

ODS

OUR DIGITAL STORIES

VOLUME 3

7 PM PDT, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25

VOLUME 3

Preshow Musical Guest – **Wonway Posibul**

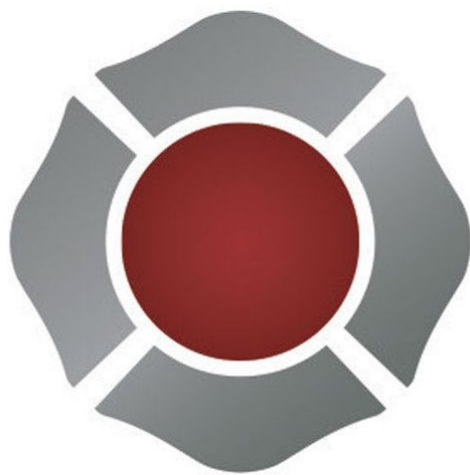
Zoomspear by Max Tachis

The Prophecy by Marissa Martinez and Jowy-Jhan Curameng

Too Bored for Clowns by Jeffrey Lo

Special Musical Guest – **Megan Keith Chenot**

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER



CALIFORNIA
FIRE
FOUNDATION

The California Fire Foundation, a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, provides emotional and financial assistance to families of fallen firefighters, firefighters and the communities they protect. Formed in 1987 by California Professional Firefighters, the California Fire Foundation's mandate includes an array of survivor and victim assistance projects and community initiatives: **California Firefighters Memorial, Firefighters and Their Families, Victim Assistance, and Community Improvement.**

The California Fire Foundation is owned and operated by **California Professional Firefighters.**

www.cafirefoundation.org

ZOOMSPEARE

by **Max Tachis**

directed by **Stephen Muterspaugh**

featuring **Tasi Alabastro, Michael Champlin, Tom Gough, Katherine Hamilton, Sydney Schwindt, and Max Tachis**



Max Tachis (Writer / Shakespeare) has been privileged enough to do a lot of work in the Bay Area but literally none of it is as important as voting in the upcoming election. He urges you to check your registration status, locate your polling places/drop boxes, and vote early.

Stephen Muterspaugh (Director) – see his bio and headshot under Our Digital Stories Ensemble.

Tasi Alabastro (Armin) – see his bio and headshot under Our Digital Stories Ensemble



Michael Champlin (Cowley) has been performing in and around the Bay Area since 2005 and is thrilled to continue expanding his reach into the magical world of the interwebs. Telling stories about humanity and the human experience resonate through any medium when done well, and as such Michael is thrilled to be part of this wonderful ODS company. As always, thanks and love to Katie, Jack, Henry, and Cain.



Tom Gough (Burbage)'s last show before the COVID shutdown, *Stage Kiss* at City Lights, was his 100th as an actor on stages throughout Northern California. A grad of Santa Clara University and UC-Davis, he's also a founding and active improviser for ComedySportz-San Jose and a member of the Theatre Arts Faculty at Foothill College. Props to all for this fun project.



Katherine Hamilton (Oakes) is a Bay Area actress and director as well as the FutureWorks Fellow at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. She was most recently seen onstage as Emmy in *A Doll's House Part 2* (Palo Alto Players) and most recently directed three plays for UCSB LAUNCH PAD's Alone, Together Zoom Festival. She is a proud UCSB alumna where she majored in English and Theatre (emphasis in directing).



Sydney Schwindt (Livingstone) is an actor, fight director, and teaching artist. Acting credits include: Livermore Shakespeare Festival, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, BACT, Perspective Theatre Company, Hartford Stage, Berkeley Rep, The Hampton Theatre Company, and others. Education: BFA Hartt School of Music, Dance, and Theatre, Accademia dell'Arte, Society of American Fight Directors, SF Clown Conservatory. Love to her personal costumer (mom) and her quaranteam - Dad, Joe, and the doggos! www.sydney-schwindt.com

THE PROPHECY

by **Marissa Martinez** and **Jowy-Jhan Curameng**
directed by **Emily Liberatore**

featuring **Eliza Ducnuigeen, Danyl Renee Geddie, Austin Nipper, and Rocio Tambunting**



Marissa Martinez (Writer) is a playwright, youth arts advocate, and community organizer based in San Jose, California. She strives to foster more confidence and creativity in youth and families so that they feel inspired to create art in their own backyards. As a founding director of More Más Marami Arts, Marissa is committed to sharing stories of underrepresented communities and creating an inclusive community in the South Bay Area. She has been featured in Bindlestiff Studios productions, a genARTS panel, and CONTENT magazine. When she isn't writing or teaching art with youth, Marissa enjoys ice cream, decorating her planner, and watching cartoons. Check out her website at www.marissamaywrites.wordpress.com or follow her on Instagram [@marmaym](https://www.instagram.com/marmaym)



Jowy-Jhan Curameng (Writer) is interested in the infinite ways of telling stories and approaching Truth. He is an improviser associated with Endgames, Leela, and BATS Improv. Recently, he has performed in comedy sketches and stand-up comedy with Bindlestiff Studios. He is excited for his playwriting debut with his wonderful writing homie, Marissa Martinez.



Emily Liberatore (Director) is a rising senior at Barnard College of Columbia University where she is double majoring in Sociology and Theatre (thesis in directing). Emily's work is oriented around sociological theatre: performance and comedy for cultural growth, centralizing intersectional/queer feminism and neurodiversity. She has a professional background in creative leadership and youth management, and has directed multiple productions with the Columbia University Players. Emily is also an independent artist— check out her work at emilyliberatore.com!



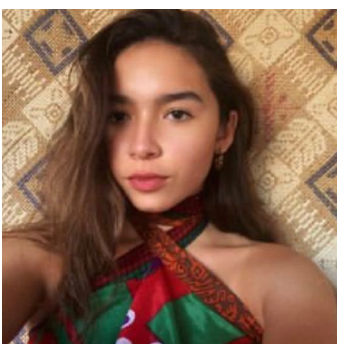
Eliza Ducnuigen (Drew) (she/her/hers) is a senior theatre major at Barnard College. Past credits at Barnard include *Men on Boats* and *The Spirit of Man*. She is a huge Emily Liberatore fan and thanks "The Prophecy" cast for a wonderful experience!



Danyel Geddie (Parker) is a recent graduate of Baldwin Wallace University's Bachelor of Fine Arts program and excited to have participated in our new formatting of live theatre via Zoom. In most recent times, Danyel has done a great deal of Shakespeare, including Viola In *Twelfth Night* (Chagrin Arts), Rosalind in *As You Like It* (Chagrin Arts) and Cordelia in *King Lear* (Beck Center For Arts) She thanks Emily Liberatore for her huge and kind heart, her castmates, and Liv. danyelreneegeddie.com



Austin Nipper (Chris) has done shows for many years, but this is his first online production and pandemic! Some of his unforgettable roles include Peter Pan from *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Gus Sharkey from *Leader of the Pack*, and Sound Technician # 2 from *My Favorite Year*. He wanted to say that he is honored to be a part of such a new exciting concept for storytelling, and thank you the audience for being there to support it!



Rocio Tambunting (Jamie) has been acting since childhood. Her first professional play was at the age of 8. Since then, she has acted in at least 13 shows. She plans to continue pursuing theatre as a hobby in the future.

TOO BORED FOR CLOWNS

by Jeffrey Lo

directed by Cara Phipps

featuring **Maria Giere Marquis** and **Kausar Mohammed**

Jeffrey Lo (Writer) – see his bio and headshot under Our Digital Stories Ensemble.



Cara Phipps (Director) is a theatre maker based in Minneapolis. Her work in the Twin Cities includes credits with the Guthrie Theater, the Jungle Theater, The Playwrights' Center, and the University of Minnesota Guthrie/BFA program. Prior to arriving in Minnesota, she earned her Master of Fine Arts in Directing from the University of Texas at Austin where she directed several readings, workshops, and productions including *Lost Girl* by Kimberly Belflower, *Girls in Cars Underwater* by Tegan McLeod, and *The Wild Party* by Michael John LaChiusa and George C. Wolfe which garnered seven Austin Critics' Table Award nominations. She returned to Actors Theatre of Louisville during her time in

Austin to direct pieces in The Tens for the Professional Training Company. Prior to graduate school, she was an intern at Actors Theatre of Louisville under the mentorship of Les Waters and Meredith McDonough where she directed AI Company projects and assisted on shows in the 50th Anniversary season and the Humana Festival of New American Plays. Cara is a native of California where she has developed work with several companies including TheatreWorks, City Lights Theatre Company, Dragon Productions Theatre Company, The '06 Ensemble, and Transient Theater where she directed their inaugural production, *The Egg Play*, and received a FringeNYC Overall Excellence in Directing award. She earned her BA in Drama from the University of Portland (OR) where she discovered her vocation directing a production of *Stop Kiss*. And if you're ever looking to win her over, nacho cheese Doritos and conversations about Olivia Colman go a long way.



Maria Giere Marquis (Hannah) is a Bay Area based theatre and voiceover actor, as well as corporate trainer committed to making work less boring. She is the recipient of Theatre Bay Area's Best Principal Actress award for her work in the world premiere production of *The Awakening* with Breadbox Theater, and she has appeared numerous times with Dragon Productions and City Lights Theater Company where she received a nomination for Best Principal Actress in *The Merchant of Venice* and *Silent Sky*. You can learn more about Maria at mariagmarquis.com, and find her audiobooks on Audible. Thank you for supporting theatre in the time of COVID!



Kausar Mohammed (Nicole) is a Muslim, Bengali/Pakistani-American actress born in San Jose, California. She is a series lead in Paul Feig's *Bridesmaids* dramedy, *East of La Brea*. Her recent credits include *Carol's Second Act* (CBS), *Silicon Valley* (HBO), *Black Lightning* (CW), and the films *What Men Want* (Paramount) and *Little* (Universal) alongside Issa Rae. Kausar is currently voicing series lead characters on *Jurassic World: Camp Cretaceous* (Netflix) and *Great Pretender* (Netflix). You can find her performing with the UCB house sketch team, Smokeshow, and the distinguished all South-Asian sketch comedy troupe, The Get Brown.

SPECIAL MUSICAL GUESTS

Megan Keith Chenot



Megan Keith Chenot is a musician who lives in Half Moon Bay, CA. In the good old days of live music, Megan primarily worked as a solo singer/guitarist, playing an eclectic mix of covers for bars, restaurants, weddings and vineyards. These days she spends time creating and recording layered harmonies with just her voice and a looping pedal. You can hear more of her stuff at www.megankeithchenot.com.

Wonway Posibul



Wonway Posibul is a GRAMMY nominated songwriter and emcee, DJ, radio host, as well as an award winning actor. Behind the turntables, Wonway has established himself as one of the most sought after DJ's in the Bay Area. His diverse playlists can range from HipHop, Funk, Salsa, House, Samba, Jazz, Dancehall, and Future Soul all in the same set. His Afro-Latin party "Makossa" has grown in popularity to spawn incredible monthlies across the country with the Makossa Brooklyn and Los Angeles Cookouts. The "Makossa Classics" series and many of his other mixes have been featured on numerous influential websites such as Okayplayer, Remezcla, The Couch Sessions, and URB Magazine.

THE ENSEMBLE



Tasi Alabastro is an actor, livestreamrunner, and multi-disciplinary digital artist whose work focuses on creating impact through visual storytelling. He was recently featured in the *SF Chronicle Datebook* highlighting his efforts with local arts organizations as it pertains to virtual programming. His online content on Twitch and Youtube focuses on storytelling and interactive programming to engage his audience and deepen community relationships. In addition to having the honor of being published in *CONTENT Magazine*, and *Tayo Magazine*, he is also the recipient of the 2019 Leigh Weimer's Emerging Artist Award and the 2018 SVCcreates Emerging Artist Laureate. He is a proud member of the Red Ladder Theatre Company and is currently working with inmates in state prisons

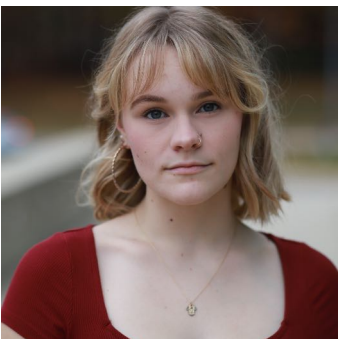
as part of the Arts-in-Corrections program; the program hopes to re-engage participants with their creativity and imagination. To find ways to support the journey, reach out by visiting tasialabastro.com or by tweeting him at @tasialabastro. | [twitch.tv/kreenpananas](https://www.twitch.tv/kreenpananas)



April Culver is an actor, marketing professional, and Midwest transplant. She loves spreading the word about great theatre and works as Marketing and Publicity Manager at New Conservatory Theatre Center and as Marketing Director for Silicon Valley Shakespeare. Some of her favorite acting credits include Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Rose of Sharon in *The Grapes of Wrath*, Viola in *Shakespeare in Love*, and Mrs. Givings in *In the Next Room (or The Vibrator Play)* (SFBATCC Nomination, Principal Actress). April is ecstatic to work with the talented bunch at ODS as they navigate the future of digital storytelling.



Christopher Fitzer is a freelance theatrical designer based in the San Francisco Bay Area and currently the properties master at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. His previous design credits include productions at TheatreWorks, Aspen Opera Theater Center, *World Literature Today's* Puterbaugh Festival, San Jose Stage Co., Hillbarn Theatre, Woodminster Summer Musicals, Oklahoma City Theatre Co., Flat Rock Playhouse, Los Altos Stage Co., Douglas Morrisson Theatre, Palo Alto Players, and Foothill Music Theatre. He has held production and artistic positions at Aspen Music Festival, Sanguine Theatre Company, Curtis Opera Theatre at the Curtis Institute of Music, and Dallas Summer Musicals.



Julianna Garber is a rising junior studying directing at the University of Michigan. Prior to attending university, she co-founded Upstage Theater, a bay area theater group focused on providing opportunities for teens to interact with all sides of theater production. Previous directing credits include *Water By The Spoonful* (Assistant Director to Geoffrey Packard) and *Falsettos* at University of Michigan, as well as *Punk Rock*, *Spring Awakening*, and *Heathers* at Upstage Theater. When not directing, you'll likely find her in rehearsal for a cappella group Amazin' Blue or performing in various shows. Favorite past roles include Natalie in *Next to Normal* at The Refuge, and Ilse in *Spring Awakening* at Exit Left Co.



Jeffrey Lo is a Filipino-American playwright and director based in the Bay Area. He is the recipient of the Leigh Weimers Emerging Artist Award, the Emerging Artist Laureate by Arts Council Silicon Valley and Theatre Bay Area Director's TITAN Award. Selected directing credits include *The Language Archive* and *The Santaland Diaries* at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, *Vietgone* at Capital Stage, *A Doll's House, Part 2* and *Eurydice* at Palo Alto Players, *Peter and the Starcatcher* and *Noises Off* at Hillbarn Theatre, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Crucible* and *Yellow Face* at Los Altos Stage Company and *Uncle Vanya* at the Pear Theatre. As a playwright, his plays have been produced and workshopped at The BindleStiff

Studio, City Lights Theatre Company and Custom Made Theatre Company. His play *Writing Fragments Home* was a finalist for the Bay Area Playwright's Conference and a semi-finalist for the O'Neill Playwright's Conference. In addition to his work in theatre he works as an educator and advocate for issues of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and has served as a grant panelist for the Zellerbach Family Foundation, Silicon Valley Creates and Theatre Bay Area. He is the Casting Director at the Tony Award Winning TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, a graduate of the Multicultural Arts Leadership Institute and a proud alumnus of the UC Irvine Drama Department.



Steve Muterspaugh is excited to be messing around in this virtual space for a good cause! His most recently directing credits include *It's Only a Play* at Hillbarn Theatre, and *The Three Musketeers* at Douglas Morrison Theatre in Hayward. Other Bay Area directing credits include: *The Odd Couple* at Jewel Theatre Company, where he previously served as Deputy Artistic Director; *Hamlet* and *The Taming of the Shrew* at San Francisco Shakespeare Festival (former Associate Artistic Director), where he also headed the Steve Muterspaugh Shakespeare on Tour program for 5 seasons, directing *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Julius Caesar*, *As You Like It*, and *Hamlet*. When not directing, Stephen is the Artistic

Operations / Company Manager at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. He is a proud member of Actor's Equity and a graduate of the actor training program at PCPA.



Isabella Waldron is a recent graduate of Scripps College and an emerging playwright/actress. Her work centers around intergenerational stories and ferocious women. In quarantine times, Isabella's writing might have been seen on the first episode of *Our Digital Stories* or as a finalist in *Mixily Presents The Classics: Reimagined*. She recently wrote a musical in one night with the 24 Hour Plays 2020 Nationals Cohort. Other plays include *Jawbone*, *Things I Never Told the Stars*, and *Gentle, Angry Women*. Isabella is a proud alum of the National Theatre Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center. In addition to writing and acting, Isabella is also a poet, pianist and baker.

OUR DIGITAL STORIES

The idea for digital stories came from a place of need. A group of artists were in the beginnings of the COVID-19 global pandemic, and eager to find a way to contribute to the community and to find a creative outlet while sheltering in place. What came of it was a fundraiser event surrounding a series of pieces that were set within the digital world – video chats, phone calls, texts – and performed on the digital medium of the story. We saw these as a hybrid of a ten-minute play and a short film and called them ‘Digital Stories.’

When we created these digital stories, we realized something interesting and quite special. The health concerns of the world required us to stay apart from each other, and we wanted to see what would happen if we leaned into this need to stay apart and see what it did for our storytelling. Although this new format of storytelling was not going to replace what we loved about live theatre or film and television, this format of play provided us an opportunity to create stories that felt surprisingly intimate in a way that feels entirely real and entirely of the moment. With **OUR DIGITAL STORIES**, we are looking to continue this work through regular episodes where we will present a number of individual digital stories while partnering with different community service and arts organizations to help support them. In addition to this, we hope that by using the Internet as our venue, **OUR DIGITAL STORIES** can be a point of access to storytelling and representation for all communities.

www.ourdigitalstories.org
#OurDigitalStories

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