

**THE USC SCHOOL OF THEATRE**  
presents



# **NAGA-MANDALA**

— • **PLAY WITH A COBRA** • —

**BY GIRISH KARNAD | DIRECTED BY GREGG T. DANIEL**



**APRIL 21 – 24, 2011**

**SCENE DOCK THEATRE**



# SPRING 2011 SCHEDULE

## THE M.F.A. ACTING SPRING REPERTORY\*

Feb. 5 – Mar. 6 / Scene Dock Theatre

### THREE SISTERS

By Anton Chekhov  
Directed by Kate Burton

### FORGET MY NAME

By the M.F.A. in Acting 3 Class  
Conceived & Directed by David Bridel

### TWELFTH NIGHT

By William Shakespeare  
Directed by Andrew J. Robinson

## ANNA KARENINA

By Leo Tolstoy  
Adapted by Helen Edmundson  
Directed by Dan Bonnell

Mar. 3 – 6 / Bing Theatre

## BALM IN GILEAD

By Lanford Wilson  
Directed by Stephanie Shroyer

Mar. 3 – 6 / McClintock Theatre

## THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA

By Federico Garcia Lorca  
Adapted by Chay Yew  
Directed by Jack Rowe

Mar. 31 – Apr. 3 / Scene Dock Theatre

## ON THE TOWN\*

Music by Leonard Bernstein  
Book and Lyrics by Betty Comden and  
Adolph Green  
Directed by John Rubinstein

Mar. 31 – Apr. 10 / Bing Theatre

## THE GREEN BIRD

By Carlo Gozzi  
Adapted by David Bridel  
Directed by Debbie McMahon

Apr. 7 – 10 / McClintock Theatre

## NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR TWO THE M.F.A. IN DRAMATIC WRITING PLAYWRIGHTS WORKSHOP\*

Apr. 8 – 24 / Massman Theatre

### WIND RIVER

By Kirsia Rein  
Directed by Robert Bailey

### THE BEARDED GIRL

By Rachel Skytt  
Directed by Jon Lawrence Rivera

### THE QUIET OF THE STORM

By Caroline Adan  
Directed by Laural Meade

## MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN

By Bertolt Brecht  
Adapted by David Hare  
Directed by L. Zane

Apr. 21 – 24 / McClintock Theatre

## NAGA-MANDALA

By Girish Karnad  
Directed by Gregg T. Daniel

Apr. 21 – 24 / Scene Dock Theatre

## DANCE CONCERT SPRING DANCE MIGRATION\*

Directed by Angeliki Papadakis

Apr. 28 & 29 / Bing Theatre

## NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR THREE THE MASTER OF FINE ARTS PLAY PROJECT\*

May 23 – 27 / McClintock Theatre

### THE BLUE HOUR

By Cort Brinkerhoff

### I CHANGED MY MIND, I'M FINE

By Stephanie Swirsky



## Ticket Information

### SHOWTIMES

(except where noted otherwise)

Thu. & Fri. at 7pm • Sat. at 2:30 & 8pm • Sun. at 2:30pm

\*Please see website below for performance schedule

### TICKET PRICES

PLAYS: General Admission \$10 • Seniors or USC Faculty/Staff with ID \$8 • USC Students with ID \$5

MUSICALS: General Admission \$15 • Seniors or USC Faculty/Staff with ID \$10 • USC Students with ID \$6

NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR TWO: All tickets \$5

NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR THREE: Admission is free and will be available at the door on a first-come, first-served basis.

For tickets and information: [www.usc.edu/spectrum](http://www.usc.edu/spectrum) • [arts@usc.edu](mailto:arts@usc.edu) • 213-740-2167

**THE USC SCHOOL OF THEATRE**

presents

# **NAGA-MANDALA**

**PLAY WITH A COBRA**

By Girish Karnad

with

Shalini Bathina • André Bradford • Fiona Collinson  
Micheal Conoscenti • Miya Folick • Helena Hamilton  
Margaret Ivey • Shaheed Sabrin • Lupita Salazar  
Sohina Sidhu • Diana Vaden

SCENIC DESIGN  
Kate Thomas

COSTUME DESIGN  
Jordan Schames

LIGHTING DESIGN  
Sarah Steinman

SOUND DESIGN &  
STAGE MANAGER  
Jasmine-Joy Cason

HAIR &  
MAKE-UP DESIGN  
Katrina Barnes

CHOREOGRAPHER  
Shivani Thakkar

DIRECTED BY  
Gregg T. Daniel

**April 21 – 24, 2011**  
**Scene Dock Theatre**

Produced by special arrangement with Girish Karnad.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In Order of Appearance)

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| The Man.....        | André Bradford    |
| Flame.....          | Lupita Salazar    |
| Flame.....          | Helena Hamilton   |
| Flame.....          | Sohina Sidhu      |
| Flame.....          | Fiona Collinson   |
| Flame, Cobra.....   | Diana Vaden       |
| The Story .....     | Miya Folick       |
| Appanna, Naga ..... | Shaheed Sabrin    |
| Rani .....          | Shalini Bathina   |
| Kappanna .....      | Michael Conscenti |
| Kurdavva .....      | Margaret Ivey     |

### PLACE

India

At a temple and a house.

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

### WARNING

Please be advised that this production contains mature language and themes.

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Music Direction .....Paul Livingstone  
Vocal Coach .....Margaret Kemp  
Fight Choreography.....Edgar Landa  
Scenic Artist.....Kimberly Lyons  
Assistant Scenic Design .....Esther Chung  
Assistant Costume Design.....Victoria Tam  
Assistant Sound Design.....Mario Mottley  
Morgan Pavey  
Assistant Stage Manager .....Annelisha Dixon  
Properties Coordinator.....Kelly Ridder  
Properties Shopper .....Sarah Krainin  
Crew .....Camille Devoney  
Joshua Kirshner  
Evan Leach  
Kara Ludke  
Julie Rios  
Kristen Villarreal  
Anne-Marie White

### Music

Original Music composed and performed by Paul Livingstone.

## DIRECTOR'S BIO

Gregg T. Daniel is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. For USC SOT, he directed George C.Wolfe's *The Colored Museum*. He is the Artistic Director of Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, an L.A.-based theatre company which mounts work, "through the lens of the artist of color." Gregg directed LDTE's inaugural production, *Three Sisters after Chekhov* by Mustapha Matura ([www.lowerdepththeatreensemble.org](http://www.lowerdepththeatreensemble.org)). Other directing credits include *Heroes* by Tom Stoppard for The Group Rep Theatre, *War Stories* by Joyce Guy for LATC and *I Am My Own Wife* by Doug Wright for Theatre 150 in Ojai, CA.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

With *Naga-Mandala (Play with A Cobra)*, prominent Indian playwright Girish Karnad weaves together two traditional Indian oral tales. One of an unhappy bride, "who spends her lonely hours conjuring fantasies, dreams and illusions to give her life meaning." Her life changes when an enchanted Cobra appears to her, becomes her lover, all while looking remarkably like her abusive husband.

The second tale is of a playwright who has received the, "curse of death" for writing bad plays. His only hope of escape is to stay awake one whole night before the end of the month. A task he finds far easier said than done.

In *Naga-Mandala*, Karnad sets into motion a compelling world of magic realism examining the relationships between truth and falsehood, the sacred and profane and ultimately the shifting roles of woman in a patriarchal society.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Christina Haatainen-Jones, Girish Karnad, Jack Rowe, Shivani Thakkar, Els Collins, Stephanie Shroyer, Shirley Jo Finney, Edgar Landa, Veralyn Jones, Kennedy Daniel.

## **DEAN**

Madeline Puzo

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Associate Professor Of Theatre Practice Jack Rowe (Artistic Director)

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Meiling Cheng (Director Of Critical Studies)

Don Llewellyn (Director Of Scenic Design)

Oliver Mayer

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Angus Fletcher

Christina Haatainen-Jones (Director Of Design)

Tom Ontiveros

Sibyl Wickersheimer

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Charlotte Cornwell

Natsuko Ohama

Brian Parsons (Director Of Undergraduate Acting)

Andrew J. Robinson (Director Of MFA in Acting)

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Brent Blair (Director Of MA in Applied Theatre Arts)

David Bridel (Associate Director Of MFA in Acting)

Joseph Hacker

Duncan Mahoney

Stephanie Shroyer

Eric Trules

L. Zane

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Anita Dashiell-Sparks

Mary-Joan Negro

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Helene Lorenz, Kevin McCorkle, Gates McFadden, Melissa Manchester, Babette Markus, Randy Mell, Jon Monastero,

Ntare Guma Mbaho Mwine, Jacqueline Pavlich, Leah Piehl, Debra Piver, Valerie Rachelle, Jon Lawrence Rivera,

John Rubinstein, Mady Schutzman, Vika Teplinskaya, Doug Tompos, Julie Welch, Kenji Yamaguchi

Courtesy Joint Appointments: Thomas G. Cummings, Larry E. Greiner (Emeritus), Bruce Smith

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## **PRODUCTION STAFF**

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