

NOW OR LATER

By Christopher Shinn

Directed by: MATT M. MORROW

Featuring

LISEL GORELL-GETZ*

JOSHUA JONES

MATT THOMPSON

J. TYLER JONES

WHITNEY BRIANNA THOMAS

EDDIE YAROCH

Resident Stage Manager

MONICA PERFETTO

Lighting Designer

CURTIS MUELLER

Costume Designer

SHIRLEY PIERSON

Set Designer

SEAN FANNING

Properties Designer

BONNIE DURBEN

Sound Designer

BLAIR NELSON

Fight Choreographer

GEORGE YÉ

Executive Artistic Director

MATT M. MORROW

General Manager

MATT HARDING

Production Sponsor

BOB HASKELL

DIVERSIONARY
THEATRE

* Member of Actors Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, appearing under a Special Appearance Contract.

NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT



I wrote *Now or Later* in 2007 sensing that the conflict between western liberalism and Islamic fundamentalism was possibly intractable. One of the reasons I named the play *Now or Later* was to signal to the audience that though the play's issues may or may not be pressing at the very moment the play is seen, they would inevitably recur.

Since the play's debut in 2008 there have been times when these issues were horrifically present and times they were quiescent. But something I could not have predicted in 2007 is how hostile our political discourse would become, and the even greater intolerance young people would feel towards certain kinds of free expression. The debates about Islam and the west in the play now resonate with debates within our own culture. Are extreme differences even minimally compatible? Does difference inevitably result in violence?

In the spring of 2015 I did a reading of the play in New York and, at director Doug Hughes's prompting, made a few minor changes to more accurately portray the gay marriage question of 2008, to reflect settled history rather than my speculations of 2007. This part of the play is now firmly in the past as gay marriage is the law of the land. I hope *Now or Later's* status as a kind of "history play" allows us to see remaining questions of difference -- which seem to proliferate even as some melt away -- more deeply. For me, the foundation of the play has always been the psychological and existential traumas that get projected into the ideas we hold and the ways we receive others' ideas. Those will always be with us, and our survival depends on finding ways to think about, contain, and transform them.

- Christopher Shinn

THE COMPANY

Now or Later

By Christopher Shinn

2008. Late night, election day.
A hotel room in a southern state.

FEATURING

Lisel Gorell Getz*	JESSICA
J. Tyler Jones	JOHN
Joshua Jones	MATT
Whitney Brianna Thomas	TRACY
Matt Thompson	MARC
Eddie Yaroch	JOHN SR.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Matt M. Morrow
Resident Stage Manager	Monica Perfetto
Set Designer	Sean Fanning
Costume Designer	Shirley Pierson
Lighting Designer	Curtis Mueller
Sound Designer	Blair Nelson
Properties Designer	Bonnie Durben
Fight Choreographer	George Yé
Master Carpenter	Skyler Sullivan
Carpenters	Peet Cocke, Mike McCoullock
Charge Artist	Ron Logan
Costume Intern	Vibiana Tran

SPECIAL THANKS

The Old Globe

Run time is approximately 1 hour 10 minutes, with no intermission.

**"Now or Later" is presented by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.**

NOW OR LATER had its world premiere at
The Royal Court Theatre, London, on 3 September 2008.

**NOW OR LATER was developed in
Hartford Stage's 2008 Brand:NEW festival.**

The American Premiere of NOW OR LATER was produced by the Huntington Theatre Company, Boston, Massachusetts.

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LISE GORELL-GETZ* (Jessica) Previously at Diversionary: *Bluebonnet Court* (Co-Production with MOXIE Theatre), *Valhalla*, *Wrinkles*, *Cloud 9*, *Psycho Beach Party* (Diversionary Associate Artist). Elsewhere: *Detroit*, *Exit Interview*, *Tortilla Curtain*, *In the Next Room: or, the Vibrator Play*, *Intimate Apparel* (San Diego Rep); *Enron*, *Skinless*, *Counterweight*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *The Crucible* (MOXIE Theatre); *9 Parts of Desire* (Mo'olelo); *Don't Dress for Dinner* (NCRT); *Biedermann and the Firebugs* (Cygnet); *Current Nobody* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Macbeth*, *Valparaiso* (Sledgehammer); *Twelfth Night* (New Village Arts). Lise trained at Ithaca College and the British American Drama Academy.



J. TYLER JONES (John) is ecstatic to be back in San Diego for *Now or Later*. Previously at Diversionary: *Baby with the Bathwater*. Other local credits include: *Henry V* (New Fortune); *Mud Blue Sky* (Moxie); *Accomplice: San Diego* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Macbeth* (Intrepid); *Punk Rock* (ION). Tyler is a proud graduate of the Florida State University School of Theatre. He is currently based in Los Angeles.



JOSHUA JONES (Matt) is excited to be making his Diversionary Theatre debut in *Now or Later*. Elsewhere: *Car Plays: Interchange* (Moving Arts/LA Jolla Playhouse); *The Heir Apparent*, *Postmortem*, *An Inspector Calls*, *a feminine ending*, *Almost Main*, *On Air*, *Green Flash at Sunset* (Scripps Ranch Theatre); *Calendar Girls*, *Tribute* (Sullivan Players); *Much Ado About Nothing* (New Village Arts); *Beginner's Heaven* (New Village Arts/Playwrights Project).



WHITNEY BRIANNA THOMAS (Tracy) is blessed to be premiering at Diversionary Theatre in *Now or Later*. Elsewhere: *The Motherf*cker with the Hat* (Cygnet Theatre); *Phaedra's Love* (Do It Live! Productions); *The Oddman Family Christwanzakauh Spectacular* (Guerrilla Rep). Whitney is represented by Dee Dee Escobedo at JE Talent in San Francisco. www.jetalent.com

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MATT THOMPSON (Marc) Local Theatre: *The Grift* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Spring Awakening* (Cygnet Theatre); *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (Moxie Theatre); *Much Ado About Nothing* (Intrepid Shakespeare); *The Odd Couple*, *THIS*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *Over the Tavern*, *Dracula*, *Leading Ladies*, *A Thousand Clowns*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Julius Caesar* (North Coast Rep); *Henry V* (New Fortune Theatre); *West Side Story*, *Cold Comfort Farm* (Lamb's Players); *Shear Madness* (The Theatre in Old Town); *The Tempest* (Kingsmen Shakespeare); *Moonlight and Magnolias* (Sierra Rep); *Rapanzal* (Falcon Theatre). Television: *C.S.I.*, *Veronica Mars*, *Fashion House*, *Cover Me*, *Dharma and Greg*, *Frasier*, *Watch Over Me*, *Eighteen Wheels of Justice*, *The Invisible Man*, and *Baywatch*.



EDDIE YAROACH (John Sr.) appeared once on this stage in an independent production of *Side Man* many moons ago, so this marks his true debut at Diversionary. Elsewhere: *The (curious case of the) Watson Intelligence*, *Enron* (Craig Noel Award) (Moxie); *Car Plays* (La Jolla Playhouse); *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, *Circle Mirror Transformation*, *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Seven-Year-Itch*, *Picasso At The Lapin Agile*, *Golden Boy* (New Village Arts); *Our Town* (Cygnet); *Hamlet*, *Midsummer-The Musical*, *Richard II*, *King John*, *Macbeth* (Intrepid).



CHRISTOPHER SHINN (Playwright) is one the most produced young LGBT playwrights in America. His work has premiered in London at the Royal Court, and Stateside on Broadway at Roundabout Theatre, Lincoln Center, Manhattan Theatre Club, Playwrights Horizons, Roundabout, South Coast Rep, among others. He is the recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship, OBIE Award for Playwriting, and the Robert Chesley Award. His play *Dying City* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. *Now or Later* marks Christopher's first production at Diversionary Theatre. <http://www.christophershinn.com/>

MATT M. MORROW (Director) please see Executive Artistic Director.

MONICA PERFETTO (Resident Stage Manager) is proud to be joining Diversionary for the remainder of their 2015-2016 season. Recently at Diversionary: *A Civil War Christmas: An American Musical Celebration in Concert*, *Bright Half Life* and *A New Brain*. Elsewhere: *RENT* (Southwestern College), *Annie* (California Youth Conservatory), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *All My Sons*, *Macbeth*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream the Musical* (Intrepid Shakespeare Company). As Production Assistant: *The Fox on the Fairway*, *Side by Side*, *Chapter Two* (North Coast Repertory Theatre). Monica is a graduate from the University of San Diego and holds a BA in Theatre Arts and Performance Studies.

SEAN FANNING (Scenic Designer) is a Southern California-based scenic designer with a career spanning over 40 productions on local stages. Previously for Diversionary: *Birds of a Feather*, *Pippin*, and *Harmony, Kansas*. Elsewhere: *Full Gallop*, the Globe for All tour of *All's Well That Ends Well*, *A Doll's House*, *Kingdom*, and *Plaid Tidings* (The Old Globe); *My Manana Comes* (Marin Theatre Company); *The Oldest Boy*, *Everybody's Talkin': The Music of Harry Nilsson*, *Honky* (Craig Noel Award nomination), *In the Heights*, and *Walter Cronkite is Dead* (San Diego Repertory Theatre); *Hay Fever*, *The Vortex*, *Dogfight*, *The Whale*, *Sons of the Prophet*, *Pageant*, *Maple and Vine*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Travesties*, and *Shakespeare's R&J* (Cygnet).

THE COMPANY

Theatre Company); *South Pacific*, *Jane Austen's Emma*, and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Summer Repertory Theatre); and *The Improv at Harrah's* and *Menopause the Musical* (Harrah's Las Vegas). Mr. Fanning holds an M.F.A. in Scenic Design from San Diego State University. See more of his work at www.seanfanningdesigns.com.

SHIRLEY PIERSON (Costume Designer) a San Diego based award-winning costume designer, is delighted to return to Diversionary Theatre with *Now or Later*. Previous work with Diversionary includes: *Harmony Kansas*, *Pippin*, *Next Fall*, *When Last We Flew*, *The Further Adventures of Hedda Gabbler* and *Marry Me A Little*. Additional show credits in San Diego County include: The Old Globe - *Ken Ludwig's Baskerville*, *Rich Girl*; Cygnet Theatre - *Parade* (Craig Noel Outstanding Costume Design Winner), *Spring Awakening*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Craig Noel Outstanding Costume Design Nominee), *Assassins*, *Glass Menagerie*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Cabaret*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Private Lives*, *History Boys*. She is a faculty member of the Performing Arts Department at Palomar College and received her MFA in Theatrical Design from San Diego State University. You may view her work at: shirleypiersondesigns.com.

CURTIS MUELLER (Lighting Designer) returns to Diversionary having designed *A Civil War Christmas*, *Amazons and Their Men*, *Man Clan* and *A New Brain*. Select local credits include: *End of The Rainbow*, *Quality of Life*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *All My Sons*, and *Macbeth* (Intrepid Shakespeare Company); *The 1940s Radio Hour* and *Seascape* (New Village Arts); *Next to Normal*, *Spring Awakening*, *The John Mayer Project* (Cabaret at the Merc Summer Series). Curtis has also worked extensively with Coronado School

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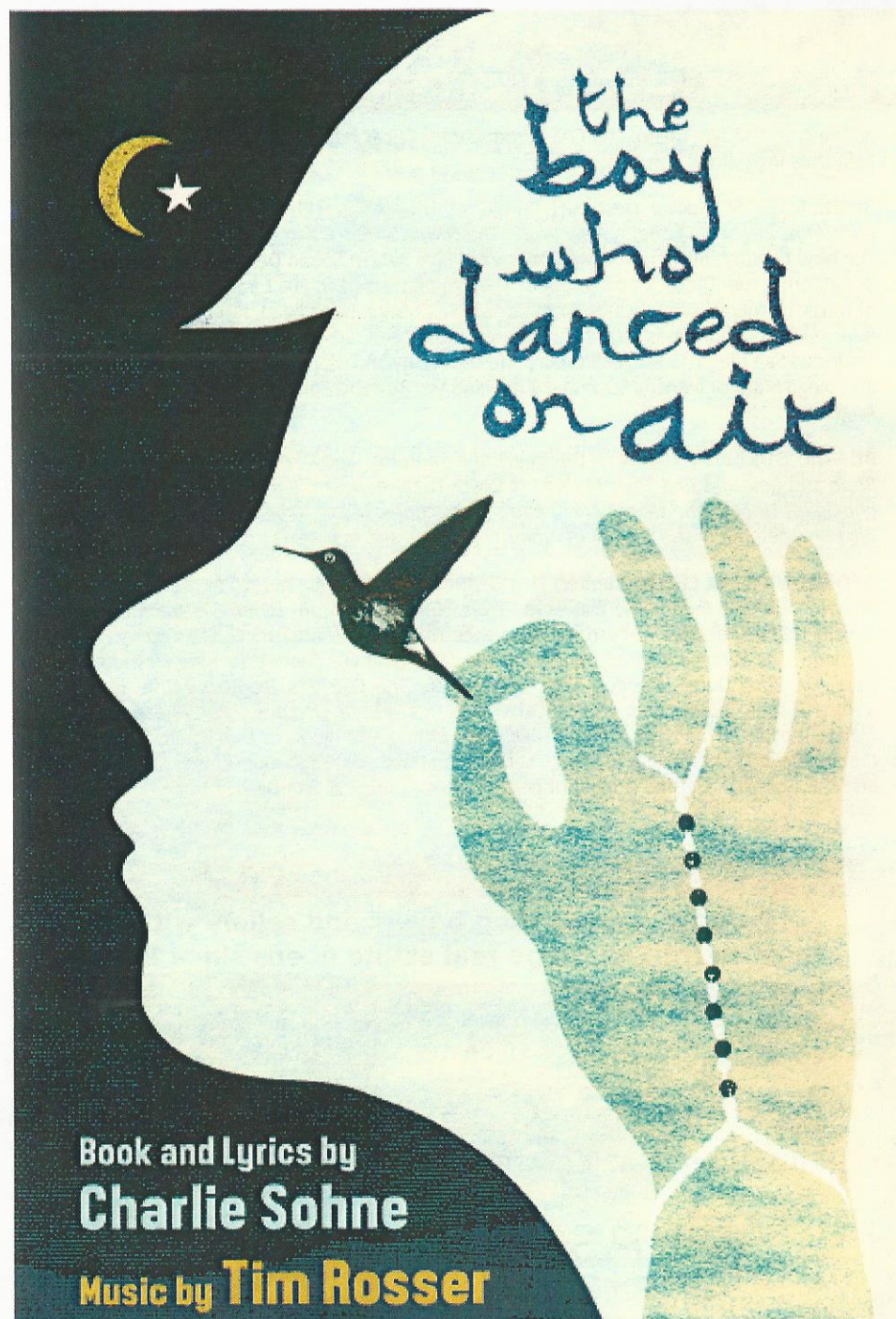
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THE COMPANY

of The Arts, CYT San Diego, and CAST Productions. Curtis holds a BFA in Lighting Design from California Institute of The Arts.

BLAIR NELSON (Sound Designer) Credits at Diversionsary Theatre include: *A Civil War Christmas*, *Bright Half Life*, *A New Brain*, *The Divine Sister*, *When Last We Flew*, *Dooley*, and *The New Century*. Blair completed a Master of Fine Arts in Sound Design from the University of California, San Diego, Department of Theatre and Dance in 2012 and received a Bachelor of Music in Theory/Composition from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota in 2007. His new music collaborations have been curated, composed, and performed at the University of California San Diego, Calit2, California State University San Marcos, Canvas Gallery San Diego, San Diego State University, SD Space 4 Art, and the Roy and Edna Disney CalArts Theater Los Angeles.

BONNIE DURBEN (Properties Designer) *She-Rantulas*, *Baby With The Bathwater*, *A New Brain* and *Amazons and Their Men*. Mira Costa Theatre; *Seven*, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, *Urinetown*. Moonlight Theatre Productions; *Music Man*, *Shrek*, *All Shook Up* and *Big Fish*. Member of the Society of Property Artisans and Managers

GEORGE YÉ (Fight Choreographer) *Two Gentleman of Verona*, *Twelfth Night*, *Time and the Conways*, *Double Indemnity*; *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *2013 Shakespeare Festival*, *Allegiance the Musical*, *August: Osage County*, *God of Carnage*, *The Whipping Man*, *Dancing in the Dark* (The Old Globe); La Jolla Playhouse: *Up Here*, *The Ether Dome*, *Kingdom City*, *Peter and the Star Catchers*, *Blood and Gifts*, *Hands on a Hard Body*, *A Dram of Drummhicit*. Other favorites include: *Oedipus El Rey*, *Claybourne Park* (San Diego Rep); *True West*, *Fool for Love*, *The Motherf*cker with the Hat*, *Shakespeare's R&J*, *Communicating Doors*, *Bug* (Cygnets Theatre). Feature: *The King's Guard* with Ron Pearlman and Eric Roberts. George is head of performance training at San Diego Mesa College, MFA, SAFD, AEA.

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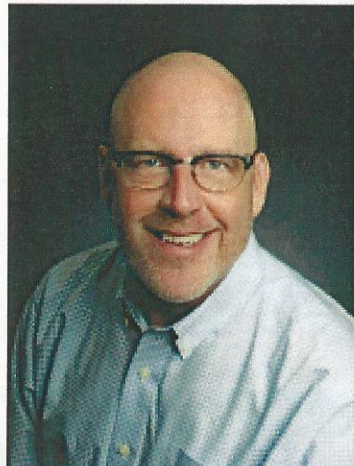
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THE COMPANY



MATT M. MORROW (Executive Artistic Director) most recently directed the West Coast Premiere of Jordan Harrison's *Amazons and Their Men* at Diversionsary Theatre. Prior to joining Diversionsary, Matt was the Associate Artistic Director of City Theatre Company, a LORT theatre in Pittsburgh, PA. With City he directed the Regional Premiere of Jessica Dickey's *Charles Ives Take Me Home*, the World Premiere of Tami Dixon's *South Side Stories*, Kim Rosenstock's *Tigers Be Still*; and workshops of the new musical *The Shadow Sparrow* by Anton Dudley, Keith Gordon and Charlie Sohne, and *Don't You F*cking Say A Word* by Andy Bragen for City's Momentum Festival of New

Works.

He has developed new work with The Sundance Theatre Institute, The Banff Centre, American Conservatory Theater, Lincoln Center, PlayPenn, and Page 73 Productions in residence at the Yale School of Drama. His work as a director has been seen in NYC at Amas, Playwrights Horizons, Urban Stages, EST, HERE, Dixon Place, Cherry Lane, The York, The Tank, NYC Int'l Fringe, Midtown Int'l Festival, among others. Matt is currently developing Jennifer Haley's *Froggy* and has served as The John Wells Professor of Directing at Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama (Graduate & Undergraduate Directing programs), and is a member of the Lincoln Center Director's Lab. He holds a BFA in Directing from Carnegie Mellon University. www.mattmmorrow.com



MATT HARDING (General Manager) joined the Diversionsary team in October of 2013, and has extensive experience in LGBT community organization, nonprofit marketing, hospitality and events. He most recently worked as Director of Marketing at the Greater San Diego Business Association and holds a certificate in Nonprofit Marketing. Matt's experience includes creating and leading Tucson, Arizona's 2005 – 2006 Pride on Parade events; leading Tucson's GLBT Chamber of Commerce through a name and brand change and growth of 40% in membership; Senior Sales manager positions at some of Tucson's leading convention hotels, and an extensive background in hospitality

management.



Diversionsary Theatre and San Diego Playwrights have teamed up to host WordPlay Tuesdays, an opportunity for writers to hear their developing new works read out loud in a relaxed setting. Held on the second Tuesday of each month, all WordPlay Tuesdays are free and open to the public.

More info at diversionsary.org/wordplay