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presents

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS



One Göögol & One

a musical play by

Aidaa Peerzada

BAYSTAGES
PROGRAMS | 2018.12

MISSION STATEMENT

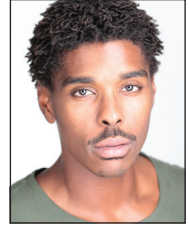
BATCO unites artists and audiences through live theatre that is reflective of the authentic perspectives and history of the San Francisco Bay Area. Our non-profit organization supports artists through creative development, full productions, and mentorships that aspire to engage a new generation of live theatre supporters.



PEERZADA



PEREIRA



JACKSON

GOOGOL: A number that is equal to 1 followed by 100 zeros and expressed as 10100. Its value is higher than the number of elementary particles in the universe.

Looking back to the summer of 2012 when this project (then titled **Sheherizade**) inspired us to found BATCO, the world seemed to be a different place, but in hindsight, it was already on course to a world many of us did not expect to see. Since 2012, we have seen massive change both good and bad, leaders rise and fall, and hashtags come and go. Fast forward to the present. The phrase of 2018 has been “representation matters,” but what exactly does that mean? This year, huge blockbuster films like **Black Panther** and **Crazy Rich Asians** obliterated box office records, proving to entertainment executives across the world that not only is it possible to have people of color at the forefront and make money, but that people actually *want* it. While these films alongside hit shows like **Hamilton** have made giants leaps forward for traditionally underrepresented communities, this has only been scraping the surface of a much bigger problem.

Maya Angelou once said, “There is no agony like bearing an untold story inside of you.” For every **Black Panther** story, there are a googol more stories about real fierce kings and queens, histories of mathematical and scientific advancements or architectural wonders built; all of these creative leaps made across the world, spanning eras of human existence. With all of these achievements and accomplishments, why then have we only been learning histories from the last 500 years? When we only focus on this short period of humanity in which European peoples began the long-term process of global dominance, we lose the bigger picture of who we are as a human race. We short-change our collective creativity, our ability to adapt, and as a consequence, the future can look rather grim.

Still, the future has yet to be written and we are the authors. While it is true that no one wants an unflattering history, we have to face our humanity in order to move forward, warts and all. Learning narrow versions of history that attempt to erase ugly truths will only continue to divide us. Failing to acknowledge global history in our “globalized” world will only continue to divide us. If we can look at ourselves, our brothers, sisters, and all in between honestly, perhaps we can see the beauty in each of our differences, and realize that we are all part of one story.

Aidaa Peerzada
Marcelo Javier Pereira
Rodney Earl Jackson Jr.

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
THEATRE COMPANY

presents

One Göögö! & One

by Aidaa Peerzada

music by Lisa Quoresimo

additional music and orchestrations by
Emmett Van Slyke

ENSEMBLE

Emon Elboudwarej • Adela Fornés • Linda Maria Girón
Lisa Hu • Natasha LaGrone • Isa Musni
Jocelyn Thompson-Jordan • Joaquin-Tonalli Vargas
Mercedes White

PRODUCTION TEAM

Co-Directors Aidaa Peerzada
Marcelo Javier Pereira
Choreographer Lauren Unbekant
Scenic Designer Claudio Silva Restrepo
Costume Designer Sehar Peerzada
Lighting Designer Claudio Silva Restrepo
Sound Designer Emmett Van Slyke
Associate Costume Designer Kiara Montgomery
Stage Manager Claudio Silva Restrepo
Assistant Stage Manager Emily Hill

STAFF

Co-Artistic Directors Rodney Earl Jackson Jr.
Marcelo Javier Periera
Production Manager Claudio Silva Restrepo
Resident Playwright Aidaa Peerzada
Administrative Manager April Chelsea Mosley
Publicist David Hryy & Associates
Key Art Designers Sharyn Lee
Ryan Legaspi

PERFORMANCE DATES: December 7 to 22, 2018

BRAVA THEATER CENTER, 2781 24th Street San Francisco, CA 94110

The performance lasts approximately two hours.
There is one intermission.

Please note the location of all exits. Please turn off your cell phones.
Photography, videotaping, or recording of this production is strictly prohibited.
Food and beverages are not allowed in the theater.



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ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

EMON ELBOUDWAREJ (Ensemble) is Bay Area actor who is excited to be making his BATCO debut. He studied theatre at the Summer Training Congress at American Conservatory Theater and at the University of California, Berkeley. Recent acting credits include *Memoria del Silencio en el País de la Eterna Primavera* by Linda Giron (Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts), *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* by Stephen Adley Guirgis (American Conservatory Theater MFA Program), and *Wolves* by Steve Yockey (Theatre Rhinoceros).

ADELA FORNÉS (Ensemble) is originally from Spain and began her studies in fine arts at a very young age. In 2013, she moved to San Francisco where she earned her MFA in acting at the Academy of Art University. Recent credits include Karen in *Dinner with Friends* by Donald Margulies, Irma in the premiere of *Memoria del Silencio en el País de la Eterna Primavera* by Linda M. Girón (Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts), and Julia in a stage dreading of *Refuge* by Rachel Lynett (Z Space). Adela is thrilled to be part of this wonderful and magical story and thanks her family and close friends for the unconditional love and support.

LINDA MARIA GIRÓN (Ensemble) is thrilled to join forces with the incredible talents at BATCO once again! Recent credits include Charlotte in *The Mystery of Love and Sex* (New Conservatory Theatre Center), Emma in *Seeds* (Utopia Theatre Project), Maria in *La Posarela* (The San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company), Jennifer in *How to be a White Man* (FaultLine Theater), Feste and musical director for *Twelfth Night: An Acoustic Rock Musical* (Actors Ensemble of Berkeley), Richard Neutra, Nikki III, and the band in *Chavez Ravine*

(University of California, Berkeley), the Navy Veteran in *Re-Entry: The Process of Resilience* (Joe Goode Performance Group), and Cecily in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (BareStage Productions). A University of California, Berkeley alumna and emerging playwright, Linda is the proud recipient of the Roselyn Schneider Eisner Prize for acting and playwriting and the UC Berkeley Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies (TDPS) Social Justice Award for *Memoria del Silencio en el País de la Eterna Primavera*, which premiered last summer at the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts. Infinite gratitude to her mom, dad, partner, la familia Girón, and the BATCO family for their unending generosity, love and support. lindamgiron.com

LISA HU (Ensemble) is a bicoastal Chinese-American performer, writer, and policy advocate committed to uplifting and empowering the voices and dreams of womxn of color. She has performed in several states and internationally at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Lisa most recently performed in *Performing Visible Resilience* for the 2018 National Queer Arts Festival, a showcase for queer and transgender Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) performers. Currently rooted in Oakland, she works at The Greenlining Institute, a racial equity policy organization, serves on the board for the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) Foundation, and advocates for foster youth in Alameda County. Lisa believes in the power of art in unlocking voice, identity, and liberation, and is thrilled to officially join the BATCO family.

NATASHA LAGRONE (Ensemble) is excited to be part of her fourth BATCO production! She recently played the Lady in Blue in *for colored girls who have*

considered suicide / when the rainbow is enuf (African-American Shakespeare Company). Her past BATCO credits include *I, Too, Sing America*, *How to Be a White Man*, and *La Posarela*. Natasha has performed in *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Every 28 Hours*, and *The Insurgents* (American Conservatory Theater). She was also in the 2018 feature film *Sorry to Bother You*. Natasha is grateful to God for every blessing and to her parents, family, and friends for their continued love and support.

ISA MUSNI (Ensemble) trained in musical theatre with the San Francisco Arts Education Project and Young People's Teen Musical Theatre Company before committing to The Dance Jam pre-professional program at ODC. Immediately after graduating with a BFA from California Institute of the Arts School of Dance, Isa was cast in the title role of *Bae Making* by Jay Loyola at Kularts. Her recent credits include dancing in *I, Too, Sing America* and the ensemble of *La Posarela* (The San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company), a Tribe Member and dance captain for *Hair* (Landmark Musical Theatre), and the Moon in *In Event of Moon Disaster* (Mugwumpin). She thanks her family, her friends, her teachers, and the entire SFBATCO team for their support.

JOCELYN THOMPSON-JORDAN (Ensemble) is excited and grateful for the opportunity to work with the BATCO team for the second time. Her previous production credits include *Cabaret*, *Spring Awakening*, *Godspell*, and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Young People's Teen Musical Theatre Company) and *I, Too, Sing America* (The San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company). Jocelyn expresses immense gratitude to all her friends and family for their love and support!

JOAQUIN-TONALLI VARGAS (Ensemble) is both a rookie and creative veteran. Before joining BATCO, Tonalli graduated from high school where he was student body co-president and an aspiring filmmaker. In school, he created a series of promotional videos for student events, acted in student-written productions such as *Plot a Course for Moral High Ground* and *Hurricane Fifi*, installed an art exhibit titled *Look At Me!* based on perception and identity in a globalized world, and directed a multi-media one-act comedy titled *The Sopranos are Dead*. Tonalli is working with BATCO during a gap year in which he deferred admission to New York University Tisch School of the Arts in order to raise funds and pursue a variety of creative projects.

MERCEDES WHITE (Ensemble) is the co-founder of Definition Theatre Company in Chicago. She grew up in Pilsen, one of Chicago's most vibrant neighborhoods, and attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she earned her BFA. Mercedes is excited to be making her BATCO debut. Past credits include *LINES: A Theatre LILA Invention*, *The Brothers Size*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Genesis*, and *A Raisin in the Sun*. You can see her this fall on *Southside*, Comedy Central's latest television show. "Also, gentrification sucks."

AIDAA PEERZADA (Playwright, Co-Director) is originally from the Baltimore-Washington, DC area. She began her acting training at the Baltimore School for the Arts and graduated with a BFA from the Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama. During her time at Carnegie Mellon, she studied abroad at The Rhodopi International Theatre Laboratory in Smolyan, Bulgaria, and with The Rafi Peer Theatre Workshop in Lahore, Pakistan. Aidaa is currently based in Chicago and is a proud member of BATCO. Her regional credits include Lucrece in

The Liar, Jessica in *The Merchant of Venice*, and Bianca in *Othello* (Utah Shakespeare Festival), understudy for Lulu in *Between Riverside and Crazy* and for Rye in *BLKS* (Steppenwolf Theatre Company), the ensemble in *LINES: A Theatre LILA Invention* (Theatre LILA), Anne Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Kitty Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*, and the ensemble in *Othello* (American Players Theatre), and the Young Woman in *The Golden Dragon* (Quantum Dragon Theatre). Television and film credits include the series *Girls* on HBO, the web series *Blank My Life*, and the film *Gorenos*. Aidaa was on the writing team for *LINES* which premiered at Theater LILA in Madison in 2018. She workshoped and performed *Grandma Science* as part of the 2018 Solo Performance Lab at Greenhouse Theater Center. In 2017, her play *Things Change* received a workshop at the University of California, Davis. Aidaa's play *Scheherazade* was produced at the 2012 New York International Fringe Festival and at PLAYGROUND: A Festival of Independent Student Work at Carnegie Mellon. Her other works include *Remember Me, or Change*, and *Choreo-slam* which were also produced as part of PLAYGROUND.

MARCELO JAVIER PEREIRA (Co-Director, Co-Artistic Director) co-founded the The San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company in 2014. Recent acting credits include *I, Too*, *Sing America*, *Not Another Holiday Show!* and *Home for "all of" the Holidays* (The San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company), *Skippyjon Jones* (Theatreworks USA), *Rent* (Syracuse Stage), *A New Brain* (Syracuse University Department of Drama), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Bathwater Productions). Directing credits include *Celebrate Twelfth Night with Kathryn Crosby* (The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center),

Cinderella (African-American Shakespeare Company), *Not Another Holiday Show!* (The San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company), *La Posarela* (The San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company 2017, Community Music Center 2015), *The Complete History of America [Abridged]* (Black Box Players), *Between Dirt and Sky* (San Francisco Youth Theatre), and *Too Many Tamales* (Marsh Youth Theater). Marcelo is an alumnus of the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts.

Lisa Quoresimo (Composer) is assistant professor of musical theatre at Southern Utah University. As a composer, playwright, director, and performer, her work has been seen at Bay Area theatre companies such as Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Shotgun Players, and The Marsh, as well as Off-Off Broadway, across the country, and internationally. She is a co-founder and director of the Ground and Field Theatre Festival, and served as the artistic director of Kairos Theatre in New York. Her scholarly work has been published in *Theatre Topics*, *Analog Game Studies*, and the forthcoming *Hamilton, History and Hip-Hop: Essays on an American Musical*. Lisa earned an MA from Carnegie Mellon University and a Ph.D. in performance studies at the University of California, Davis.

EMMETT VAN SLYKE (Additional Music, Orchestrations, Sound Designer) is a composer, musician, producer, and digital media artist. As a composer, Emmett has scored various feature length and short films. His theatre compositions include *Reflecting Poe*, *Telling The Truth* (National Whistle Blowers Symposium), *Wolfskinder*, *Gemini Vanishing* (Movelnk at the Sargent Theatre, New York), and *The Crucible*, for which he received a Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival award. He has toured regionally and internationally as a multi-instrumentalist and has

worked with Mike Stoller, Jerry Lieber, and William Kotzwinkle, who wrote the screenplay for *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*. Emmett earned a BA in music and literature from State University of New York at Oswego. He was an artist in residence and master teaching artist for the Syracuse Stage education department working with artsEmerging and the summer intensive program Random Acts. Emmett is very happy to be working on this piece with BATCO.

LAUREN UNBEKANT (Choreographer) is co-artistic director of MoveInk, a multi-arts based touring performance company. As a movement artist, Lauren has performed her original work nationally and internationally at such festivals as the Humorologie Festival in Belgium, The International Festival of Clown in Barcelona, Fira Tàrrrega in Spain, The International Movement Festival in London, The International Buskers Festival in NYC, The Festival of International Art in Leon and Puebla, Mexico, and the Festival of Laughter in Singapore. For more than a decade she was the director of educational outreach for Syracuse Stage, as well as professional practice faculty for the Syracuse University Department of Drama where she taught devising, playwriting, and clowning. Lauren earned a BFA in musical theatre from Syracuse University, and has had the great fortune of working with some of the world's great masters in movement and clown. She is thrilled to be working with BATCO!

EMILY HILL (Assistant Stage Manager) was most recently stage manager for *Woman on Fire* for Those Women Productions. Previous stage management credits include *Art*, *Macbeth*,

and *A Christmas Carol* (Freeport Factory Stage), and *The Tempest* (the Freeport Shakespeare Festival). Recent acting credits include *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Kindertransport* (Pomona College Department of Theatre and Dance).

KIARA MONTGOMERY (Associate Costume Designer) marks her third time collaborating with BATCO, following *La Posarella* and *How to Be a White Man*. Prior to this production, Kiara designed costumes for *Dance of the Holy Ghosts* and *A Streetcar Named Desire* for Ubuntu Theater Project. She worked as a costume production assistant for the series *13 Reasons Why* and *Tales of the City* for Netflix.

SEHAR PEERZADA (Costume Designer) is a clothing and costume designer from Washington, DC. She previously worked with DMV Productions for dance companies, theatre productions, and stage performers of all types including Sweet Honey in the Rock, Aretha Franklin, the LaVerne Reed Dancers, DC Civic Opera Company, and Opera & More: The In Series. Sehar has designed costumes for puppet theatre and for the working versions of *Scheherazade* including its showing in the New York International Fringe Festival. Sehar's clothing lines, Urban Masala and Roc the Bloc, have been featured in Nordstrom and many fine boutiques.

CLAUDIO ANDRES SILVA RESTREPO (Scenic Designer, Lighting Designer, Stage Manager) is thrilled to be a part of *One Googol and One*. He is a director, actor, stage manager, and designer originally from Santiago, Chile. He studied at Loyola University Maryland and

spent three years teaching and working at StarStruck Academy & Theatre in Florida before moving to San Francisco. Previous acting credits include Estragon in *Waiting for Godot*, Algeron in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and Michael in *Two Rooms*. He was the director for *Death and the Maiden*, scenic designer for *American Mau(I)*, scenic designer and sound designer for *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Into the Woods*, lighting designer and stage manager for *How to be a White Man* and *La Posarella*, and stage manager for *Champagne*. He thanks BATCO for the opportunity to be part of this production and thanks his family for all their support.

RODNEY EARL JACKSON JR. (Co-Artistic Director) made his Broadway debut in *The Book of Mormon* after graduating with a BFA from the Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama. He last performed in *Ain't Too Proud*, the *Temptations* musical, and traveled North America in the first national tour of *Motown: The Musical*. A San Francisco native, Rodney was discovered in his public elementary school at age nine by the San Francisco Arts Education Project (SFartsEd, Emily Keeler and Danny Duncan). Rodney continued his theatre and performance education at Young People's Teen Musical Theater Company (San Francisco Recreation and Parks, Diane Price, Anne Marie Bookwalter, and Nicola Bosco-Alvarez) and graduated from the theatre department at the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts (Phillip Rayher). As the co-founder and co-artistic director of BATCO, Rodney is a proud art-activist and passionate about telling untold stories. [@rodneyearljacksonjr](https://twitter.com/rodneyearljacksonjr)

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