

# GRANDMA. GANGSTA. GUERRILLA.

*By Abi Padilla*



A Ruby Slippers Theatre Premiere Production  
Presented in association with Presentation House Theatre,  
and Blackout Art Society.

**Feb 13 - 16, 2025**

Ruby Slippers Theatre  
COURAGE • HEART • BRAINS



presentation  
HOUSE THEATRE

# Grandma. Gangsta. Guerrilla.

By Abi Padilla

A Ruby Slippers Theatre Premiere Production

Presented in association with Presentation House Theatre, and Blackout Art Society.

---

**Dates and Times:**

Feb 13-16, 2025

**Show length:**

Approximately 2 hours long plus intermission

**Audience (adult, youth, children):**

Adults and youths

## **PRODUCTION TEAM**

**Playwright:** Abi Padilla

**Director:** Leslie Dos Remedios

**Lighting Design:** Jonathan Kim

**Projection Design:** Andie Lloyd

**Set Design:** Kimira Reddy

**Sound Design:** Riley Hardwick

**Music Director and Composer:** Argel Monte de Ramos

**Music Captain:** Vince Sendrijas

**Fight Directors and Intimacy Choreographers:**

Affair of Honor, Nathania Bernabe and Jackie T. Hanlin

**Co-Fight Captains:** Evelyn Chew and Terrence Zhou

**Props Design:** Heidi Wilkinson

**Costume Design:** Sarah Sosick

**Projection Co-Designers:** Ronnie Cheng and June Hsu

**Dramaturgy:** Kamila Sediego

**Stage Manager:** Jennifer Wilson

**Apprentice Stage Manager:** Vicki Santos

**Apprentice Director:** Isaac Stuber Li

**Technical Director/Production Manager:** Nico Dicecco

## **ACTORS**

**Yorlene Bernido** – Nika

**Evelyn Chew** – Commander Lumen and Ensemble

**Kevin Nguyen** – Nurse Chaz, Andi Martin and Ensemble

**Abigail Padilla** – Basyang

**Vince Sendrijas** – Jun-Jun, Filipino Radio Reporter

**Raugi Yu** – Boss Mayhem, Pedro

**Terrence Zhou** – Ken, Captain Manaka



Presentation House Theatre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages professional Artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the terms of the jointly negotiated Canadian Theatre Agreement.



Presentation House Theatre engages professional designers who are members of the Associated Designers of Canada. These designers appear with permission of the Associated Designers of Canada.

---

Many thanks to our sponsors, funders and supporters!



Scan the QR Code to fill out a brief audience survey for  
***Grandma. Gangsta. Guerrilla.***

# ABOUT RUBY SLIPPERS THEATRE



Multi award-winning Ruby Slippers Theatre (RST) envisions a world where diversity is celebrated through a deeper understanding of each other. To realize this vision, we produce crucial new plays on the mainstage and through our annual Advance

Theatre Festival which showcase the works of female identifying, gender non-conforming, IBPOC artists, advancing the radically inclusive stage.

## Next up from Ruby Slippers Theatre:

After our wildly successful Advance Theatre Festival 2025 and premiere production of ***Grandma. Gangsta. Guerrilla.*** by Abi Padilla (an Advance Theatre Festival Alumni), don't miss the English language premiere production of ***Home Deliveries*** by Catherine Léger, translated by Leanna Brodie, and directed by Diane Brown, at United Players, March 20 to April 13, 2025. For more info visit: [www.rubyslippers.ca](http://www.rubyslippers.ca)

## RST Staff:

**Artistic Director:** Diane Brown

**General Manager:** Grace Chin

**Fund Development and Outreach:** Alison Chisholm

**Publicist:** Jodi Smith

**Bookkeeping:** Boyd Norman

## RST Board of Directors:

Vivian Davidson

Lynne Lee

Jenny Malcolm

Marie Rivard

**Ruby Slippers Theatre would like to sincerely thank** the Canada Council for the Arts, the B.C. Arts Council, the Province of British Columbia, The City of Vancouver, The Vancouver Foundation, The Maclean Foundation, The Mathieson Foundation, The Deux Mille Foundation, The Hamber Foundation, and our Season Sponsor John Fluevog Shoes. Also our many donors and supporters, and a special thank you to Anthony and Dylan, and all our mothers and grandmothers.

# ABOUT BLACKOUT ART SOCIETY



In 2012, Vancouver, BC, witnessed the inception of a unique theatrical force: Blackout Theatre. Initially emerging as an ad hoc theatre ensemble, we passionately set our sights on creating socially aware and pioneering theatre experiences that resonated deeply with the Persian community. With the invaluable contributions of local Persian artists, our first four years were marked by performances that echoed our cultural heritage and enlightened our audiences.

Taking a significant leap in 2017, Blackout Theatre transformed into a registered not-for-profit organization in British Columbia, Blackout Art Society.

As we evolved, our vision broadened. While the essence of our Persian roots remains undeniably central to our identity, our aspirations extend beyond. We envision a theatre that bridges linguistic and cultural divides, producing enthralling pieces in both Persian and English. We aim to connect with a diverse audience spectrum and secure our place amongst government-funded theatre establishments.

## **Blackout Team:**

**Artistic Producer:** Soha Sanajou

**Artistic Director:** Amir N. Hosseini

**Marketing Manager:** Shideh Taleban

**Digital Content Specialist:** Bucky Yaqub

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Yassaman Hosseini

**Videographer:** Farhad Adib



This project began as a solo show graduation requirement in Studio 58. I wanted to play a sassy, unapologetic, funny woman and showcase all the things I wanted to do as a performer: comedy, drama, martial arts, singing and rapping. Little did I know that this 13-minute piece in 2023 would evolve into my first full-length play.

In the winter of 2022, I spoke with both of my grandmothers and learned snippets of their childhood during the 1940's Japanese Occupation in the Philippines. This urged me to do more research where I read about the guerrilla movement and comfort women in World War II. It's easy to focus on the tragedy that happened to them, but I felt that it was important to see these women beyond the label of "war victims". They are also grandmothers who have individual dreams, families, a sense of humour, and a united love for showbiz gossip and soap operas. They have all inspired the creation of my play, along with characters like The Landlady from *Kung-fu Hustle*, Toph Beifong from *Avatar the Last Airbender* and the ladies from *The Golden Girls*. To further enrich the world I built, I found myself interviewing ex-gang members, Filipino nurses, and many children of immigrants.

This play might have been born out of all those multi-layered dark struggles, but despite all the content warnings, I swear this show is an action-packed comedy. Remember to have fun! I hope you find healing in the laughter or the tears that come out.

I want to thank Ruby Slippers Theatre and Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre's Creation Lab for helping me develop this script and share it to the world. Special thanks to rice & beans theatre and NPC3. I dedicate this to my Filipino and Asian community. To God be the glory!

– *Abi Padilla (Playwright)*



The unceded territory on which we gather as well as the Philippines, in which part of our story is set, have both experienced the wounds of colonization. *Grandma. Gangsta. Guerrilla.* is a story of survival, embodying the hope that while colonial violence leaves its mark for generations it does not control us. It is vital to me, Abi, and the whole company that we begin to tell our IBPOC stories by centering perseverance, strength and above all, joy. Joy

is an act of resistance. With our ancestors guiding our hearts we have created this touching, funny and vibrant show.

This production is a humble offering to honour those who came before, who brought us here and to each of you who join us today. By telling this story of survival with bravery, joy and deep love we strive to honour the ancestral stewards of this land, and all our ancestors that have suffered through these events, many of whom never got the opportunity to tell their own story. This story serves to remind those who watch it that survivors are not defined by the trauma they have experienced but by the resilience and love they continue to bring into this world in the face of it.

– *Leslie Dos Remedios (Director)*



By producing and celebrating the works of female identifying and gender non-conforming IBPOC artists, Ruby Slippers Theatre helps create a vibrant new theatre culture, transcending patriarchal colonial norms. I programmed this play not only because Abi has created something utterly original, heartfelt, funny and courageous, but also in an ongoing effort to lift up the voices of underrepresented folx in the spirit of true allyship,

empowerment, and collective liberation.

– *Diane Brown (Producer)*

# PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM



## **Abi Padilla** – *Playwright and Actor*

Abi is a first generation Filipino-Canadian actor, writer and filmmaker based in Vancouver. She has worked with many theatre companies such as VACT, rice & beans theatre, PTC, Theatre Replacement, Studio 58 and United Players of Vancouver. She is excited to be working with Ruby Slippers for the world premiere of her first full-length play: ***Grandma. Gangsta. Guerrilla.***



## **Leslie Dos Remedios** – *Director*

Originally from Toronto, Leslie is a graduate of York University (2008) and Studio 58 (2012). Leslie's most credits include performing as Mariana in ***Measure for Measure*** (Bard on the Beach) and directing, ***For Now*** (Green Thumb Theatre), ***Gilky as Fin*** (Studio 58) and ***Before They Cut Down Our Tree*** (J to K Productions). Thank you to Diane and Grace at Ruby Slippers Theatre, Abi for trusting me to bring her beautiful words to life and the entire cast and crew for all their tremendous work. A personal thank you to Stephen and Rosalind, who make anything possible, and everything worth it.



## **Jonathan Kim** – *Lighting Designer*

Jonathan, better known as Jono, is a Korean-Canadian lighting designer who currently lives and works on the unceded, stolen and ancestral lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh territories (Vancouver, BC). He is a graduate of Simon Fraser University's Theatre Production and Design program.



## **Andie Lloyd** – *Projection Designer*

Andie Lloyd is a queer interdisciplinary artist and community advocate, currently based on unceded Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Territories. She works as a lighting designer and media artist, and is a co-founder of HK House 香港屋 (@hkhouseofficial), a local non-profit dedicated to the love and preservation of Hong Kong culture. Some notable design involvements include: ***Fat Joke*** (Newworld Theatre) — Projection Design, ***SmartSmart*** (SpiderwebShow) — Digital Design,

# PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM

**Residuals** (住み・墨) (Shion Skye Carter) — Lighting Design, **Peace Country** (rice & beans theatre) — Projection Design, **Happy Valley/馬照跑·舞照跳** (rice & beans theatre) — Projection Design, **Clean/Espejos** (Newworld Theatre) — Surtitle Design. Andie is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada. GFHG SDGM.



## **Kimira Reddy** – *Set Designer*

Kimira Reddy is an Artist, award-winning Set Designer, and Creative Director based on Coast Salish Territories. Originally from South Africa, she holds an MFA in Design from UBC. Her work spans virtual reality, exhibitions, and art installations, with collaborations with UBC, Vancouver Opera, Canada Wild Arts Society and more. Visit: [www.kimirareddy.com](http://www.kimirareddy.com).



## **Riley Hardwick** – *Sound Designer*

Riley Hardwick is an actor, improviser, and Jessie Award-winning sound designer. He has worked with The Arts Club, Green Thumb, VACT, Savage Society, Rumble, Globe Theatre, and more. Riley is a graduate of Studio 58 and performs regularly at The Improv Centre.



## **Argel Monte de Ramos** – *Music Director and Composer*

Argel Monte de Ramos is a Filipino-Canadian artist from Surrey, B.C. Canada. He was a Top 10 finalist of CBC's Searchlight 2021, Surrey Art and Business Awards - Music Award Winner 2022 and The World Championships of Performing Arts multi-medalist 2016. A CapU graduate of the Musical Theatre program and Bachelor of Performing Arts, Argel works as Arts Umbrella's Community Programs Coordinator, and Momentum 180 Collective's Artistic Director. Select performance credits include Manager/Ensemble in **ELF** (Arts Club, Ovation Awards 2023 Winner), and Horton in **SEUSSICAL!** (Align Entertainment).

# PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM



## **Nathania Bernabe** – *Fight Director and Intimacy Choreographer*

Nathania is a Filipino-Canadian multidisciplinary artist and the Artistic Director of Affair of Honor, a stage combat and physical theatre company. She performs across Canada and has trained all over the world especially in physical theatre with companies like SITI Company, Zen Zen Zo and Diavolo Dance. [www.affairofhonor.ca](http://www.affairofhonor.ca)



## **Jackie T. Hanlin** – *Fight Director and Intimacy Choreographer*

Jackie T. Hanlin is an actor, fight choreographer and producer. Past credits include ***Soul Samurai*** (Vancouver Fringe 2017/18), ***Heroine*** (Edmonton Fringe 2018), ***Playthings*** (Edmonton Fringe 2019/Presentation House Theatre 2021), ***Kill The Ripper*** (Presentation House Theatre/Rio Theatre 2022), ***The Five Vengeances*** (Shadbolt 2022), ***Medicine*** (PI Theatre 2024), ***Homecoming*** (Urban Ink 2024), ***Treasure Island*** (Project X 2024), ***Linck and Mülhahn*** (Studio 58 2024), ***God's a Drag*** (PTC 2024).



## **Heidi Wilkinson** – *Props Designer*

Heidi has been a props builder for 30 years. She has worked in all of the large theatres, notably having been the head of props at The Arts Club Theatre, The Vancouver Opera and Bard on the Beach (where she is still head of properties after 29 years.) She owns and runs Flying Fox Props Shop in East Vancouver, a custom-build props house that specializes in film/ tv, commercial, and corporate prop builds. Heidi is proud to be a part of this production with Ruby Slippers Theatre.



## **Sarah Sosick** – *Costume Designer*

Costume design: ***Maps of Utopia*** (the frank theatre). Assistant costume design: ***Jersey Boys*** (Arts Club); ***Hamlet*** (Bard on the Beach); ***East Van Panto: Beauty and the Beast, Robin Hood*** (Theatre Replacement); ***Rodgers + Hammerstein Cinderella*** (Gateway Theatre); ***Stupid F\*cking Bird*** (The Search Party); ***Starwalker*** (Urban Ink). Head of wardrobe: ***FourPlay2024*** (Studio 58); ***How Black Mothers Say I Love You*** (the frank theatre).

# PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM



## **Kamila Sediego** – *Dramaturgy*

Kamila Sediego (she/her/siya) is a Filipinx settler, daughter of immigrants, sister, auntie, partner, playwright, and dramaturg living on the stolen territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples. Her ancestral roots are embedded in Iloilo, Cebu, and Manila, Philippines. Her play, ***Homecoming*** (Urban Ink) premiered at the Cultch (2024), and she is developing a new play, ***Engkanto***.



## **Jennifer Wilson** – *Stage Manager*

Jennifer Anne Wilson, an SFU Fine Arts alum specializing in stage management, spent three years with Princess Cruises' entertainment team before stage managing Vancouver productions like her favourite, ***Bacio Rosso***. She toured Canada with Ballet Jörgen, enriching her stage management expertise while exploring the country. Thrilled to return to theatre, Jennifer hopes you enjoy the show!



## **Vicki Santos** – *Apprentice Stage Manager*

Vicki Santos is a queer, Filipina-Portugese Canadian stage technician graduated from Douglas College's Stagecraft Program in 2023. Vicki has worked as a technician and stage manager for plays, festivals and concerts around the lower mainland. Working on GGG with all these talented individuals has been an honour! Enjoy the show!



## **Isaac Li** – *Apprentice Director*

Isaac (德望) Recent acting credits include: ***Prince Caspian*** (Gallery 7); ***Goodnight Desdemona***, (Good Morning Juliet) (Blue Bridge); ***Forgiveness*** (Arts Club/Theatre Calgary); ***The Code*** (Green Thumb); ***She Sells Sea Shells*** (United Players); ***Anon(ymous)***; ***Antony*** and ***Cleopatra*** (Studio 58); ***Of Mice and Men*** (Promethean). Recent directing credits include: ***Derwent is Different*** (Green Thumb); ***King Lear***; ***Saint Joan*** (Promethean).

# PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM



## **Nico Dicecco** – *Technical Director and Production Manager*

Nico Dicecco is a Vancouver-based video artist, technical director, stage manager, and photographer. His work centers on supporting marginalized populations through technical and logistical solutions. Notable projects include Realwheels Academy, *In Camera*, *#whatnow*, *Benevolence*, *Through My Lens*, and *The River*. Nico holds a PhD in English from Simon Fraser University.



## **Yorlene Bernido** – *Actor*

Yorlene Bernido was born and raised in the humble province of Davao del Norte, Philippines, and is now a settler on the unceded land of the xʷməθkʷə ʔəm (Musqueam) Sḵw x wú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́lʔlwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. She is a recent graduate of Studio 58 and is dedicated to making a difference in the world by creating new and authentic stories that empower underrepresented voices. *Grandma. Gangsta. Guerrilla* is her first out-of-school production, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



## **Evelyn Chew** – *Actor, Fight Captain*

Evelyn Chew is a Vancouver-based actor, educator, and mentor. Her work spans stage (Bard on the Beach), screen (*Resident Alien*, *NarcoLeap*), and video games (*1000xResist*). A Jessie Award recipient, she fosters inclusive artistic spaces, serving with rice & beans theatre and UBCP committees, guided by love and curiosity.



## **Kevin Nguyen** – *Actor*

Kevin Nguyen is a Vietnamese-Canadian artist based in Vancouver, B.C. After falling in love with acting in high school, Kevin decided to further his training at Studio 58's theatre program. He has co-created and appeared in works such as *Annette is a Bimbo!* (The Woman's Company), *The Bright Young Things* (Folding Camera Theatre), *For Now* (Green

# PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM

Thumb Theatre), and **Middletown** (Pacific Theatre). Kevin was part of the 2022 Riotous Youth ensemble at Bard on the Beach and is the 2022 recipient of the United Players Andrée Karas scholarship award.



## **Vince Sendrijas** – Actor, Music Captain

Vince Sendrijas is a musical theatre artist new to Vancouver. Originally from the Philippines, he is best known for his roles as The Buddha, Prince Siddhartha, and Prince Ananda in **Siddhartha The Musical**, which toured across eight countries. Recently, he played Georg in **Spring Awakening**. Vince brings passion and energy to every performance.



## **Raugi Yu** – Actor

Raugi Yu is a graduate of The Dome Theatre program at Dawson College and The BFA Acting program at UBC. He makes his home in BC with his lovely wife and their two kids who love and support him unconditionally. **Grandma. Gangsta. Guerrilla.** will be Raugi's fourth show with Ruby Slippers Theatre having previously performed in **The Duchess, I Lost My Husband** and **Hurricane Mona**. Raugi is extremely honoured and excited that it will be in this particular show with such stellar people. As always, Raugi sends you love and light and wishes you a great experience.



## **Terrence Zhou** – Actor, Fight Captain

Terrence Zhou (he/him) is so excited and proud to be a part of the journey for this amazing new show. Select credits include: **Cinderella** (Metro Theatre); **Guys & Dolls** (The Arts Club); **Blood Wedding, The Tempest, A Chorus Line** (Studio 58). Terrence is very grateful to play on the unceded and ancestral lands of the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tseil-Waututh Nations

# GLOSSARY

**Lola** – Tagalog word for grandmother

**Apo** – Tagalog word for grandchildren

**Comfort Women** – women and girls forced into sexual slavery by Imperial Japanese Military Forces during World War II. Some countries affected were Philippines, Korea, China, Malaysia, Taiwan, Indonesia.

**Makapili** – Filipinos who collaborated with the Japanese army during World War II.

**Hukbalahap** – One of the anti-Japanese guerrilla forces formed by the Filipinos in World War II.

To learn more about the comfort women in the Philippines, research the organization LILA PILIPINA.

Maintenance Masters 

# SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES

We are committed to keeping your property safe and accessible, providing professional snow clearing solutions tailored to your needs.

- Commercial Snow Management
- Prompt Snow Plowing
- Sidewalk Clearing
- Salting and De-Icing


**Contact Us**

+1 (604) 831 - 6454  
maintenancemasters.ca  
quotes@maintenancemasters.ca

Free Quotes

Servicing Greater Vancouver





## DATE NIGHT NEVER GETS OLD

At Amica Edgemont Village, the day is yours. So you get to share it with whomever you want. Host your family for an elegant Sunday dinner, play poker with the girls, or get to know someone new. Together we'll create a senior living experience that's all yours, including personalized, professional care that evolves to meet your needs, even as those needs change. And, like quality time with the ones you love, that never gets old.

Join us for a complimentary lunch & private tour.

CALL MARYAM AND ERICA AT 604-929-6361

# AMICA

EDGEMONT VILLAGE

3225 HIGHLAND BLVD  
AMICA.CA/EDGEMONT-VILLAGE



# BEST SUPPORTING CHARACTER

*(IN LIFE AND ON STAGE)*

FLUEVOGS ♥ THEATRE



**WHILE YOU'RE SITTING HERE,  
ENTER TO WIN A NEW PAIR OF FLUEVOGS**



FLUEVOG.COM



## PRESENTATION HOUSE THEATRE STAFF

**Kim Selody** | *Artistic Director*  
kimselody@phtheatre.org

**Andrea Loewen** | *Managing Director*  
gm@phtheatre.org

**Kaeden Atkinson Hill** | *Head Technician*  
headtech@phtheatre.org

**Emily Brown** | *Company and Box Office Manager*  
boxoffice@phtheatre.org

**Giselle Clarke-Trenaman** | *Production Coordinator-Facilities Manager*  
tech@phtheatre.org

**Araceli Ferrara** | *Marketing Coordinator*  
marketing@phtheatre.org

**Manami Hara** | *Director of Applied Arts*  
outreach@phtheatre.org

**Adrien Hodgson** | *Technical Director*  
atd@phtheatre.org

**Linea Perry** | *Development Associate*  
development@phtheatre.org

**Brian Postalian** | *Artistic Associate for the Creative Hub*  
hub@phtheatre.org

**Kimberly Sunder** | *Front of House Manager*



333 Chesterfield Avenue  
North Vancouver, BC V7M 3G9  
**Box Office:** 604.990.3474  
**Administration:** 604.990.3473  
**e-mail:** admin@phtheatre.org

