

BOSTON
UNIVERSITY

Boston University College of Fine Arts
School of Theatre

Yerma

A TRAGIC POEM IN THREE ACTS

BY FEDERICO GARCIA LORCA,
RICHARD O'CONNELL &
JAMES GRAHAM-LUJAN

DIRECTED BY YO-EL CASSELL

APRIL 25-28, 2024

Studio ONE
855 COMM AVE.
BOSTON, MA

"YERMA (LUJAN/O'CONNELL)" IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
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BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEATRE PRESENTS

Yerma

A TRAGIC POEM IN THREE ACTS

Written by

FEDERICO GARCÍA LORCA, RICHARD
O'CONNELL, & JAMES GRAHAM-LUJAN

Directed by

YO-EL CASSELL

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Runtime: 95 minutes, no intermission

Caution: This production makes use of theatrical haze, strobe lighting and in addition, contains depictions of violence, mature themes, suggestive imagery, and sounds of intensified rhythms, clapping and stomping.

CAST

TOWN CITIZEN/ENSEMBLE	Thomas Bilotta
SECOND GIRL/ENSEMBLE	Jenna Burns
PAGAN BOY VOICE OVER	Keaton James Cassell
LAUNDRESS #4/INNER SPIRIT	Eva Luna Cirilo
DANCER/ENSEMBLE	
TOWN CITIZEN/ENSEMBLE	Jenna Dean
LAUNDRESS #3/ENSEMBLE	Leah Del Rosario
LAUNDRESS #2/ENSEMBLE	Lillian Devlin
MARIA/ENSEMBLE	Janelle Grace
PAGAN CRONE/ENSEMBLE	Sage Gunning
YERMA	Blanca Isabella
SISTER-IN-LAW #2/ENSEMBLE	Rachel Kanter
JUAN	Alan Kuang
LAUNDRESS #6/ENSEMBLE	Ava Laroche
LAUNDRESS #5/ENSEMBLE	Haley Chey Lynch
VICTOR	Kendall McShane
LAUNDRESS #1/ENSEMBLE	Amanda Miller
MALE MASK/ENSEMBLE	Frankie Otis
FIRST GIRL/ENSEMBLE	Robbie Rodriguez
SISTER-IN-LAW/FEMALE MASK/ENSEMBLE	Jayce Ross
TROUBADOUR/ENSEMBLE	Antonio Tran Tiriti
DOLORES/ENSEMBLE	Lydia Winter

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR, CHOREOGRAPHER, MOVEMENT/ INTIMACY/STAGE VIOLENCE DIRECTOR	Yo-El Cassell
ASST. DIRECTOR/PALM RHYTHM ORCHESTRATOR	Lana Sage
PRODUCTION MANAGER	River Hayes
STAGE MANAGER	Maddie Koury
ASSOCIATE PRODUCTION MANAGER	Sanaz Bagheri
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER	Alix Petz
LIVE SONIC COMPOSER/PALM RHYTHM ORCHESTRATOR	Antonio Tiriti Tran
FLAMENCO CHOREOGRAPHER	Omayra Amaya
MOVEMENT REHEARSAL DIRECTORS AND CAPTAINS	Leah Del Rosario Jayce Ross
VOCAL ORCHESTRATOR, CAPTAIN, & COACH (INNER SPIRITS)	Eva Luna Cirilo Haley Chey Lynch
PALMA RHYTHMIC CAPTAINS	Haley Chey Lynch Lydia Winter

PRODUCTION CREW

LEAD USHERS	Thomas Pendergast Erin Scheier
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR	Alonzo Larios
PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS	Rachael DeBraal Kaya Solheid
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR	Rickey Castro Torres
WARDROBE CREW	Carly Stegall Kara Zacharewicz

DESIGN & TECHNICAL TEAM

SCENIC DESIGNER

Peyton Tavares

ASSISTANT SCENIC DESIGNER

Liv King

PROPS COORDINATOR

Liv King

SCENIC CHARGE ARTIST

Cameron Carcasson

COSTUME DESIGNER

Sara Mathew

ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER

Blythe DeWitt

STITCHER/COSTUME CRAFTS

Yao Kuang Lee

Joice Caldeira Simao

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Celeste Delgadillo

ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER

Zachary Connell

LIGHTING PROGRAMMER

Zachary Connell

PROJECTION DESIGNER

Celeste Delgadillo

PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN

Davin Martin

ASSISTANT PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN

Nathan McWilliams

SOUND DESIGNER

Katie Chen

SOUND ENGINEER

Rory Shea

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Caleb Dean

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Xinyu Ye

DIRECTOR AND PLAYWRIGHT

Yo-El Cassell (DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER/MOVEMENT DIRECTOR/INTIMACY & STAGE VIOLENCE DIRECTOR)

Yo-EL Cassell, Head of/Assistant Professor of Movement at Boston University, has within the School of Theatre directed and provided movement direction/choreography for COLOSSAL by Andrew Hinderaker and three productions he conceived and developed for SOT's InMotion Theatre Initiative: THE JOURNEY, SUNLIGHT INTERIOR and THE POETS. Locally outside of BU, he has provided movement direction for The American Repertory Theatre The Huntington Theatre The Lyric Stage, SpeakEasy Stage of Boston, Actor's Shakespeare Project as well as numerous other companies in and outside of Boston nationally and internationally for film, theatre, opera, industrial events and concert dance. Yo-EL was also resident choreographer/movement director for Commonwealth Shakespeare Company for nine years and is the recipient of the Lotte Kaliski Award for Gifted Artists. He dedicates this grateful collaborative production to the imagination of his soul-son, Keaton and soulmate Melodie, as well as to the memory of his beloved grandparents, Jesus and Esther Garcia. For more information on Yo-El, visit <https://www.bu.edu/cfa/about/contact-directions/directory/yo-el-cassell/>

Frederico Garcia Lorca (PLAYWRIGHT)

Poet, Playwright, and Activist. Originally from Granada, Lorca moved to Madrid in 1919 where he became part of Spain's avant-garde. His heavily homoerotic Sonnets of Dark Love, written in November 1935 and shared only with close friends, were lost until 1983 when they were finally published in draft form. When Five Years Pass (Así Que Pasen Cinco Años, 1931), Blood Wedding (Bodas de Sangre, 1932), Yerma (1934), Diván del Tamarit (1931-1936) and House of Bernarda Alba (La Casa de Bernarda Alba) are generally regarded as his major works. Though he escaped the Spanish Civil War by moving back to Granada, he was arrested and assassinated on August 19, 1936 by the Nationalist militia. Significant controversy remains about the motives and details of his death including suggestions that he was targeted because of his sexual orientation, while others assert it was part of a political purge. Following his death García Lorca came to be lionized as "The finest poet of Imperial Spain." In spite of numerous exhumations, his remains have never been found. García Lorca is honored by a statue prominently located in Madrid's Plaza de Santa Ana.

CAST

Jenna Burns (SECOND GIRL/ENSEMBLE) is a Senior Acting Major proudly hailing from North Carolina. Some of her favorite BU credits include The Moorhen in Jen Silverman's The Moors and Mrs. Dashwood in Sense and Sensibility. She would like to thank her family, classmates, and BU faculty for supporting her final show at BU!

Eva Luna Cirilo Vélez (LAUNDRESS #4/INNER SPIRIT DANCER/ENSEMBLE) (movement artist/choreographer /actor/aspiring aerialist/photographer) is excited to make her Studio One debut in YERMA. She is joining her passions by pursuing a BFA in Theatre Arts with Psych and Film minors. She recently played Delia in Ever in the Glades. Muy agradecida del apoyo de su familia, mentores y panas.

Jenna Dean (TOWN CITIZEN/ENSEMBLE) is honored to be a part of this thought provoking and beautiful piece of art. Her favorite credits include: Alicia in Mercury (BU), Chastity in Anything Goes (SSTI), and Salome in The Robber Bridegroom (SCGSAH.) Many thanks to her family, her dogs, and this incredible cast & crew.

Leah Del Rosario (LAUNDRESS #3/ENSEMBLE/MOVEMENT & REHEARSAL DIRECTOR/CAPTAIN), a senior Acting major, is honored to work with Yo-El for her last BU production. Previous credits include Let the Right One In (Actors' Shakespeare Project/BU), Orlando (BU), Troilus and Cressida (LAMDA), and Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again (BU). Independent short films: Ash Wednesday, Everything's Fine. Leah is deeply grateful to her professors, family, and friends for all their support. Ig: @leahdelrosaario www.leahdelrosarioactor.com

Janelle Grace (MARIA/ENSEMBLE) is incredibly fortunate and excited to be studying Acting at Boston University (regardless of what her grades may say). She has had life giving experiences with

the cast and crew of "The Ain Gordon Project", "Dead Man's Cellphone", "Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again.", "The Moors", "Stew" at Gloucester Stage Company, and "Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet." Janelle is a firm believer in therapy, MUNA, and magic mushrooms. @j_gracej

Lydia Winter (DOLORES/ENSEMBLE/PALMA RHYTHMIC CAPTAIN) is an actor and model born and raised in Providence, Rhode Island. She found her place on the stage at Trinity Repertory Company, performing at their Young Actors Summer Institute. As a junior in high school, Lydia competed in the English Speaking Union's National Shakespeare Monologue Competition, in which she placed in the country's final ten. She continued her education at Boston University's School of Theatre where she is currently pursuing a BFA in Acting. This past spring, Lydia spent her semester in London at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art studying Shakespeare in Performance. Lydia recently made her professional theatre debut in the world premier of musical, Goodnight Sweetheart Goodnight at the Wilbury Theatre Group in Providence. She is incredibly grateful to her family and friends for their undying love and support. Instagram: @itslydiawinter Website: thelydiawinter.com

Blanca Isabella (YERMA) is a Mexican-American actor from Los Angeles. She has won awards for her work, including "Best Actress In A Feature" for Lolo. Her previous theater credits include, The School For Lies (Celimene) and Titus Andronicus (Tamora). With her art, Blanca aims to uplift the important untold stories of her community.

CAST

Rachel Kanter (SISTER-IN-LAW #2/ENSEMBLE) (she/her) is a Pennsylvania-born sophomore Acting Major with a concentration in Music Theatre. Previous BU work includes last quarter's production of THE HOT L BALTIMORE, LIVE AT 855! (STAMP), "Dry Land" presentation (Sophomore Acting Project), and LIKE FLIES: A RAGE PLAY (New Works Festival). Love & thanks to the cast and crew.

Alan Kuang (JUAN), Asian American, trilingual, head spinner, boy with the six pack, with an open heart and kind soul, he works hard, values friendship, and loves his craft. He's a cool guy who moves fly. He would like to thank Yo-EL, mama, and his beautiful grandma. Follow on IG @alankuang888

Ava Laroche (LAUNDRESS #6/ENSEMBLE) (she/her) is a BFA Theatre Arts Performance major completing the Acting, Directing and Playwriting track. She is also studying Film & Television in the College of Communications. Ava previously has worked as Assistant Director for OPT at Boston's Playwrights Theatre, and as a Director, Composer, and Sound Designer for the 2023 Director's Project. Ava has previously acted in Three Sisters, Collective Rage, and Director's Project, as well as being an off-stage cover for Let the Right One In. This semester, she is very grateful to be collaborating on One Penny Down, Yerma, and a staged reading of her original play, Manspread.

Haley Chey Lynch (LAUNDRESS #5/ENSEMBLE/VOCAL ORCHESTRATOR, CAPTAIN, & COACH (INNER SPIRITS), PALMA RHYTHMIC CAPTAIN) is a rising Senior Acting major here at the School of Theatre. Haley is so honored to be apart of such an enriching and glorious process, and is thrilled to share it with all of you. None of this would be possible without the support and love from Yo-EL, her family, gal pals, and team at Take 3 Talent and Rebel Creative Group. Thank you so much and enjoy Yerma! haleycheylynch.com

Kendall McShane (VICTOR) Hailing from the mountains of Northeast Georgia, Kendall McShane is an enigmatic actor, writer, musician, model, and theatre artist dedicated to emotional storytelling. He will receive his BFA in Theatre Arts this spring and would like to thank his professors and family that have supported him towards this achievement. You can contact him at his email mcshanekendall@gmail.com or through instagram @kendallmcshane.

Amanda Miller (LAUNDRESS #1/ENSEMBLE) is a sophomore acting major at Boston University. She's originally from south Florida where her love for the arts was cultivated before coming to Boston. She would like to thank her friends and family for always supporting her crazy energy and pushing her forward on her dream.

CAST

Frankie Otis (MALE MASK/ENSEMBLE) is a senior acting major for Salt Lake City, Utah. Some of Frankie's favorite BU Productions to be in were Let The Right One In, Antigone, and Directors Project. He is grateful to the cast and crew of Yama for creating a terrific final BU experience.

Jayce Ross (SISTER-IN-LAW /FEMALE MASK/ENSEMBLE) is a movement artist/choreographer/actor/director/aspiring aerialist/nature lover. She's thrilled to be making her Studio One debut in YERMA. Endless thanks to her mom, mentors, and all close to her heart. She'd like to dedicate this performance to her grandmothers: her angels of feminine love and wisdom.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Lana Sage (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/
PALM RHYTHM ORCHESTRATOR) A
Senior Theatre Arts major with focuses in
Acting/Directing/Playwriting, Lana is so
proud to wrap up her three years at BU
with "Yerma". Previously with SOT: "Every
Brilliant Thing" (Director), "The Tallies"
(Playwright; Springboard), STAMP's 2024
Season (Accessibility Consultant; Thesis),
"One Penny Down" by Kirsten Greenidge
(Actor), "Orlando" (Assistant
Director/Assistant Movement
Director/Assistant Intimacy Director),
"The Mountains Are Calling..."
(Playwright; Springboard), "Switzerland"
(Actor), "The Moors" (Assistant
Director/Music Director). Be sure to
follow Lana's adventures on Instagram:
@thelanasage and at her website:
lanasage.com

River Hayes (PRODUCTION MANAGER)
is an Artistic Producer in the MFA in
Production Management program, and the
Assistant Production Manager at Boch
Center for the Arts. BU credits: CFA Fringe
Festival, Art House, Mankind, Elephant's
Graveyard. Currently they are examining
collaborative producing models and the
transferable skills for film, television and
transmedia storytelling.

Maddie Koury (STAGE MANAGER)
(She/Her) is a Stage Management Major.
Her recent credits from Boston University
include: Ever in the Glades, Marcus; or the
Secret of Sweet, Alcina (With BU's Opera
Institute), El Nogalar, and Mankind. She is
excited to continue her journey at BU and
wants to thank her friends and family for
their endless love and support.

Sanaz Bagheri (ASSOCIATE
PRODUCTION MANAGER) is a first-year
PM student from Iran.

Alix Petz (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)
(they/them/he) is a sophomore stage
management student who recently
transferred to BU from Clark University.
They are thrilled to have the opportunity to
work on such an amazing production, and
want to everyone who made this
experience what it was!

Omayra Amaya (FLAMENCO
CHOREOGRAPHER) is a modern flamenco
dancer and choreographer deeply rooted
in proud gypsy tradition. The daughter of
flamenco dancers Olga and Curro Amaya
and grandniece of the legendary Carmen
Amaya, Omayra brings new relevance to
flamenco while never losing sight of her
legacy. Omayra received a BFA in Dance
from The Boston Conservatory. In 1994,
Omayra founded in Boston the Omayra
Amaya Flamenco Dance Company, Inc. A
non for profit dance company. Omayra
Amaya and her company have performed
at Lincoln Center, The Players Theater in
New York City; flamenco festivals in
Madrid, Malaga, Chicago, Houston, Los
Angeles; The Moss Center Miami,
Shanghai Theater Center, the Guo Tai
Theater in China; The Wang Center in
Boston, and a critically acclaimed nine-
month residency at the Boston Park Plaza
Hotel. Omayra has also appeared on film:
She was the subject of "Gypsy Heart," a
documentary by Jocelyn Ajami, and
performed a duet with Steve Martin in
"The Pink Panther II." Omayra's works
have received multiple awards including a
proclamation by the city of

DESIGN & TECHNICAL TEAM

Miami declaring August 15 as “Omayra Amaya Day”. Omayra Amaya is a former faculty member at various colleges and institutions such as: The Boston Conservatory, Boston Ballet, Harvard - Radcliff Dance Department, Walnut Hill Performing Arts School and University of New Mexico.

Peyton Tavares (SCENIC DESIGNER) is a Third-year MFA Theatre Design candidate (MFA'24) in Scenic Design. She achieved her Undergraduate degree from Marymount Manhattan College with a dual concentration in Scenic Design and Directing. She is thrilled to have worked on this show and feels very lucky to be a part of this process. Her recent credits include: The Book Of Will. (Hub Theatre Company) The Mad Ones. (Boston Conservatory) Let The Right One In. (Boston University with Actors Shakespeare project.) 619 Hendricks (Apollinaire Theatre Company with Teatro Chelsea) OTP (Boston Playwrights Theatre). And Jado Jehad (Boston Playwrights Theatre) Website: Peytontavares.com Instagram: Peyton5656

Liv King (ASSISTANT SCENIC DESIGNER/PROPS COORDINATOR) is a Theatre Arts Major with a concentration in Scenic Design. She was previously seen as a Props Coordinator on Orlando and Alice Tierney. Thank you to her family and friends for their continued love and support! It ain't easy being the meatloaf maker.

Cameron Carcasson (SCENIC CHARGE ARTIST) (he/him) is a Theatre Arts Design and Production Major concentrating in Scenic Design, Performance, and Costumes. He works in the paint shop on several shows, and has a passion for puppetry. He would like to thank his people for being.

Sara Mathew (COSTUME DESIGNER) is so excited to be designing her first production at BU. Sara graduated from the University of Evansville in 2023 where she designed plays such as Cabaret, Noises Off, and Three Sisters. Since being at BU, Sara has assistant designed Orlando, co-designed Hot L Baltimore, and built masks for Cendrillon.

Blythe DeWitt (ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER) is a first-gen student who graduated with her AFA in Drama June 2023, and is now working towards a BFA in Theatre Arts DP&M. She previously worked on Cendrillon as a Crafts Artisan, and now Yerma, her first assistant design credit here! She thanks her parents and her friends, both new and old.

Joice Caldeira Simao (STITCHER/COSTUME CRAFTS) | Originally from Brazil, she is a first-year graduate student in costume design at Boston University. Her background includes designing costumes for plays like O Ultimo Mafagafo, 4ever, and Hamlet, along with the web series Desaventureiros. Prior to her graduate studies, she served as a costume designer assistant for Broadway shows in Brazil, including Matilda, Evita Open Air, Wicked, Phantom Of The Opera, and Sister Act. Her experience also extends to TV series like O Som E A Silaba, Mauá - O Primeiro Gigante, soap operas like Jezabel and As Aventuras de Poliana, and feature films like Volume Morto and A Cidade Aqui Dentro. One Penny Down marks her debut design project at Boston University.

DESIGN & TECHNICAL TEAM

Celeste Delgadillo (LIGHTING DESIGNER/PROJECTION DESIGNER) is a senior lighting designer from Los Angeles. While she is graduating in May with plans to move to New York, she is so thankful for her time at BU. She couldn't be happier with all that she's learned and how much she has grown as an artist. A special thanks goes out to all her friends, family and mentors she's made along the way.

Zachary Connell (ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER/LIGHTING PROGRAMMER) (he/him) is a junior Lighting Design major originally from the Chicago-land area. Zachary's previous credits at Boston University include his design work on Hedda Gabler and Live@855. He would like to extend his gratitude for the lighting team and the entire company for the wonderful experience.

Davin Martin (PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN) is a sophomore lighting major at Boston University where he has recently worked on Cendrillon. He can usually be found working on a fun project that ended up a little larger than he anticipated. Davin would like to thank Laurel, Dan, and Linnea for their constant support. <https://davinm.me>

NATHAN MCWILLIAMS (ASSISTANT PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN) is a freshman Lighting Design major excited for his first show with BULX! Select credits include Merrily We Roll Along and Grand Hotel - Lighting Intern @ Front Porch Theatricals, & Mamma Mia - Lighting Designer at his high school. He hopes you enjoy the show (and don't forget to look up)!

Katie Chen (SOUND DESIGNER) is a senior Sound Design & Production student at Boston University. She was recently the A1 for Driving in Circles (BPT), sound designer for Orlando, and other involvements including Cendrillon, Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet, Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea. She hopes to continue exploring artistically post-grad and making discoveries on the way!

Rory Shea (SOUND ENGINEER) is a third year sound design undergrad from Morristown, New Jersey. Her recent designs at BU include "The School for Lies", "Andromeda in the Stars" and "Grow Until". In her free time she enjoys playing the drums and dissociating to Roku City.

Caleb Dean (TECHNICAL DIRECTOR) is a junior in the technical direction program who has worked on shows such as Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet. He is very thankful to be a part of such a wonderful collaborative process, and is excited to see what the future holds in his senior year.

Xinyu Ye (ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR) |People usually call this one CU. Before BU, CU was a stage manager for opera, musicals, plays, and even a Disney Resort stunt show! Yerma is CU's first production at BU, and she wants to thank everyone who participated in this process.



Boston University College of Fine Arts
School of Theatre

ABOUT BOSTON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS SCHOOL OF THEATRE

The School of Theatre at Boston University College of Fine Arts offers education for the study of acting, management, design, production, and all aspects of the theatre profession within the setting of a major research university. The School of Theatre seeks to provide students with opportunities for artistic growth through rigorous curriculum, professional connections, and an emphasis on collaboration and new work. Learn more about the current BU School of Theatre production season at bu.edu/cfa/theatre/season.

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