

THE 5 & DIME and
DAVID & CECILIA CRISTOL
present



Native GARDENS

written by KAREN ZACARIAS
directed by ZACH RIVERA

with additional support from
REBECCA & FERNANDO FARINAS and THE GROUNDS GUYS



JUNE 16, 17, 18, 19, 2022
— 📍 THE FLORIDA BALLET —

The 5 & Dime is sponsored in part by the City of Jacksonville and the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville through the Cultural Service Grant Program.



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FROM THE DIRECTOR

When I first read ***Native Gardens*** I understood two things.

1. Why some think this piece is particularly on the nose, and
2. Why that's absolutely necessary.

We're in unprecedented times in a state that only makes things more complicated. Our anxieties, our politics, and how we cope with these differences leave us isolated from even our neighbors. As far as political theatre goes, this piece stands out from the rest for a few reasons, but most importantly: it's hopeful. It shows us that even in the most polarized of times we can make something beautiful together rather than build walls between each other. It shows us four wildly different characters that we can see little bits of ourselves in, and encourages us to laugh at those less than desirable parts that alienate us further.

It might be uncomfortable on the way there, but we can be better neighbors to one another. We have to be.

- Zach Rivera
Director of ***Native Gardens***



tells stories that **engage, inspire, entertain,** and
challenge audiences, nurturing a rich artistic culture in
Jacksonville.

THE 5 & DIME and **DAVID & CECILIA CRISTOL** present
with additional support from **REBECCA & FERNANDO FARINAS** and **THE GROUNDS GUYS**



written by **KAREN ZACARIAS**
directed by **ZACH RIVERA**

Onstage **JUNE 16, 17, 18, 19** at The Florida Ballet

This play is performed with ONE 15-minute intermission.

THE CAST

Virginia.....**HOLLY GUTSHALL**
Tania..... **JEILYMAR MORALES**
Frank.....**MARK WRIGHT**
Pablo..... **MARCOS MIRANDA**
Inspector, Surveyor, Landscaper**ABRIEN NELSON**
Contractor..... **GRACE GUEVAREZ**

THE CREW

Director**ZACH RIVERA**
Stage Manager**EMILY GAINFORTH**
Production Managers **KATIE CRESS & BRADLEY AKERS**
Scenic Designer..... **CANDACE DICKENS**
Lighting Designer.....**JUDELYN “LULU” DIXON**
Costume Designer **KACY HOPE**
Props Designer**STEPHEN D'ANGELO**
Sound Designer.....**BRADLEY AKERS**

NATIVE GARDENS is produced through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Samuel French.

The use of photography, audio, or video recording is **strictly prohibited**.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

HOLLY GUTSHALL (Virginia) is delighted to make her 5 & Dime debut after appearing in more than 80 community and regional theatre productions over the past couple of centuries. She has been honored with nine Best Actress awards, from Folio Weekly, Theatre Jacksonville and Players by the Sea. Recent favorites include *The Lyons* and *August, Osage County* at PBTS, and *Eleemosynary* at ABET. She was a long-serving Board Member at Players by the Sea, where she is fondly remembered for her curtain speeches. Heart-felt thanks to her favorite stage husband, Mark Wright (four marriages, no funeral), to the amazing Bradley Akers and the dedicated 5 & Dime team.

JEILYMAR MORALES (Tania) is a new graduate of Jacksonville University with her BFA in Theatre Arts and a Minor in Business Administration. Her 5 & Dime journey began in *The Thanksgiving Play*, and she is incredibly grateful to continue working with them on this hilarious work. After the run of the show, Jeilymar will be moving back to Orlando to be with her family before navigating new adventures. She gives thanks to the cast and crew of *Native Gardens* for sharing and enabling her passions, and her family for supporting her throughout. IG: @jeily.mar

MARK WRIGHT (Frank) is delighted to make his first appearance with The 5 & Dime Theatre Company. You may have seen him perform in any of the dozens of productions he has done over the years at Players by the Sea, Theatre Jacksonville or ABET. He has had the privilege of working with his favorite stage wife, Holly Gutshall, in at least five of those plays, the latest being *August: Osage County* at PBTS where they both received Best Supporting Actor awards. It's been a pleasure working with the team of *Native Gardens* and it has all been made possible by the love and support of his beautiful wife, Cheryl.

MARCOS MIRANDA (Pablo) is so excited to be back on stage! A native of NYC, Marcos was enriched with culture at a young age. Following his dreams he went on to study at American Musical Dramatic Academy; where he was able to take his gifts to a higher level. Moving to Jacksonville in 2015 he has played Kevin in *In the Heights* at PBTS and put on a Latinx Showcase at

Phase 8 Theater. Since putting a pause on his career to tend to his two beautiful daughters and lovely wife he wants to thank them and his wife Vanessa especially for supporting him always in his dreams. Marcos hopes you leave here tonight with a different perspective of what it means to be a Neighborly Neighbor.

ABRIEN NELSON (Surveyor/Inspector/Landscaper) is so grateful to be a part of this production. This being his second production with The 5 & Dime, he is no stranger to the stage. Abrien has a BFA in Musical Theater from Jacksonville University '21. You might recognize Abrien from JU's past productions, or from Theatre Jacksonville's 2019 *Sister Act*. Abrien loves sharing his talents with the community and changing lives one scene at a time. Abrien would also like to give a huge shout out to his friends and family for all the love and support.

GRACE GUEVAREZ (Contractor) is a recent graduate from Jacksonville University where she received her BA and majored in Theatre Arts. She has worked on productions such as *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Deck Lead), *Metamorphoses* (Stage Manager), and *Hamlet* (Prop Master). She is excited to work her first production with The 5 & Dime and would like to thank everyone for this opportunity.

ZACH RIVERA (Director) is a Director, Actor, and theatre teacher based in Jacksonville. Some of his favorite directing credits include the world premiere of *Axe Your Mother* by Jalice Corral, *The Florida Archives* by Basecamp Theatre Co., and *Binary Star* by Guadalupe Flores. Currently, Zach is the founding artistic director of Basecamp Theatre Co. and theatre teacher at The Greenwood School. He'd like to thank Bradley for his friendship and opportunity, the cast/crew for their exceptional artistry, Emily for keeping his head screwed on, and his wife Elizabeth for her unending love and support.

EMILY GAINFORTH (Stage Manager) is a stage manager based in NEFL. Some of her favorite shows she has worked on are *In the Heights* (JU), and *Romeo and Juliet* (JU) as well as stage managing the first Student Works Festival at Jacksonville University. Recently, Emily was a finalist for stage

ABOUT THE COMPANY

management honors at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival for her work in ***Diastole: Songs for Turbulent Times***. In the community, Emily serves as secretary for Basecamp Theatre Company, has stage managed for the UNF's Shakespeare in the Park and assistant stage managed for The 5 & Dime's ***The Thanksgiving Play*** last fall.

CANDACE DICKENS (Scenic Designer) is Technical Director/Designer currently serving at her alma mater, Jacksonville University. Dickens' designs include ***The Mystery of Edwin Drood***, ***Metamorphoses***, ***Beauty and the Beast***, ***The Phantom of the Opera***, ***Mary Poppins***, ***The Sound of Music***, and ***In the Heights***. Candace remains dedicated to her personal mission statement, "Helping to build stronger, more confident individuals, through the vehicle of technical theatre, enabling them to impact the world in a meaningful and positive way while simultaneously entertaining and educating audiences with quality theatrical experiences", and is grateful every day that theatre provides such a valuable platform for the next generations.

JUDELYN DIXON (Lighting Designer) is having a great time working with The 5 & Dime this season! She completed her Associate's Degree in Theatre and Entertainment Technology with honors at Florida State College at Jacksonville. Her works include ***August Wilson's How I Learned What I Learned***, ***The Thanksgiving Play***, ***Lobby Hero*** and ***Significant Other*** (The 5 & Dime) and ***A Christmas Carol*** (Players by the Sea). She is also a scenic painter in the fine arts department at Episcopal School

of Jacksonville. Lulu is very thankful to The 5 & Dime for having her back for ***Native Gardens*** and also to her husband Marlin for always being supportive.

KACY HOPE (Costume Designer) ***Native Gardens*** is Kacy's first venture into costume design. You may recall seeing her onstage in TJ's productions of ***Mamma Mia*** (Donna) and ***Peter Pan*** (Wendy), or in The 5 & Dime production of ***Falsettos*** (Dr. Charlotte). She also has a long history of directing, beginning with ***Honk!*** (Edmonton, Kentucky), ***Chicago*** (Stowe, Vermont), and most recently ***Bonnie & Clyde*** with ABET (Jacksonville). Kacy extends a heartfelt thank you to the entire cast and crew of ***Native Gardens***, and Zach and Bradley for trusting her with this production. She'd also like to thank her wonderful husband, Will Davis, for his unwavering support.

STEPHEN D'ANGELO (Props Designer) is thrilled to be a part of another production at The 5 & Dime Theatre Company! He was most recently a part of ***The Thanksgiving Play*** (The 5 & Dime), ***The Harvest*** (The 5 & Dime), ***Love, Valor and Compassion*** (The 5 & Dime), and ***The Wiz*** (PBTS). He would like to thank The 5 & Dime staff and this amazing cast and crew for their hard work and dedication, and Logan, Curtis, & family for their continuing support. In addition to his North Florida theatre experience, Stephen devotes his time as a Realtor in the Saint Augustine area serving St. Johns, Duval, and Flagler counties/ HomesWithDangelo@gmail.com

SPECIAL THANKS

The Florida Ballet, Martha Lemire, Del Ward
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Rebecca & Fernando Farinas
The Grounds Guys, Jennifer & James O'Brien
Jacksonville University, Candace Dickens
SET Studios, Jocelyn Geronimo
Wacca Pilatka, Nicholas Freeman

Allen Morton & David Flynn
Tracy Olin
Nick Garcia & Abby Gomez
The Folsom Family
Eli & Martha Bekkum

Susan Roche
Marlin Dixon
Will Davis
Baron Tetzlaff
Aisha McBurnie

It's support from people like you that allows us to produce quality, thought-provoking theatre, and each and every contribution we receive ensures our ability to continue bringing change-making storytelling to the local stage.

Many thanks to those who have so generously given!

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