

*World Premiere*

# REFUGEE

CO-CREATED BY  
SATYA JNANI CHÁVEZ &  
ANDREW ROSENDORF;  
TRANSCREATION BY  
MARI MEZA-BURGOS

March 5 – April 9

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# ABOUT CURIOUS

## NO GUTS NO STORY

“No guts, no story” embodies the ethos of Curious Theatre Company. Established in 1997 by a vanguard Artistic Company that has since grown to 23 professional actors, designers, and directors, Curious brings the best new theatre to Denver. We produce thought-provoking plays designed to challenge ideas, stir emotions, and leave audiences thinking and talking for days.

Curious has cultivated a local and national reputation as a destination for artists and playwrights to foster and develop new work, and as a place where audiences are challenged.

Now in our third decade of bringing thought-provoking theatre to Denver, Curious Theatre Company’s rich history showcases our commitment to playwrights with gutsy things to say.

*The Secretary, 2020*



*American Son, 2021*

# A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I remember the first time I read a rough draft of *Refuge*. It was four years ago and I had been asked to take a look at this piece and share my thoughts. I read it and spontaneously said, “it needs music.” And that, my friends, was the beginning. Who knew that an inkling and an utterance would turn into such a rich collaboration.

Within what seemed like moments Satya was composing, Adolfo was making puppets and Mari was translating. GerRee was the Border Patrol Agent *and* the Steph puppet. Every time a new artist was brought into the mix we were transformed; elevated through the sharing of cultures, virtuosity and magic. Each workshop we dug deeper, challenged our assumptions, clarified our intentions and kept the political importance of this story in focus. Assigned roles and lines were coming and going, entire scenes were vanishing, but one thing never changed: everyone was singing.

The power of song never ceases to stir and amaze me. These voices raised in song call us all to feel, and see, and remember what is essential to the human condition: compassion. We are living in a time of great division. Borderlines are being drawn all across our country both internally and externally. The “sides” we are taking

increasingly separate us and weaken our collective power to make change. Hostile borders harm children and families. Aggression is never the answer. Last year a staggering 1.2 million immigrants attempted to cross the Texas border in search of a better life. Sadly, this number doesn't include the human beings that lost their lives and died nameless along the way.

This play is a prayer to all who died sacrificing everything they had, because it was the only thing they had left to do. This play is also a call to us all to soften our borders internally and externally so that we may remember we are all one. Divisions are concepts that originate in the mind and that can be dissolved with awareness, and yes, compassion.

We all speak the language of song. In song we are united. I invite you to remember your humanness, invest in magic, and sing along.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dee Covington". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dee Covington  
*Director*



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CURIOUS** → → →

Help support Curious's return to the stage by making a donation at [CuriousTheatre.org/donate](https://CuriousTheatre.org/donate)

# A NOTE FROM CO-CREATORS ANDREW & SATYA

*Welcome to all who join our journey*  
Bienvenidos a nuestro viaje  
*You're one of us, the rules are changing*  
Gracias por venir a escuchar nuestro mensaje  
*Breathe with us, in this world we're shaping*  
Toma nuestra mano y relájate

Paso a Paso  
*Step by Step*  
Quédate cerca, *you should stay close*  
Síguenos, *as we walk through our show*

*We see you all sitting quietly*  
Esta noche no tiene que ser gente tan tranquila  
*With your whole selves, engage authentically*  
Pueden reír, gritar, llorar, y beber tequila  
*Sing, cry, laugh, even if it feels silly*  
En 2022 no hay las mismas reglas

Paso a Paso  
*Step by Step*  
*This is church, this is prayer, this is ours*  
*So sing with us, canta con nosotros*

*Open your hearts and we will hold them gently*  
Estamos aquí para abrir corazones  
*Gathered here to make room for the many*  
Esta obra es para las multitudes  
*Who'll never get to share their story*  
O cantar todas nuestras canciones

Paso a Paso  
*Step by Step*  
*Don't forget us, no nos dejes olvidados*  
*Stand for us, defendernos*

*We're all the same, but see life differently*  
Humanos y animales, somos iguales  
*Whether born in the U.S. or not, we all shine brightly*  
México o Guatemala, El Salvador o Honduras  
*We'll hold space for you – with you – nightly*  
Tenemos que unirnos, no hay otras opciones

Paso a Paso  
*Step by Step*  
*We are all one, somos uno*  
*Dedicated to Los Olvidados*



Satya Jnani Chávez  
*Refuge Co-Creator*



Andrew Rosendorf  
*Refuge Co-Creator*

## GO DEEPER

To learn more about *Refuge*, go to our Go Deeper section on the Curious website at [CuriousTheatre.org/event/refuge](https://CuriousTheatre.org/event/refuge) or scan this QR code.



# CURIOUS THEATRE COMPANY

PRESENTS

## REFUGE

Co-created by Satya Jnani Chávez & Andrew Rosendorf

Transcreation by Mari Meza-Burgos

Directed by **Dee Covington**

### CAST

Girl: *Satya Jnani Chávez\**  
Rancher: **Erik Sandvold\***  
Lead Musician: *Mari Meza-Burgos*  
Martina: *GerRee Hinsbaw*  
Steph/Puppeteer: *Lisa Hori-Garcia\**  
Wolf/Hall/Puppeteer: *Sam Gilstrap*  
Puppeteer: *Josue Miranda*

### PRODUCTION TEAM

*Musical Direction by Satya Jnani Chávez*  
*Set Design by **Markas Henry\*\****  
*Costume Design by Elise Rosado*  
*Lighting Design by **Richard Devin***  
*Sound Design by **Jason Ducat\*\****  
*Props Design by Wayne Breyer*  
*Puppet Design by Adolfo Romero*  
*Dramaturg, Lynde Rosario*  
*Stage Manager, Wayne Breyer*  
*Assistant Stage Manager, Sophie Hill*  
*Scenic Construction, Roy McFarlane*  
*Mural Art, Carlos Frésquez*  
*Sound Board Operator, Nick Luecking*  
*Run Crew, Gabby Lentinis*  
*Spanish Consultants, Josue Miranda,*  
Gerardo Chávez, Laura Gorostieta-Burgos

To Gerardo Chávez, a man who defied the limitations of borders, surpassing all expectations of what a brown body crossing a border could be, and setting an example for all of us seeking refuge in our own American Dreams. Thank you for all of the support you provided behind the scenes as a translator, poet, and endless inspiration to drive this work forward.

### SPECIAL THANKS

NNPN, Wendy Weckwerth, Patrice Amon, Carlyn Aquiline, Harrison David Rivers, Anne G. Morgan, Matt Stabile, Louis Tyrrell, Nan Barnett, Jordana Fraiser, Noah Diaz, Gaby Rodriguez, Corey Atkins, Liz Engelman, Susan, Jon, and Lilli Hokama, Tofte Lake Center, Playwrights' Center, Colorado New Play Festival, Theatre Lab at FAU, Playwrights' Center, South Texas Human Rights Center, Campfire Theatre Festival, Great Plains Theatre Commons, HBMG Foundation, Stacey Dangelo and The Community College of Aurora for sound equipment

Originally commissioned by Curious Theatre Company, Denver, CO; Chip Walton, Producing Artistic Director.

Originally developed at the Colorado New Play Festival, Steamboat Springs, CO, 2019.

REFUGE is produced at Curious Theatre Company as part of a National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere. Other Partner Theaters are Unicorn Theatre, MO and Theatre Lab, FL. For more information, please visit [nnpn.org](http://nnpn.org).



\*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

\*\*Member of the United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829



# BIOS



**Satya Jnani Chávez** (Co-Creator & Girl) is a Chicago based actor, composer, and musician, who was last seen at Curious in *The Happiest Song Plays Last*. As an Actor, their credits include: *Where Did We Sit On The Bus?* (Cleveland Playhouse, Colorado Springs FAC,

Actors Theatre of Louisville); *American Mariachi* (Dallas Theater Center, South Coast Repertory, Arizona Theatre Company); *Empanada* (The Public SA); *Undesirables* (Eugene O'Neill Theater Center); *Soul of the World, A Christmas Carol, Evocation to Visible Appearance* (Actors Theatre of Louisville); *Othello, Twelfth Night* (Colorado Shakespeare Festival); *Undesirables, Ghost Of Lote Bravo, Shoe* (John F. Kennedy Center); *Black Elk Speaks, Arabian Nights* (Aurora Fox); and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Arvada Center), As a Composer, her work includes: an original score for the virtual, Drama League nominated, *Where Did We Sit on the Bus?*, by Brian Quijada (Actors Theatre of Louisville, also performed at Cleveland Playhouse), *Hamlet and Ophelia* (The Artistic Home), *Empanada* (The Public SA), and *Life on Paper* (Jackalope Theatre Comp). Proudly represented by Paonessa Talent Agency, stay connected at [www.satyachavez.com](http://www.satyachavez.com) or follow @satyachachachale



**GerRee Hinshaw** (Martina) returns to Curious in *Refuge*, having last appeared in *The Elliot Plays* as Yaz in *Water by the Spoonful* and *The Happiest Song Plays Last*. GerRee has been part of the generous and extremely collaborative development room as an actor for *Refuge*

since its early steps at the 2019 Colorado New Play Festival in Steamboat Springs. She is grateful for the privilege of bringing Martina to this world premiere. A writer, actor, singer and producer, Colorado audiences have seen GerRee's work with Local Theater, The Aurora Fox, Stories on Stage, Buntport Theater, Denver Children's Theater, Listen Productions, The LIDA Project and The Bug Theatre, where she is also the host of Freak Train, a goofy "open-stage" held the last Monday of every month—now in its 22nd year. By day, she is a creative director and executive consultant for Ogilvy, where she helps leaders design more energized, authentic, and meaningful ways to work with their teams. She is a startup team member of IDEA Stages, an organization committed to helping theater makers build the will and skill to integrate diversity, equity and inclusion practices while increasing access. Insta: @GerReeAnderson  
Twitter: @GerReeHinshaw



**Lisa Hori-Garcia** (Steph/Puppeteer) is thrilled to be making her Curious debut with *Refuge*. Originally from San Francisco, Lisa is an actress, director, writer and teaching artist who spent the last 18 years as a company member with the Tony-award winning, political theater company, The San Francisco Mime Troupe (to be clear: it does not perform silent mime). When not creating and performing shows with SFMT, Hori-Garcia has worked with theater companies all over. Her most recent theater credits include: *The Gangster of Love* (Magic Theatre), *As You Like It* (California Shakespeare Theater), *Madame Ho* (E.C.T.P.), *Men on Boats* and *The Great Leap* (American

# BIOS

Conservatory Theater). During this pandemic, Lisa has been focusing her energy on radio plays, Zoom readings, teaching theater online, collaborating and developing new works, and can be heard in SFMT's radio plays *Tales of the Resistance I & II*. Lisa is excited to expand her theater community here in Denver, and is especially inspired to find like-minded companies like Curious that focus on new works, new voices, and bringing political discourse to audiences. Lisa received her BA from Smith College and MFA in Acting from the University of Southern California and is a member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA. [www.lisahorigarcia.com](http://www.lisahorigarcia.com)



**Sam Gilstrap** (Wolf/Hal/Puppeteer) is honored to be making his debut at Curious Theatre Company. Sam has earned opportunities at The Arvada Center (*Waiting for Godot*), BETC (*Guards at the Taj*), Miners Alley (*The Crucible*), and with The Catamounts; of which he is a full company member. He has also been seen, briefly, in season 5 of *Longmire*, is the creator and host of *The Ghost Lights Podcast*, which interviews local theater artists, and was a recent recipient of a True West Award.



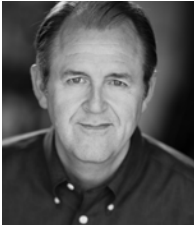
**Mari Meza-Burgos** (Translator & Lead Musician) is an actor, singer and musician from Colorado. Mari has spent most of her life performing music from the Mexican tradition known as Mariachi. She is currently the lead vocalist and vihuela player for

the Colorado-based, female, Mexican trio, Las Dahlias. Mari has also been in many productions at Su Teatro, the Colorado Shakespeare Festival Violence and Prevention program and has traveled to Egypt where she played in a multilingual version of Tennessee Williams's *The Glass Menagerie*. Mari is a graduate of Metropolitan State University of Denver, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Music and received her MFA in Theatre, Contemporary Performance from Naropa University. Mari is passionate about extending her knowledge of Mariachi music to youth by providing private lessons in voice and vihuela, and serving on the board of directors for Colorado Youth Mariachi Program.



**Josue Miranda** (Puppeteer) is thrilled to be working with Curious Theatre Company on *Refuge*. He is a recent graduate of the University of Northern Colorado's Acting program. Josue previously appeared in a variety of productions across Colorado at Cherry Creek Theatre Company's *My Name Is Asher Lev* (Asher Lev), the Colorado Shakespeare Festival's 2021 Season and their Violence Prevention Tour, and has even worked with Creede Repertory Theatre.

# BIOS



**Erik Sandvold** (Rancher) Along with appearances in many readings, Curious New Voices plays, and Denver Stories, Erik Sandvold has been featured in more than 20 full productions over Curious' 24 years including: *Pass Over*, *Your Best One*, *Appropriate*, *The Luckiest People*, *Lucky Me* (Best Of Westword: Best Actor in a Comedy), *Clybourne Park*, *Homebody/Kabul*, *Opus*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Fuddy Meers*, *Closer*, *Take Me Out* (The Denver Post Ovation Award, Best Performance by an Actor in a Comedic Role) and *I Am My Own Wife* (Ovation Award, Best Solo Performance). Erik has worked often with other leading theatre companies in Colorado, in productions such as *Plainsong*, *When We Are Married*, *Well*, *A Flea in Her Ear* (Denver Center Theatre Company); *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *1940's Radio Hour* (Arvada Center); *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Rivals* (Colorado Shakespeare Festival); *The Explorers' Club* (Lone Tree Performing Arts Center); and *The Rembrandt* (BETC). Backed by talented musicians, Erik performed the one-actor musical *Bubs* (Ovation Award, Best Solo Performance) and the one-actor play, *An Iliad* (Theatreworks). He narrated the entire *Harry Potter* series for the Library of Congress and is an alumnus of Northwestern University.



**Dee Covington** (Director) is a founding member of Curious Theatre Company. Over the past 24 years she has garnered awards for her work as an actor and director. Dee's select directing credits at Curious include *The Thanksgiving Play*, *The Humans*, *Your Best One*, *Hand*

*to God*, the three-part *The Brother/Sister Plays*, *Collapse*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *Speech & Debate*, and *The Denver Project*. As an actress she most recently participated in the development of a new play by Max Posner (Curious New Voices alum) during the Colorado New Play Festival. At Curious representative roles include Claire in *Sanctions*, Empty in *The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide...*, Toni in *Appropriate*, Roz in *White Guy on the Bus*, Margaret in *Good People*, Veronica in *God of Carnage*, Bev/Kathy in *Clybourne Park* (Denver Post Ovation Nominee, Supporting Actress in a Play), and The Homebody in *Homebody/Kabul* (Best of Westword, Best Contemporary Monologue). She is also a longtime member of the improvisational theatre company, Playback Theatre West; a theatre form that spontaneously builds community one story at a time. Dee has spent the last three decades fostering the creative process in adults and teenagers. Serving as Education Director for Curious Theatre Company, she facilitates all aspects of Curious New Voices programming, including all playwriting intensives. She has also had the privilege of facilitating two teen theatre companies across the country: Synergy's On the Ball Players through a homeless and runaway youth shelter in Kansas City, MO and Break the Cycle through Longmont Youth Services in Colorado. Both companies brought forth the artistry of teenagers in the creation of theatre pieces then performed to address community concerns. Most recently she has joined the University of Denver Prison Arts Initiative (DU PAI) where she has been involved in teaching theatre and writing classes. She holds a BFA in Theatre from Stephens College and did her graduate work in Somatic Psychology (Dance/Movement Therapy) at The Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado.



# BIOS



**Andrew Rosendorf** (Co-Creator) has produced or developed work at La Jolla, MCC, KC Rep, Signature Theatre, the National New Play Network, American Theater Company, Nashville Rep, City Theatre, Geva Theatre, Actor's Express, Curious Theatre Company and Local Theater Company. He is the recipient of an Edgerton Foundation New American Play Award, a Venturous Theater Fund Grant and a MAP Fund Grant for *Refuge*, which he co-created with Satya Jnani Chávez. He is an alum of NNPN's Playwright-in-Residence program, the Ingram New Works program, terraNOVA Collective's Groundbreakers Playwrights Group, and has been a fellow of SPACE on Ryder Farm, Tofte Lake Center, VCCA and MacDowell Colony. He was a previous McKnight and Jerome Fellow at the Playwrights' Center. He is a current Core Writer with the Playwrights' Center and an Associate Artist with Local Theater Company. He is currently in development on a television pilot with Amblin at Peacock.

**Wayne Breyer** (Stage Manager & Prop Design) is designing props for his third show and stage managing his first with Curious. Previously with Curious, he designed props for *The Sound Inside* and *The Lifespan of a Fact*. He has also designed props for The Catamounts, Vintage Theatre, and Phamaly Theatre Company. Other stage management credits: *Eddie and Dave*, *Land of Milk and Honey*, *The Whiskey Tasting*, *The Rough*, *Shockheaded Peter*, and *Everybody* (The Catamounts); *Queens Girl in the World* and *The Music of Black Nativity* (Aurora Fox Arts Center); *Recipe* (Theater Artibus); and the 2019 Colorado New

Play Festival. Wayne apprenticed as a stage manager with the Denver Center Theatre Company and is an associate company member of The Catamounts.

**Richard Devin** (Lighting Design) has designed lighting for many Curious productions during the last 18 years. Dick also worked with the Colorado Shakespeare Festival for 17 years as Producing Artistic Director, and 26 years as lighting designer. He has designed lighting for more than 250 productions at 35 of America's regional theaters, as well as designing Off-Broadway and in Hong Kong, Tokyo and Cairo. He was Managing Director and Lighting Designer with Massachusetts' Williamstown Theatre Festival for eight years and is past president of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology. Dick taught for 40 years in the Theatre Departments of Temple University, The University of Washington and The University of Colorado. He received his BA in Drama from the University of Northern Iowa and an MFA from the Yale School of Drama. He is a Member of the United Scenic Artists of America and is honored to be a Fellow of the College of Fellows of the American Theatre.

**Jason Ducat** (Sound Design) has designed many shows at Curious including *Pass Over*, *Gloria*, *The Humans*, *Your Best One*, *Detroit '67*, *Appropriate*, *The Luckiest People*, *Venus in Fur*, *Good People*, *The Brothers Size*, and *Maple and Vine*. Jason worked as a resident sound designer at Denver Center Theatre Company where he designed *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *When Tang Met Laika*, *The House of the Spirits*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Shadowlands*, *Reckless*, *Superior Donuts*, *Heartbreak House*, and *Othello*. Other designs include *Henry*

# BIOS

*IV, The Tempest, I Hate Hamlet, Macbeth and Richard II* (Colorado Shakespeare Festival); *Marat/Sade, The Winter's Tale* (Purdue University); *Lab Coats on Clouds* (Prague Quadrennial); *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Elemental Theatre Company); *Sideways Stories from Wayside School* (Hope Summer Repertory Theatre); and *Tribulation and the Demolition Squad* (Chicago Dance Crash). Jason received his MFA in sound design from Purdue University.

**Carlos Frésquez** (Mural Artist) Denver native and artist, Carlos Frésquez's people come from the centuries-old Mexican borderland culture of southern Colorado and northern New Mexico, but he experienced his roots from a city boy's cross-cultural perspective. It's an intrinsic part of who he is as a human and as an artist: community-driven, rooted in religion and folklore, yet radically political and often satirical. But Frésquez, who teaches, often still returns to the heart and symbology of his ancestral culture, leading his students in the act of becoming artists or creating traditional mural projects, and gently encouraging them to remain true to themselves.

**Markas Henry** (Set Designer) designed scenery for *American Son, Sanctions, The Humans, The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide..., Appropriate*, the three-part *Elliot Plays, Lucky Me, All the Rage, The Whipping Man* (Colorado Theatre Guild Henry Award), *After the Revolution, God of Carnage, Maple and Vine*, and *Opus*; as well as costumes for *White Guy on the Bus, The Whipping Man, Time Stands Still, Dead Man's Cell Phone, and Mall\*Mart*. His selected regional credits include Theatre Aspen, Opera Colorado, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, and BETC. Broadway

credits include *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Tony Award), *The Life* (Tony nomination) and *Beauty and the Beast* (Tony Award). His film work includes *Elf* and *Leading Ladies*, and he was Costume Producer for Britney Spears' 2001 and 2004 US and World tours. Markas is an Associate Professor of Theatre at the University of Colorado Boulder.

**Sophie Hill** (Assistant Stage Manager) graduate of Kalamazoo College, where she studied English and Theatre Arts. Her acting credits include Viola in *Twelfth Night*, Hannah in *The Spitfire Grill*, and Annie Cannon in *Silent Sky*, and she was most recently seen as Portia in New Native Theatre's reading of *Death of a Chief*. In addition to acting, Sophie is an experienced stage carpenter and theatrical technician. This is Sophie's third production with Curious Theatre Company, and she is thrilled to be involved!

**Adolfo Romero** (Puppet Designer) is a multifaceted artist from Chile (visual artist, musician, poet and cultural arts project developer). Currently, residing in Denver, Colorado, he is active in the local art and music community. His visual works include a series of mediums that are always searching for symbolic relationships between the human psyche, and its origins in the social world and history. In just 7 years of living in Colorado, he has positioned himself as one of the most outstanding emerging Latin artists. He has exhibited at the Denver Museum of Arts on several occasions and has also created several murals and other art pieces for the Santa Fe Arts District of Denver. You can find his artwork as part of Children's Museum Marsico Campus Denver. One aspect of his work is puppetry, collaborating with some projects for carnivals in Chile and Colorado.

# BIOS

**Elise Rosado** (Costume Design) is an up-and-coming costume and lighting designer in the Denver Metro Area. She has most recently costume coordinated for the Colorado Shakespeare Festival's OP production of *Pericles* as well as costume designed for *A Soldier's Tale* with the Boulder Philharmonic. *American Son* was Elise's first production at Curious. As an artist, Elise produces work in a variety of digital and analogue mediums and has been featured in Boxcar Gallery. Elise is a CU Boulder December 2020 graduate with a degree in technical theatre.

**Lynde Rosario** (Dramaturg) is a Dramaturg and the Impact Assessment Director for the National New Play Network. Former affiliations, include: Curious Theatre Company, Denver Center for the Performing Arts Theatre Company, The Catamounts, Local Theater Company, Creede Repertory Theater, Athena Project, Letter of Marque Theater Company, and The Anthropologists. She is also a Board Member, VP of Regional Activity, and President-elect for The Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas. Training: B.A. in Drama, Hofstra University; M.F.A. in Dramaturgy, The American Repertory Theatre/ Moscow Art Theatre Institute for Advanced Theatre Training at Harvard University.

**Chip Walton** (Producing Artistic Director & Scenic Design) co-founded Curious Theatre Company in 1997 and has served as Producing Artistic Director for the entire history of the organization. Named Denver's "2005 Theatre Person of the Year," he has directed more than fifty shows for Curious over the past 24 years and his work has garnered more than 100 local and national awards. In 2008, Curious

was honored with the Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. Chip has served as the President and Vice President of the National New Play Network, a network of professional, non-profit theatres across the country dedicated to the development and production of new plays for the American theatre. Chip was also selected in the inaugural class of the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation Livingston Fellows, recognizing exceptional non-profit leaders with significant potential for contribution, change and leadership in Colorado's nonprofit sector; additionally, he served on the Board of Directors of the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation as their first Community Trustee. Chip has participated in the Visiting Professionals program at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, as well as serving on the Leadership Group for Imagine 2020: Creating a Future for Denver's Culture. He has directed in the National New Play Network Showcase of New Plays, the Kennedy Center's MFA Playwriting Festival in Washington, D.C., and accepted a National Theatre Company Award in New York for Curious from the prestigious American Theatre Wing. Most recently, Chip was honored to serve as a 2017 Aspen Ideas Festival Speaker.

**National New Play Network** (NNPN) National New Play Network is an alliance of professional theaters that collaborate in innovative ways to develop, produce, and extend the life of new plays. Since its founding in 1998, NNPN has supported more than 250 productions nationwide through its innovative National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere program, which provides playwright and production support for new works at its Member theaters. Additional programs—its annual National Conference, National Showcase of New Plays,

# BIOS

and MFA Playwrights Workshop; the NNPN Annual and Smith Prize commissions; its residencies for playwrights, producers, and directors; and the organization's member accessed Collaboration, Festival, and Travel banks and online information sessions—have helped cement the Network's position as a vital force in the new play landscape. NNPN also strives to pioneer, implement, and disseminate ideas and programs that revolutionize the way theaters collaborate to support new plays and playwrights. Its most recent project, the New Play Exchange, is changing the way playwrights share their work and others discover it by providing immediate access to information on more than 40,000 new plays by living writers. NNPN's 31 Core and over 90 Associate Members—along with the nearly 350 Affiliated Artists who are its alumni, the thousands of artists and artisans employed annually by its member theaters, and the hundreds of thousands of audience members who see its supported works each year—are creating the new American theater. [nnpn.org](http://nnpn.org) | [newplayexchange.org](http://newplayexchange.org)

**Actors' Equity Association** ("AEA" or "Actors' Equity"), founded in 1913, represents more than 49,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. [www.actorsequity.org](http://www.actorsequity.org)

NEXT UP



*Join us for our next production:*

## Fireflies

APRIL 30 – MAY 28

After a church bombing in the Jim Crow South shakes the Civil Rights Movement to its core, the Reverend Charles Grace and his wife Olivia must galvanize his followers to continue onward. But their relationship begins to buckle under the weight of too many secrets, regrets and uncertainty about the future of Black Americans.

# GO DEEPER WITH REFUGE

## FREQUENTLY USED TERMINOLOGY

**CBP:** Customs & Border Patrol Agency

**Coyote:** human smuggler

**Chupacabra:** myth, legend of a demon thought to suck blood

**Cutting the sign:** tracking

**Hither thither:** the disturbance of the Earth from human or something else

**Mesquite:** thorny “trash trees” of the desert

**Saint Toribio Romo:** the patron saint of immigrants

**Tonk:** slur used by Border Patrol & others referring to the sound a Maglite makes when hitting the head of an undocumented migrant

**Victoria [Texas]:** shorthand for the May 2003 tragedy where 19 undocumented migrants died crossing the border in a tractor trailer

**Yuma [Arizona]:** shorthand for the tragedy in May 2001 where 14 undocumented migrants died crossing the border

## LOCAL AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION

### *Learn more and donate!*

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

Asian Pacific Development Center

Casa de Paz

Coloradans for Immigrant Rights

Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition

Colorado People's Alliance

Comal Heritage Food Incubator

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Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network (RMIAN)

Spring Institute

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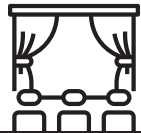
Scan for more information and how to help:

# THE DEVELOPMENT JOURNEY OF REFUGE



OCT 2018

*Initial meeting between Curious Co-Founders Chip Walton and Dee Covington with REFUGE playwright Andrew Rosendorf*



JAN 2019

*Curious commissions the world premiere of REFUGE*



FEB 24-27, 2019

*Curious Artistic Producer Chip Walton and REFUGE playwright Andrew Rosendorf travel to Texas and the southeastern US-Mexico border for research trip with the South Texas Human Rights Center*



SPRING 2019

*Collaborative artists and key individuals identified for development, including Co-Creator Satya Jnani Chávez and Transcreator Mari Meza-Burgos*

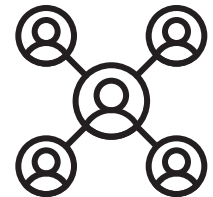


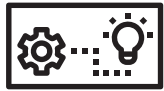
JUN 2-9, 2019

*REFUGE workshopped and developed at The Colorado New Play Festival, culminating in a public reading*

SUMMER/FALL 2019

*Ongoing collaboration between artists. REFUGE becomes a musical.*





**NOV 11–16, 2019**

*Workshop of REFUGE and public readings in Denver and Boulder County, with partners The Latino Cultural Arts Center and Local Theatre Company*

**JAN 13–18, 2020**

*Final workshop and presentation of REFUGE at Circos de los Niños, in San Francisco, Nayarit, Mexico, with local community members in attendance*



*\*Premiere originally slated for Fall 2020 halted due to Coronavirus Pandemic in March 2020\**

**FALL 2021**

*Curious begins producing live theater after an 18-month shutdown—REFUGE creative team (re-)assembled and rewrites of script and music made*



**JAN 24, 2022**

*Rehearsals finally begin!*



**MAR 5, 2022**

*World Premiere of REFUGE at Curious Theatre Company*



**FUTURE...**

*Unicorn Theatre and Theatre Lab at Florida Atlantic University to produce REFUGE as part of a Rolling World Premiere through the National New Play Network (NNPN)*

# LOOKING FORWARD WITH CURIOUS



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WORD!

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### **Artistic**

Chip Walton, *Producing Artistic Director*  
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Kevin Brainerd  
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Jason Ducat  
Brian Landis Folkins  
Kathryn Gray  
William Hahn  
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"We appreciate your work always,  
and now the voice that you bring  
to our community is even more  
relevant... Our decision to support  
Curious Theatre this year is simple.  
We need more opportunities to  
challenge our assumptions and  
build community through art."

—Pam Smith, Curious Supporter

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*Gifts received in support of our Season 22, canceled Season 23, and Season 24 through January 2022.*

*We are grateful for gifts of all sizes! For a full list of donors \$100+ please visit our website.*



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