

San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company  
presents

# PRIVATE

WRITTEN BY  
MONA PIRNOT

DIRECTED BY  
PETER J KUO

MAR 17 to APR 2

POTRERO STAGE  
1695 18th St, SF

**SFBATCO.**  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA THEATRE COMPANY

SFBATCO.ORG

## Administrative Staff

San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company  
2781 24th St, San Francisco, CA 94110

415.484.8566 · info@sfbatco.org

Co-Founder,  
Artistic Director ..... Rodney Earl Jackson Jr.  
Managing Director ..... Adam Maggio  
Director of Operations  
& Design ..... Christine Chung  
Literary and  
Outreach Manager ..... Aidaa Peerzada  
Technical  
Director ..... Claudio Andres Silva Restrepo  
Associate Producer ..... Phaedra Tillery-Boughton  
Marketing Associate ..... Vanessa Louis-Jean

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## Sponsors



SFBATCO is supported in part by an American Rescue Plan Act grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support general operating expenses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This programming is brought to you in partnership with the Dream Keeper Initiative.

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# Private

By Mona Pirnot

## Cast

Georgia .....	Aidaa Peerzada
Corbin .....	Sedrick Cabrera
Abbey .....	Risa Ferrer
Jordan, Understudy (Corbin) .....	Adam Maggio
Understudy (Jordan) .....	Drew Paton

## Creative Team

Director .....	Peter J. Kuo
Scenic Designer .....	Celeste Martore
Costume Designer .....	Tiersa Nureyev
Lighting Designer .....	Claudio Andres Silva Restrepo
Sound Designer .....	Ray Archie
Stage Manager .....	Taylor Mendez
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Jocelyn Thompson-Jordan
Assistant Costumer, Run Crew .....	Mallory McDaniel
Scenic Builder .....	Reese Brindisi
Box Office Manager .....	Bacilio Mendez II
Graphic Designer .....	Christine Chung

**Performance Dates:** March 17 - April 2, 2023

Potrero Stage, 1695 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94107  
415.484.8566 · info@sfbatco.org · sfbatco.org

The performance lasts approximately eighty minutes with no intermission.

Masks are not required but highly encouraged. No proof of vaccination necessary.

## Note From the Directors of SFBATCO



As two guys who grew up in San Francisco, it's really easy to point the finger at tech companies, blaming them for changes in our city that we ain't quite down with. And when describing the themes of *Private*, we found people responding like, "Here we go, a play blasting the tech industry."

But while the play uses digital privacy as a backdrop, its characters are actually grappling with their personal and interpersonal situations, reminding us of the common saying, "When you point a finger, there are three fingers pointing back." Georgia and Corbin's relationship issues aren't an effect of his new tech job; it is just the new circumstances that expose long-existing problems. As difficult as this is to admit, we see a parallel with this tension and what's happening in our home of San Francisco.

Artists have been unable to survive in San Francisco for years, and the city has long been losing its diversity in many senses of the word—ethnic, cultural, economic, occupational. But, as Abbey says in the play, "In the name of honesty," instead of pointing fingers at others, what if we all looked inward? What are we doing to ensure that the arts thrive in San Francisco? What are we doing to combat the displacement of people of color? What are we doing to support those experiencing homelessness, those persevering through mental health crises, those without consistent access to food?

Theater cannot solve the world's problems. But we hope you leave the space today ready to be honest with yourself, and those around you, about how we can all step up to create the community we want to live in. With your support, we will continue to produce work that provides a fresh perspective about the collective issues we face. But after that, it's on all of us to get to work. Thank you for choosing to spend your time (both public and private) with SFBATCO. It truly means the world to us.

**Rodney Earl Jackson Jr.**, Artistic Director  
**Adam Maggio**, Managing Director



## Note From the Director of PRIVATE

Twitter. Instagram. Facebook. TikTok. YouTube. Reality TV. The levels that we as a society choose to share our private information through different mediums varies drastically from person to person. Some of us are willing to share every speck of our private lives with the public, while others of us do everything we can to stay off-the-grid.

But when is something so private that we're not only unwilling to share it with the public, we're also unwilling to share it even with ourselves? *Mona Pirnot* builds an incredibly precise play about this very question. As private moments become more of a consumable form of entertainment for those escaping reality, the demand for showcasing privacy will begin to intrude in our own lives. Eventually we are forced to confront the very private thoughts and feelings that we have struggled to hide from ourselves. We hope you enjoy *Private* and thanks for being here.

**Peter J. Kuo**, Director of *Private*



**Ray Archie**



**Reese Brindisi**



**Sedrick Cabrera**



**Risa Ferrer**



**Adam Maggio**

## Biographies

**Mona Pirnot** (she/her) is a NYC based playwright and songwriter. She is a current member of EST/Youngblood. Plays include *I Love You So Much I Could Die* (2022 NYTW Dartmouth Residency), *Private* (2022 Mosaic Theater, 2022 Mirrorbox Theatre, 2019 Kilroys List), and *Offshore Clinical Trials* (2019 EST/Sloan commission). Her work has been produced by or developed with Playwright's Horizons, New York Theatre Workshop, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Mosaic Theatre, Mirrorbox Theatre, Premiere Stages, Mile Square Theatre, and Hecht Studio Theatre. Selected monologues are published in *In Performance*, *Contemporary Monologues for Teens* (Hal Leonard). She was the 2014-15 Literary Fellow at Center Theatre Group and Williamstown Theatre Festival's 2019 Playwright in Residence.

**Peter J. Kuo** (he/him) is a director, producer, writer, and educator focused on raising the visibility of marginalized communities. He is the director of the Conservatory at A.C.T. and serves on the staff EDI committee. Kuo is an alum of Williamstown Theatre Festival's Directing Corps, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's FAIR Program, and Directors Lab West. He held a residency at Drama League and was named one of Theatre Communications Group's Rising Leaders of Color. He is co-founder of Artists at Play, a Los Angeles-based Asian American theater collective. Previously, he has taught and directed students at The New School, Herbert Berghof Studio, Atlantic Acting School, and Redhouse Arts Center. Directing highlights include the internationally viewed Zoom production of Madhuri Shekar's *In Love and Warcraft*, Lauren Yee's *in a word* and Ching Chong Chinaman, Christopher Chen's *Mutt*, Adam Gwon's *Ordinary Days*, and Jason Robert Brown's *Songs for a New World*. He received his MFA at The New School of Drama in New York. [www.peterjkuo.com](http://www.peterjkuo.com)

**Tiersa Nureyev** (she/her) is a multidisciplinary artist and designer who has costumed for film, theatre, dance and performance art. She has led art

direction in the creation of fiber-based elements, murals, and garments for exhibitions and set design, and is a recipient of a National Endowment of the Arts-funded residency via SF Arts Education Project at the Minnesota Street Project. She is the co-founder of the design studio, Stella Fluorescent, whose focus is on making thoughtful, materials driven, objects that take the form of fashion accessories, jewelry, and textiles. Tiersa has been a teaching artist with SFArtsED since 2006. She believes strongly that art and making are an integral part of the human experience. This conviction touches all aspects of her work; as a teaching artist in the SF School District, to summer programs with youth that probe deeply into the nature of fashion as identity, to collaborating with artists currently and formerly residing in San Quentin Prison.

**Celeste Martore** (she/they) is a visual artist from San Francisco, California. Her work takes various forms-- sculpture, photography, set design-- and pokes at the beautiful absurdities and troubling inequities of everyday life. Celeste is very fond of the cracks, corners, in-betweens, and the hidden-yet-very-visible patches of a city that author tender moments of ritual, performance, and play.

**Claudio Andres Silva Restrepo** (he/him) is the Technical Director at SFBATCO. He is a Theater Artist from Santiago, Chile. He spent three years teaching and working at StarStruck Theatre & Academy in Stuart, FL before moving to San Francisco. Moving to the Bay Area in 2017, Claudio has become Technical Director/Production Manager for SFBATCO (San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company). As an independent design artist and technician he works with many professional companies like Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, Those Women Productions, 42nd Street Moon, Brava for Women in the Arts, with specific care to create works that represent the diverse community of the Bay Area and addressing social issues relevant to his community. He also works as a designer and educator with youth-focused companies like SF



**Celeste Martore**



**Mallory McDaniel**



**Taylor Mendez**



**Tiersa Nureyev**



**Drew Paton**

Arts Education Project, Throckmorton Theatre, Young People's Teen Musical Theatre Company, and other Educational Programs. During the summer of 2020, Claudio had the opportunity to join the JCHS community as their new Theatre Technical Director. Selected Credits: I, Too, Sing America (Set/Lights), How To Be A White Man (SM, Lights), La Posarela (SM, Lights), Shining (TD/Lighting)

**Ray Archie** (he/him) is the Executive Director of Notes to the Soul and head engineer of Brooklyn Sound Lab. Ray plays cello, bass, & piano and has performed internationally with Leonard Bernstein, Michael Tilson-Thomas, LSO, SFSO, & many others. Ray is an award-winning engineer/producer who has worked in television and radio for over 20 years, regularly presents AES and EBU conventions, and has recorded 30+ albums, 25+ audiobooks, and 100's journalism pieces for the major publishers.

**Sedrick Cabrera** (he/him) is a Chicano actor based in San Francisco, CA. He's a San Jose State University Alumni (B.A. Theatre Arts), trained for both stage and screen acting. He has collaborated theatrically with companies such as Cal Shakes, SFBATCO, Those Women Productions, SF Playground, and Marin Shakespeare Company, and has played principal roles in commercials for brands such as Lincoln, Google, Apple, and Salesforce. Sedrick has starred in feature films opposite stars like Winona Ryder (Gone In The Night), Pedro Pascal (Freaky Tales) and Jamie Neumann (Thirsty). Sedrick's work is dedicated to revealing how Brown Latinx communities bring style, sustenance, & poetry to the culture of California. [www.sedrickcabrera.com](http://www.sedrickcabrera.com)

**Aidaa Peerzada** (she/her) is a writer, performer, and arts administrator who grew up between Baltimore, MD, and Lahore, Pakistan. As an actor, Aidaa has performed with Marin Theatre, Word For Word, Pittsburgh Public, Illinois Shakespeare, Utah Shakespeare, Steppenwolf, American Players Theatre, and Quantum Theatre. Aidaa studied at the Baltimore School for the Arts and went on to receive her BFA in Drama from Carnegie Mellon.

You catch her later this spring in the World Premiere of *The N\* Lovers* at Magic Theatre. Aidaa is SFBATCO's Literary and Outreach Manager and was a recipient of the 2020 Artist Leadership Residency with SFBATCO. You can follow her @ [mixed.millennial](https://www.instagram.com/mixed.millennial).

**Adam Maggio** (he/him) is the Managing Director at SFBATCO. He was born and raised in San Francisco, where he attended Rooftop Alternative and Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts. Adam grew up performing with SFArtsEd under Emily Keeler and Danny Duncan, where he met Rodney and Marcelo, who co-founded SFBATCO. Adam has performed Off-Broadway and regionally across the country; he has directed both original and established works; and he has served as an Associate Producer with Mile Square Theatre and En Garde Arts. Adam recently received a Master's of Fine Arts in Theatre Management and Producing from Columbia University. He is thrilled to be back home and working to enrich the dynamic theatre community in the Bay Area.

**Risa Ferrer** (she/her) is an actress and artist from San Diego currently based in San Francisco, California. She is so excited and grateful to be making her debut with SFBATCO! You may have seen her in Bindlestiff Studio's *Stories High XXII* right here in San Francisco. Risa has trained at the American Conservatory Theatre in Acting with Mia Tagano, Mark Rafael, & Valerie Weak and in On-Camera with Deb Fink. Risa's favorite place to be is hanging at the beach or getting down on a dancefloor. Through her art, Risa strives to inspire the world to live a joyous life filled with love. I love you mom! Instagram: @RJEEEEZY.

**Drew Paton** (he/him) has been a punk rocker, a parent, a slam poet, and a Presbyterian minister. He's made theatre alongside New Yorkers experiencing homelessness with Theatre of the Oppressed NYC, and with youth in rural Nicaragua. He recently appeared in *Metamorphoses* at the Pear Theatre and Off-Broadway, in Michel Marc Bouchard's *Lilies*: or *The Revival of a Romantic Drama*. Previously he





**Aidaa Peerzada**



**Mona Pirnot**



**Claudio Restrepo**



**Jocelyn  
Thompson-Jordan**

played the title role in Georg Buchner’s enigmatic Woyzeck at the Kaye Playhouse in NYC. Drew is indebted to the teaching of Austin Pendleton and Lesly Kahn. He presently lives in Berkeley with his wife and two young children.

**Mallory McDaniel** (she/her) is thrilled to be working with SFBATCO for the first time. She graduated from California College of the Arts in 2019, with a degree in Fashion Design. Her previous costume credits include - Halie: the Mahalia Jackson Story (Lorraine Hansberry Theater), Don Quixote (Island City Opera), and Annie (SF Players). When not costuming, she alternates between teaching art/fashion workshops to kids and working as a textiles jeweler at Stella Fluorescent.

**Jocelyn “Jojo” Thompson-Jordan** (she/her) is excited to work with SFBATCO as the Assistant Stage Manager. “Instead of being on the stage, I get to work behind it, and support these talented folks on stage. It’s an entirely new experience and I’m extremely grateful to the folks at SFBATCO for believing in me!” Being a black queer native of San Francisco, participating in shows that represent the diverse city she grew up in is extremely important to her. “I believe that uplifting BIPOC voices/experiences in the Bay Area is so important, and when I say that, I mean ALL aspects of the BIPOC experience. I’m tired of only hearing about the struggles and pain our people have

survived. Let’s highlight our JOY, INTELLIGENCE, BEAUTY, and TALENT that have been the blueprint for American culture, and the inspiration to nations around the world.”

**Taylor Mendez** (she/her) first fell in love with theater her junior year of high school while attending Holy Names High School (Oakland, CA). She then moved on to complete her 4 years of study and obtained her BFA in Theater with a focus on Stage Management. After graduating, she spent some time working in the Behavior and Mental Health field until 2022 when she made the choice to become a full time independent artist. Since then she has held the titles Director of Production and Facilities, Stage Manager, and Technical Director. Taylor is overjoyed to continue her artistic journey with SFBATCO.

**Reese Brindisi** (they/them) studied set building in college, and now works professionally on builds for large art projects, theatre, and film since 2008. During that time Reese also developed their photography skills and now works professionally as a photographer for circus, large fire art, events, weddings, roller derby, and headshots.

\*The Actor appears through the courtesy of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



## Our Mission

SFBATCO engages artists and audiences through live theatre productions, creative development, and community service initiatives that resonate with SF Bay Area perspectives. The organization provides a platform for People of the Global Majority, and inspires both new audiences and theatre innovators.

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## Our Vision

SFBATCO envisions a San Francisco Bay Area where the participation in live theatre is essential, accessible, and exhilarating; where artists are valued for their creativity as well as their role in sparking societal change; and where a multitude of cultural experiences are equitably represented.

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## Special Thank You's

American Conservatory Theater  
Potrero Stage  
Goat Hill Pizza  
Bekah Lynn Photography  
LexMex Art  
Alexandra McClure  
Matthew Guariglia  
Sarah Marie Ryan  
Martha Mangold and Rick Maggio  
Isa Musni

## Donate to SFBATCO

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As a tax exempt 501(c)3 non-profit organization, all gifts made to SFBATCO are tax deductible.

[sfbatco.org/donate](https://sfbatco.org/donate)

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## Land Acknowledgment

SFBATCO acknowledges that we are located on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples, and recognize them as the original stewards of this land. We recognize that we are guests here and that our art is presented in their traditional homeland. We offer our work with respect to the Ancestors, Elders past and present, and the Relatives of the Ramaytush Community. We call on our community in helping us empower and uplift the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula.

Resources:

The Association of Ramaytush Ohlone  
Native Arts & Culture Foundation  
First Peoples Fund

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## Electronic Frontier Foundation

Visit [eff.org](https://eff.org) to learn more about defending digital privacy, free speech, and innovation with the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

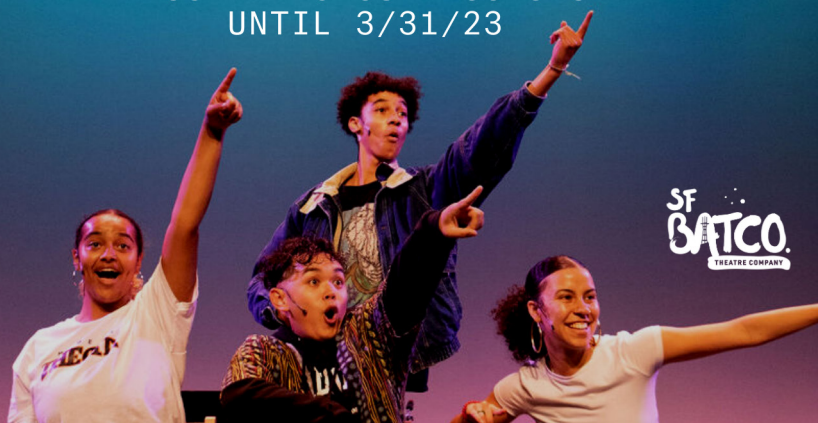




Submit at [sfbatco.org/audition](https://sfbatco.org/audition)

# SFBATCO VIRTUAL GENERAL AUDITIONS

ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS  
UNTIL 3/31/23



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[sfbatco.org/itsa-album](https://sfbatco.org/itsa-album)

# UP NEXT AT SFBATCO



[SFBATCO.ORG](https://www.sfbatco.org)

## CREATORS LAB

A celebration and showing of original theatrical works-in-development by our lab's cohort of emerging creatives. Come be the first to hear these projects read aloud!

July 9, 2023

Brava Theater Center, SF



## I, TOO, SING AMERICA

SFBATCO's original, soulful show is back this summer, this time in collaboration with the talented youth of SFArtsED. Join us for this special, one-night-only event!

July 31, 2023

Presidio Theatre, SF



## NEW ROOTS THEATRE FEST

We're back this fall with our 3rd annual theatre festival, unearthing artistic voices in the Bay, celebrating new works, and centering BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ storytellers!

Nov 9-12, 2023

Brava Theater Center, SF

