

SDA PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE 2020/21

May 21, 2021

SDA Virtual Stage

USC School of Dramatic Arts

presents

## New Works Festival Year 3

Presented in Association with the Pasadena Playhouse

# Wonderland Isn't Real

By Carlyn Flint

Directed by Fran de Leon

#### CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(in order of appearance)*

Isaac J. Cruz\*

*Ray*

Bianca Pompa

*Ms. Jesse / Tiger*

Donna Simone Johnson\*

*Gianna / Auntie*

Lorne Greene

*Uncle / Mr. Hatter*

Valerie A. Spencer\*

*Principal / Receptionist / Nurse / Prosecutor*

William Salyers\*

*Patient / Doctor / Judge*

Emily Arancio

*Stage Directions*

Additional Characters

*Jabberwocky / The Blue Rabbit /*

*The Jury / The Guard*

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

This production uses the Artist Engagement Services of the University Resident Theatre Association. We wish to express our gratitude to Actor's Equity Association for permitting the Artists to appear on this program.

#### PLACE

Tulsa, Oklahoma

#### TIME

Present

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#### DEDICATION

To Riyan, who inspired the character of Ray, and to my students at Tulsa Legacy Charter School, who inspired his story.

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#### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Velina Hasu Houston

#### FESTIVAL SUPERVISOR

Domenica Diaz

#### FESTIVAL SUPERVISOR MENTOR

Alex Rehberger

#### PRODUCERS, PASADENA PLAYHOUSE

Danny Feldman, Kristen Hammack

#### PRODUCER, USC

Elsbeth M. Collins

#### CASTING

Raul C. Staggs

#### VIRTUAL TECH LEAD

Joe Shea

#### PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTE

From 2013 to 2017, I was an elementary school teacher in Tulsa, OK. In that time, Oklahoma had the highest incarceration rate of any place in the world. It also had the highest rate of *female* incarceration in the U.S., which was double the national average. In those four years I watched as kids, teachers, and families coped with a pandemic of missing parents. My hope is that this play places you in the shoes of my students, who still deserve better from the world and the adults running it.

#### PLAYWRIGHT'S BIO

**Carlyn Flint** is a playwright, screenwriter and visual artist graduating from The University of Southern California with an MFA in Dramatic Writing. She writes about societal barriers to love, whatever they might be. Her plays often include magical expressions of the real world, women and children, and colloquial language mixed with the poetic. Her thesis work, *Wonderland Isn't Real* won the Bellman's Prize in USC Libraries' 2021 Wonderland Competition, and her play *Net of Worth* is a 2022 Finalist in the Alliance/Kendeda National Graduate Playwriting Competition.

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#### DIRECTOR'S BIO

**Fran de Leon** is Co-Artistic Director of Will & Company, an ensemble member of Critical Mass Performance Group, and serves on the Advisory Board of Fil-Am Arts. Her one person show, *Faces of America*, toured to 500+ venues across 49 states, including keynote performances for the United Nations Associations, California and New York. Recent credits: *Valor* (Writer/Director; Center Theater Group's Digital Stage); *Allos: The Carlos Bulosan Story* (Director/Editor; Artists at Play); *Sacrifice Zone: Los Angeles* (Director; USC Arts in Action); *The Fantastic Kim Sisters* (Director; East West Players); *The Great Leap* (Asst Director; Pasadena Playhouse); *The Enchanted Nightingale* (The Garry Marshall Theater).

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#### SPECIAL THANKS

Colin Cox, Kieran Atticus, The Kaboodle and to our Professional Responders: Hana Sharif (Artistic Director, St. Louis Repertory Theatre), Gabriel Greene (Director of Artistic Development, La Jolla Playhouse), Danny Feldman (Artistic Director, Pasadena Playhouse), Oliver Mayer, Paula Cizmar, Rodney To, Boni Alvarez, Tony Hagopian, Albert Geana-Bastare