

ROSS ALTERNATIVE WORKS PRESENTS A VIRTUAL READING OF

THE RE-EDUCATION OF FERNANDO MORALES

By JUSTIN P. LOPEZ

Directed by MERYN MACDOUGALL



IS THE REQUIEM FOR HIM?

FRI. MAY 7 AT 7 P.M. & SAT. MAY 8 AT 2 P.M.

POST-READING DISCUSSION WITH THE PLAYWRIGHT, DIRECTOR & MEMBERS OF THE CAST

About the Play:

When young Fernando Morales is sent away by his family to a place that can “fix him,” he becomes split between the past, present, and future. Surrounded by flashes of electricity, love, and Mozart’s Requiem, he searches through time for some way to save himself. Will he succeed, or is the Requiem for him?

Content Advisories:

Conversion therapy, Electro-shock therapy, Abuse, Gun violence, Conversations about trauma, Conversations about suicide, Realistic depictions of violence in the text, and Adult language

The Cast:

Fernando Morales	ANDREW PRYOR-RAMIREZ
Adult Fernando	LORENZO ALVISO
Cameron	TYLER MARQUES
Tanner	LUCAS HERNANDEZ
Beth/Regiment Worker	SAKURA NAKAHARA
Carlos/Regiment Worker	TONY ORTEGA
Dr. Marks	DAVID SHIRK
Narrator/Stage Directions	KIM BROMLEY

Design & Production:

Playwright	JUSTIN P. LOPEZ
Director.....	MERYN MACDOUGALL
Dramaturg.....	NICKY MARTINEZ
Production Manager.....	EILEEN GRADY

About the Playwright:

Justin P. Lopez is an actor, singer, writer, and boba-milk-tea enthusiast, who is passionate about new works and loves finding true connection and humanity in each script and song. As an actor, recent credits include the world premieres of *Kiss My Aztec!* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre) and *Unbreakable* by Andrew Lippa (SFGMC). Other favorite roles include Anthony (*I And You*), Claudio (*Much Ado About Nothing*), and Juan Perón (*Evita*). As a writer, Justin is a proud member of The Playground Experiment (PGE). His work has been featured by the PGE, Permafrost Theatre Collective, Custom Made Theatre Company, and The Pear Theatre. Find out what else Justin is up to at www.justinplopez.com



About the Director:

Meryn MacDougall (she/her) is a bay area actor (theatre, film, voiceover), director, and writer. Recent projects include: *Merchant of Stratford* (stage manager, RAW), *Ides of Adar* (AD, A.E. of Berkeley), *Imaginary Invalid* (director, A.E. of Berkeley), *Mammaries of Tiresias* (director, A.E. of Berkeley), *Noh Christmas Carol* (actor, Theatre of Yugen). Meryn- "I want to thank Eileen and Kelsey for all the hard work and support. I also want to thank Justin for writing and sharing this very important and brave script. I believe that creating access to diverse work is important. I will continue to educate myself about diversity, equity, and inclusion."

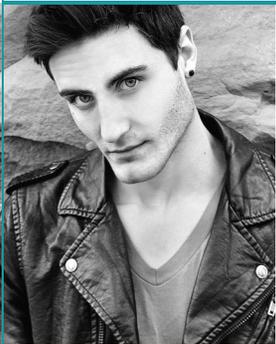


About the Actors:



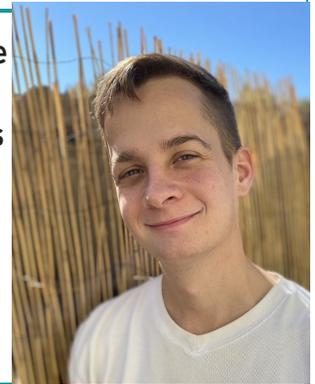
LORENZO ALVISO (Adult Fernando) is a vocalist and actor from Sonoma County and has worked on and off the stage for local and professional theatre companies in the Bay Area since 2015. Favorite roles include Raoul in *Phantom of the Opera*, David in *Company*, Prince Herbert in *Spamalot*, Brad Majors in *Rocky Horror Show*, and Sebastian in *Illyria: A modern musical Twelfth Night*. Lorenzo has been passionate about returning to theatre and exploring deeper roles and newer works. Recently, he has been a featured performing artist for virtual and in-person variety shows produced by Redwood Theatre Company, with whom he has also taken the role of Development Director with the aim of providing arts education and performance to underserved populations in the North Bay.

KIM BROMLEY (Narrator/Stage Directions) Kim holds a BA in Theater Arts and MA in film production. A resident of the North Bay for 34 years, Kim's local acting credits include *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *The Fantasticks*, *Sisters Rosensweig*, *Gypsy* (NTC); *Blithe Spirit*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *A Month in the Country* (RVP); *Laramie Project* (TAL); *Sightlines* (Custom Made); *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Urinetown* (Stapleton) and *Pippin* (MMTC). Kim will play Maria this summer in Curtain Theatre's *Twelfth Night*. In addition to her acting life, Kim is also a director (NTC, RVP, TAL, Curtain and Stapleton), writer and producer of local theater and the CEO of Apocryphal Pictures, a content development company. She's honored to be part of giving breath to *The Re-Education of Fernando Morales* and grateful for the message of the play.



TYLER GABLE (Cameron) is honored to be a part of such an important piece of theatre. Some of his past roles include Moritz in *Spring Awakening* (MMTC) Clyde in *Bonnie and Clyde* (MTSW) Jack Kelly in *Newsies* (Katia & Co).

LUCAS HERNANDEZ (Tanner) is very excited to be part of this production. Reprising his role as Tanner, he is passionate about the piece, and helping to share this story. Previously seen playing Borachio in Plethos' Productions *Much Ado About Nothing*, and various shows and concerts with Ka Nalu Productions. He wants to thank his friends and family, as well as Justin Lopez for writing such an inspirational piece. Enjoy the show!



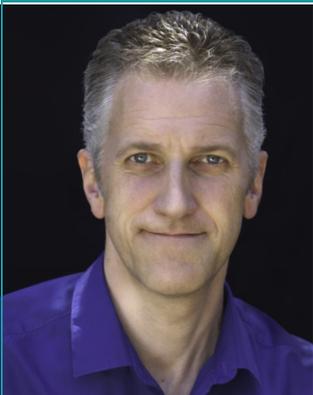
SAKURA NAKAHARA (she/her) Beth a San Francisco artist, is honored to perform in *The Re-Education of Fernando Morales* with Ross Valley Players. Sakura's most recent performances include a new works reading of *"You'll Never Look at Mt. Fuji the Same Again"* by Cathy Stonie with the Playwrights' Center of San Francisco, a favorite performance as an ensemble member of the popular devised show *You're Muted*; sharing connections with audiences virtually during Covid as a The Actors Space Company member. Sakura has also portrayed Berenger in several virtual performances of Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*, as Sam in *Mr. Burns*, works as a voice over artist, and is an emotional intelligence and empathy trainer when off-camera and off-stage. Sakura has trained at various schools in classical and contemporary works, improv, clown and mime, and voice. Her passions lie in representation, diversity, community, and connection in the arts and all walks of life.

About the Actors Continued:



Tony Ortega (Carlos) is thrilled to reprise this role in *The Re-Education of Fernando Morales*. Tony was last seen on stage at Alter Theatre's Rella Lossy award-winning play *Ghosts of Bogota*. Tony has performed throughout the Bay Area with prominent companies and has helped numerous new works come to life on stage, including 3Girls Theatre's *Birthright*, City Lights Theatre's staged reading of Max Tachis' play *Candelabrum*, and Gary Soto's new play *The Afterlife* at San Francisco Youth Theatre. Some additional Theatre credits include; Anton's Well Theatre *Knives in Hens*, Bay Area Drama Company's *State of Denial*, Coastal Repertory Theatre's production of *Death of a Salesman*, SFBATCO's *La Posarela*, Syracuse Shakespeare Festival *Coriolanus*, Halfmoon Bay Shakespeare *Romeo y Julieta*, and The Theatre Bay Area nominated play at Dragon Productions *Take Me Out*. Tony will play Pablo del Valle in Karen Zacarias play, *Native Gardens* premiering this summer at Coastal Repertory Theatre, August 6-22nd in Half Moon Bay, CA.

ANDREW PRYOR-RAMIREZ (Young Fernando) is currently finishing up his BFA in original works from Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle, WA. His theatre credits include Off-Broadway *The Bittersweets* (Workshop, Atlantic Theatre Company). Orin Scravello, DDS in College of Marin's production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, and Misha in Strawberry Theatre Workshop's production of *Lydia*. He is thrilled to be a part of this zoom reading and dive back into theatre after a brief hiatus. Instagram: @apryoramirez



David Shirk (Dr. Marks) has performed throughout the Bay Area and is excited to return to RVP for the telling of this sensitive story. His last appearances in the "before time" were as Billy Flynn in *Chicago* and Vanya in *Vanya, Sonia, Masha and Spike*, both with NTC, and has performed with RVP at the Barn in *Chapter Two*, *Sabrina Fair* and others. Thanks to everyone tuning in for your support of live theater and hope to see you soon in person!

Dramaturg

Nicky Martinez (They/Them/Le) is a Latinx genderfluid theatre activist who was born and raised in San Francisco. They received a BA in Performing Arts and Social Justice from the University of San Francisco in 2016. They are a solo performing artist, poet, published playwright, and visual artist. In their art they focus on social issues like having queer and trans identities, being Latinx in America, racial inequities, mental health, and femme rights. Currently, they are a Development Coordinator at Berkeley Rep while being a part of several ensemble projects. Some of these projects include being a FoolsFURY member in the Library Project, writing and doing voice-over for the Harry Potter and the Transgender Witch series on YouTube with Battery Theater, and curating/ moderating panels for the PASJ 20th Anniversary Festival at the University of San Francisco. They are also training and working as an Anti-Racist facilitator/moderator through the Making Good Trouble cohort developed by Magic Theatre, Crowded Fire Theater, and the Playwrights Foundation. Follow on Social Media: [Facebook](#) Nicky Martinez, [Instagram](#) @mx.nicky



Ross Valley Alternative Works (RAW) is dedicated to the reading and/or staging and production of original, provocative and exciting new works by Bay Area playwrights.



Learn more and submit scripts on the RVP website RossValleyPlayers.com/RAW or email RAW@rossvalleyplayers.com

Ross Alternative Works Committee

Michael Cohen, Eileen Grady, Robyn Grahn, Lynn Lohr, Meryn MacDougall, Gina Pandiani, Tinka Ross, Maureen Scheuenstuhl, Kelsey Sloan

SPECIAL THANKS TO: The Mountain Play Association

Statistics

- 698,000 LGBTQ adults (ages 18-59) in the U.S. have received conversion therapy, including about 350,000 LGBTQ adults who received treatment as adolescents.
- 20,000 LGBTQ youth (ages 13-17) will receive conversion therapy from a licensed healthcare professional before they reach the age of 18 in the 41 states that currently do not ban the practice.
- 6,000 LGBTQ youth (ages 13-17) who live in states that ban conversion therapy would have received such therapy from a licensed health care professional before age 18 if their state had not banned the practice.
- 57,000 youth (ages 13-17) across all states will receive conversion therapy from religious or spiritual advisors before they reach the age of 18.

Source: [UCLA Williams Institute](http://UCLAWilliamsInstitute)

Protecting LGBTQ+ Youth From Conversion Therapy

The following states and municipalities have passed laws protecting LGBTQ+ youth from conversion therapy:

1. California (2012)
2. New Jersey (2013)
3. Illinois (2015)
4. Oregon (2015)
5. Vermont (2016)
6. Connecticut (2017)
7. Nevada (2017)
8. New Mexico (2017)
9. Rhode Island (2017)
10. Washington State (2018)
11. Maryland (2018)
12. Hawaii (2018)
13. New Hampshire (2018)
14. Maryland (2018)

*Washington D.C., although not a state, passed an ordinance in 2014 protecting LGBTQ+ youth from conversion therapy.