neiry Rojo** as Irinita and Nancy
Justin Lopez as Andres | **Steve Ortiz** as Chumo
Wilma Bonet as La Varona/Ana Sofia | **Juan Amador** Virgil and Mono

In this radionovela featuring voices of some of the Bay Area's most revered actors, Cristina García flash forwards Chekhov's *Three Sisters* nearly a hundred years into the future – to Miami, 1985. It's the height of the drug wars and the city is hit with an explosion of cocaine-related violence, a growing AIDS epidemic, and the fallout from 100,000 Marielitos.

Enter the artistic, educated, culturally refined Palacios sisters – Olga, Maria, and Irinita, an ambitious young ballerina recently arrived from Havana. Along with their classical pianist brother, Andres, the Palacios sisters struggle to navigate the fast and furious new rules of Miami, all the while plagued with nostalgia for the island they left behind.

Can the Palacios siblings survive as a family without sacrificing their values? Or will the pressures of exile and the temptations of success ultimately pull them apart?

Production team:

Adrian Alexander Alea – Director
Cristina Garcia – Playwright
Greg Landau – Sound designer and music supervisor
Alba Lluch – Production Manager
Janae Beaver – Production Assistant
Carlie Mari – Sound assistant
Annette Muller – Marketing Director

Music Credits

Composed by Omar Sosa and Greg Landau
Produced and recorded by Greg Landau

Omar Sosa- keyboards, Vocals and percussion
Greg Landau- Drum programming and keyboards
Zule Guerra- Vocals
Alberto Lescaj- Trumpet
Michael Spiro- Bata Drums
Additional vocals on "Conga in Miami"- Carol Steele

Dialogue recording- Gabriel Shepard and Greg Landau at 25th St. Recording
Dialogue editing- Greg Landau
Sound Design and Mix- Greg Landau at Patio de Ochun Studios
Additional sound effects and script supervision- Carlie Mari

BIOGRAPHIES

Cristina García

Cristina García is the author of seven novels, anthologies, poetry, non-fiction, and children's books. Her work has been nominated for a National Book Award and translated into fourteen languages. She's currently a playwright-in-residence at Central Works Theater in Berkeley.

www.cristinagarcianovelist.com

Adrian A. Alea

Adrian A. Alea is a creative producer and director passionately raising the social consciousness of humanity through story-telling in commercial and non-profit industries of Theater, Live Events, Music Videos, and Film. As a co-founder of ALIALEA PRODUCTIONS, he recently produced two short films for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's digital platform the 'O!' ("ASH LAND" and "YOU GO GIRL") which are official selections at the Academy Award qualifying Pan African Film Festival and the Brooklyn Film Festival. In December, Adrian will also be the Associate Director for ANNIE LIVE! presented on NBC.

Credits: HERCULES (Assoc. Dir, Disney Theatricals and Public Theater's Public Works), Up, Up, and Away (Fordham University), Henry VIII translated by Caridad Svich (Play On, Classic Stage Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival), Fucking A (Yale University), STAND by Caridad Svich (Dramatist Guild, with Daphne Rubin-Vega), The Spanking Machine by Marga Gomez (Brava Theater Center, Syracuse Stage), JLo's All I Have Las Vegas Residency & Ain't Your Mama music video (Management Associate).

He holds a BA from Columbia University and MS from Northwestern University.
Website: adrianalea.com

Greg Landau

Greg Landau is a San Francisco Bay Area music producer, educator, and music historian with a doctorate from UC San Diego's prestigious School of Communication. Over the last 30 years, he has produced eight Grammy-nominated CDs and among the over 100 CDs, numerous film soundtracks, books on audio and podcasts.. He has worked with renowned artists in the U.S, and Latin America, including Carlos "Patato" Valdez, Maldita Vecindad, Jerry Gonzalez, Kepa Junkera, Juan de Marcos Gonzalez, Susan Baca, Bobi Cespedes, Dr. Loco, Pete Seeger, and frequent collaborator, Omar Sosa, He just produced and co-wrote the theme song for the United Nations "World Oceans Day" with Cuban singer violinist, Yililian Canizares.
www.greglandau.com

Omar Sosa

Six-time GRAMMY-nominated Cuban composer and pianist **Omar Sosa** is one of the most versatile jazz artists on the scene today. He fuses a wide range of jazz, world music, and electronic elements with his native Afro-Cuban roots to create a fresh and original urban sound – all with a Latin jazz heart. Omar Sosa's musical trajectory has taken him from Camagüey and Havana to touring in Angola, the Congo, Ethiopia, and Nicaragua in the 1980s; to a sojourn in the African-descent communities of Ecuador in the early 1990s; to an extended presence on the San Francisco Bay Area Latin jazz scene; to his current engagement with artists from France, Cuba, Brazil, and several North, West, and East African nations. He fuses a wide range of jazz, world music, and electronic elements with his native Afro-Cuban roots to create a fresh and original urban sound – all with a Latin jazz heart. Howard Reich of the *Chicago Tribune* recently commented that "Cuban pianists often tower over their peers. But within this elite class of pianists, few have been more stylistically adventurous than **Omar Sosa**. Though deeply schooled in jazz improvisation techniques, Sosa always has pushed beyond jazz orthodoxy.

Mr. Sosa received a lifetime achievement award from the **Smithsonian Associates** in Washington, DC in 2003 for his contribution to the development of Latin jazz in the United States. Over the years, Omar has been nominated six times for a **GRAMMY** and twice for the **BBC Radio 3 World Music Awards**. In 2003 he received the Afro-Caribbean Jazz Album of the Year Award from the **Jazz Journalists Association** in

NYC for his recording *Sentir*; and a nomination from the Jazz Journalists Association for Latin Jazz Album of the Year in 2005 for his recording *Mulatos*, featuring **Paquito D’Rivera**. In 2008, Omar Sosa was commissioned by Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco and the Oakland East Bay Symphony to compose a major work for symphony orchestra (*From Our Mother*), supported by a grant from the **Rockefeller Foundation**. In 2009, Omar was invited by the city of Girona, Spain and the Festival de Músicas Religiosas y del Mundo de Girona to write another work for symphony orchestra (*Oda Africana*).

Angela Hernandez is originally from San Francisco and has been based in Ashland Oregon for the last 4 years. She best known for her most recent work as Hedda in Hedda Gabler (Oregon Center for the Arts), Amelia in House of Suenos (Seattle Shakespeare), Julieta in Romeo y Julieta (Seattle Shakespeare). She believes that theater is the great unifier of humanity and strives to continue spreading that message through her work

Neiry Rojo is grateful to be working with Cristina Garcia again after having appeared as Aura in a stage adaptation of her novel, *The Lady Matador’s Hotel*, with Central Works Theater Company. Rojo has previously worked with Marin Theatre Company, SF Playhouse, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, Santa Cruz Shakespeare, The Cutting Ball Theatre, PlayGround, TheatreFirst, Ross Valley Players, Los Altos Stage Company, The Breadbox Theatre (RIP), Quantum Dragon Theater, and more. Favorite roles include #46 in MTC’S *The Wolves*, Trinculo in Half Moon Bay Shakespeare Company’s production of *The Tempest*, Queen Elizabeth I in SCS’s production of *The Beard of Avon*, and Marela in RVP’s *Anna in the Tropics*. She works as a teaching artist with the American Conservatory Theater and holds a Master’s in Theatre Arts from UC Santa Cruz. Theatre belongs to all. Black Lives Matter.

Tessa Koning-Martinez* is a Bay Area actor who has been seen on stage in productions with The Eureka, Magic, Z-Space, Teatro Campesino, New Mexico Repertory, Marin Theater, San Jose Repertory, S.C.O.T.U.S., 3-Girls, Thick Description and Word for Word companies among others. At the BRAVA Theater Center she has originated roles for plays by Cherrie Moraga and Octavio Solis. Tessa is also a long-time Teaching Artist and activist cultural worker.

Justin Lopez is an actor, singer, writer, and boba-milk-tea enthusiast, who loves to find true connection and humanity in each script and song. Recent credits include the world premieres of Kiss My Aztec! (Berkeley Repertory Theatre) and Unbreakable by Andrew Lippa (SFGMC). Other favorite roles include Claudio (Much Ado About Nothing) and Juan Perón (Evita). In 2020, Justin advanced his playwriting work with ESPA Primary Stages and The Playground Experiment (PGE). His new play, The Re-Education of Fernando Morales, was selected for development by several companies, including Custom Made Theatre Company. Find out what else Justin is up to at www.justinlopez.com

Steve Ortiz received a BA in theater from San Francisco State University and attended the British American Drama Academy Graduate program in London. Mr. Ortiz has worked with the Asian American Theater Company, the African American Shakespeare Company, The San Francisco Theatre Company, Thick Description, Luminarias, Darvag Theater, Teatro de la Esperanza, Teatro Campesino, Teatro Sabor, Teatro Vagon, and Central Works. Mr. Ortiz would like to give a shout out to Success Centers whose outreach program brings the skills of playwriting to at risk youth in the Bay Area’s detention centers.

Juan Amador* is an actor, emcee, DJ, and member of San Francisco's Campo Santo artist collective. Regional Credits: *Quixote Nuevo* (Cal Shakes); *Between Riverside and Crazy* (San Jose Stage); *Oedipus El Rey*, *A Lie of the Mind* (Magic Theatre); *Candlestick* (ACT Costume Shop); *Casa de Spirits* (Yerba Buena Center for the Arts); *To The Bone* (Ubuntu Theater Project); *Babylon is Burning* (Z Space); *Superheroes* (Cutting Ball Theater). National Tours: *Quixote Nuevo* (Hartford Stage/Huntington Theatre Company/Alley Theatre); *Nogales* (Borderlands Theater/Magic Theater); *Tree City Legends* (Living Word Project). Web Series: *East WillyB*. Film: *Side Effects* (Campo Santo). Awards: Connecticut Critics Circle; Grammy Award nominee.

Wilma Bonet* recently appeared in Ricardo Perez Gonzalez's "Don't Eat the Mango" at the Magic Theatre, Ruben Grijalva's "Anna Considers Mars" at Playground and in Tony Kushner's "Mother Courage and Her Children" at Ubuntu Theater. Her acting credits includes, "Little Erik" at Aurora Theater, "This Golden State Part One: Delano" and "Bruja" at the Magic Theatre, both written by Luis Alfaro, "A Streetcar Name Desire" and a new play by Tanya Saracho "The Tenth Muse" both at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, in Luis Alfaro's "Electricidad" at the Mark Taper Forum and in Jose Cruz Gonzalez's "September Shoes" at the Denver Center Theatre Company, for which she received an award for outstanding performance. She has also appeared on the stages of the American Conservatory Theatre S.F., Campo Santo, California Shakespeare Theatre, Thick Description, Marin Theatre Company, the Old Globe, Dallas Theatre Center and all major theater companies in the San Francisco-San Jose-Bay Area. She toured with El Teatro Campesino and the San Francisco MimeTroupe, of which she was a collective member.

Ms. Bonet wrote a solo play "Good Grief Lolita", which premiered at Brava! For Women in the Arts in San Francisco and toured the Bay Area and the southwest. The play was published in *Puro Teatro: A Latina Anthology* and she received the Marion Ross Award for writing and performing.

Film and television credits include *COCO*, *What Dreams May Come*, *8MM*, *Underwraps*, *Jack*, *Radio Flyer*, and *Nash Bridges*. Awards: Bay Area Theatre Critics Award, Los Angeles Drama-Logue Award, and Goodman Award for Outstanding Performance.

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

TICKETS

\$10 - \$20 sliding scale

brava.org

HOW TO LISTEN

The Palacios Sisters will be streaming on demand from June 4, 2021 at 12am through June 30, 2021 at 11:59pm. After purchasing a ticket, the patron will receive a confirmation email with a link to the On Demand Audio file which can be accessed at any time during the designated stream

period. No special software or account (outside of internet access) is required to listen to the radionovela.

FUNDER

The Palacios Sisters radionovela was made possible in part by a grant from the California Arts Council.