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# DANCE NATION

by Clare Barron

Directed by Jennifer Eve Thorn

### CAST

Ashlee	Andréa Agosto
Connie	Farah Dinga
Zuzu	Joy Yvonne Jones
Vanessa/The Moms	Sarah Karpicus Violet
Amina	Wendy Maples
Maeve	Li-Anne Rowsell
Sofia	Sandra Ruiz
Dance Teacher Pat	Daren Scott
Luke	Eddie Yaroch

### CREATIVE AND TECHNICAL TEAM

Director	Jennifer Eve Thorn
Choreographer	Lesa M. Green
Production Stage Manager	Nicole Ries
Scenic Designer	Reiko Huffman
Costume Designer	Kate Bishop
Lighting Designer	Nate Parde
Sound Designer	Lily Voon
Props Designer	Angelica Ynfante
Assistant Director	Madison Mellon
Assistant Scenic Designer	Emily Klemmetsen
Assistant Stage Manager	Megan Ames
Costume Assistant	Gail Fogelman
Stitcher	Kate Stallons
Scenic Painters	Julie Lorenz, Nichol Richardson
Technical Director	Rogelio Rosales
Dance Captain	Wendy Maples
Production Manger	Nicole Ries

DANCE NATION received its UK premiere at the Almeida Theatre, London, September 2018. Playwrights Horizons, Inc., New York City, produced the World Premiere of DANCE NATION in 2018 with support from an award by the National Endowment of the Arts, and a generous gift from Scott M. Delman. Special Thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Trust for supporting new plays at Playwrights Horizons, and special thanks to the Time Warner Foundation for its leadership support of New Works Lab at Playwrights Horizons.

DANCE NATION was developed at the Perry-Mansfield New Works Festival, June 2015, with the Atlantic Theatre Company, and presented as part of the Contemporary American Voices Festival at Long Wharf Theatre, September 2016. DANCE NATION was written, in part, in residence at SPACE on Ryder Farm, and received extensive workshop time and space as part of New Dramatists' Jerry A. Tishman Playwrights Creativity Fund.



## the playwright

**CLARE BARRON** is a playwright and actor from Wenatchee, Washington. Her plays include *You Got Older*, which received its world premiere with Page 73 and will appear at Steppenwolf in 2018 (Obie Award for Playwriting, Drama Desk Nomination for Outstanding Play, Kilroys List, and Susan Smith Blackburn finalist); *I'll Never Love Again* (The Bushwick Starr, NYTimes & Time Out Critics' Picks); *Baby Screams Miracle* (Woolly Mammoth, Clubbed Thumb); and *Dance Nation*, which

appeared at Playwrights Horizons in 2018 and won the Relentless Award established in honor of Philip Seymour Hoffman and the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize. She is also the recipient of a Whiting Award, the Page 73 Playwriting Fellowship and the Paula Vogel Award at the Vineyard.



## the director

**JENNIFER EVE THORN** is the co-Founder and Executive Artistic Director of MOXIE Theatre. Directing credits at MOXIE Theatre include *Dog Act* (w/ Delicia Turner Sonnenberg), *Fall*, *Devil Dog Six* (w/ Esther Emery) (San Diego Theatre Critics Circle Award, Best New Play), *Victoria Martin-Math Team Queen* (KPBS Patte Award, Outstanding Direction), *The Sugar Syndrome*, *Drink Me*, *Expecting Isabel*, *The Crucible* (w/ Intrepid Theatre Company) and *Coming Attractions* (w/ Jo Anne Glover), *Hickorydickory*, *Mud Blue Sky*, *Enron*, *Lesson 443*, *Our Lady of Kibeho*, *The Revolutionists*, *Ironbound*, *The Madres* (w/ Patrice Amon), *Herland* and *Hookman* (in Assoc. with SDSU).



## about the cast

**ANDRÉA AGOSTO (ASHLEE)** is extremely excited to be making her MOXIE debut! She is an award winning filmmaker (Kansas City Film Fest) and actress (International Model & Talent Association). Ms. Agosto is thankful for each performance opportunity. She recently co-directed *Straight*. Her favorite credits include: *Significant Other* (Vanessa), *Bull in a China Shop* (Pearl), *The Magic in This Soul* (Grant/John), *Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley: From Slavery to Modiste* (Elizabeth Keckley),



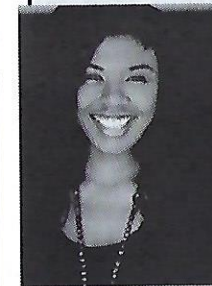
*Cardboard Piano* (Adiel/Ruth), *Homos, or Everyone in America* (Laila), *Avenue Q* (Gary Coleman), *The Best Goodbye* (Sabina), *Cell* (Gwen), *You Can't Take it With You* (Rheba), *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (Nina), *Bare* (Tanya), *Flyin' West* (Minnie), *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters* (Manyara), *Working* (Maggie Holmes), *Big River* (Alice), *High School Musical* (Taylor), and *Grease* (Rizzo).

For more information, please visit: [www.andreaagosto.com](http://www.andreaagosto.com)



**FARAH DINGA (CONNIE)** is thrilled to be making her MOXIE Theatre debut. She recently graduated from UCSD with a B.A. in Theatre. Credits include; *80 Days Around the World* (Upcoming, New Village Arts), *Monster* (WNPF, UCSD), *SERE* (WNPF, UCSD), *Our Town* (UCSD), *1.2.3.4.* (On The Line Collective), *2x2* (Cat and Crow), and many more.

**JOY YVONNE JONES (ZUZU)** Originally from Houston, Texas Joy Yvonne Jones attended The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and went on to study at the University of Minnesota in the Guthrie Theatre



BFA Actor Training Program. Joy first discovered her passion for Acting at the age of 10, when she was given the role of Harriet Tubman in the Black History Program at her church. She believes that every story has a purpose, and as an actress, she is responsible for giving it breath. Her most recent credits include Hall in *Men on Boats* at New Village Arts Theatre, Saartjie Baartman in *Voyeurs de Venus* at MOXIE Theatre and Jane in *Pride and Prejudice* at Cygnet Theatre. She has also been a teaching artist at

the Neal Hamil Center in Houston, Texas as well as the Texas Shakespeare Festival for several seasons. Joy is currently working on her revolution at the speed of inspiration.





**SARAH KARPICUS (VANESSA/THE MOMS)** is thrilled to return to the MOXIE stage and collaborate with such a fantastic team. Favorite roles include: Leigh, *The Kid Thing* (MOXIE), Karen, *Speed the Plow* (San Diego Actors Theatre), Marianne, *Playing for Time* (Raymond Hodges Theatre), and Echo, *Eleemosynary* (Shafer Street Playhouse). She holds a BFA in Acting from Virginia Commonwealth University and a Masters Degree in

Expressive Arts Therapy from the European Graduate School. Sarah is the cofounder of Yellowbird, an organization dedicated to building personal and community resilience in and through the arts. She sends boundless love and gratitude to her family, friends and beloved E.



**WENDY MAPLES (AMINA)** is thrilled to be returning to MOXIE! Stage credits include the world premiere of *Orange Julius* (MOXIE Theatre) *PIPPIN*, *Fair Use* (Diversionary Theatre) and *Dog Sees God* (InnerMission Productions). Additionally, she has directed & performed with New Village Arts, Playwrights Project, InnerMission Productions and the Theatre Arts School of San Diego. Wendy is a founding teacher at High Tech Middle Chula Vista. Many thanks to Jen, Lesa, and the beautiful citizens of *Dance Nation*. And to James- he knows why.

**LI-ANNE ROWSWELL (MAEVE)** is happy to have her MOXIE debut in this strange and wonderful play. You may have seen her on various area stages- most recently as Inspector Harriet Goring in *The Games Afoot* at The Grand Tea Room in Escondido. Additional credits include Helga ten Dorp in *Deathtrap* (Oceanside Theatre Company), Mary in

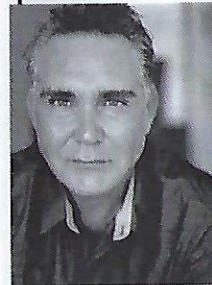
*Women in Jeopardy* (Broadway Vista), Nurse Preen in *Man Who Came to Dinner* (the Welk Stage), and as Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret* (Ion). Other favorites include Cassandra in *Vanya and Sonya and Masha and Spike* (Scripps Ranch Theater), Mrs. McAndrews in *Sons of the Prophet* (Cygnet), Lou in *1940s Radio Hour* (New Village Arts), and Clara in *The Magic Fire* (Moonlight at the AVO). Li-Anne is a proud member of Storytellers of San Diego and The San Diego Performing Arts League, and is a Volunteer House Manager for MOXIE Theatre.



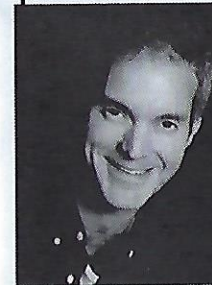
**SANDRA RUIZ (SOFIA)** was last seen on stage at Onstage Playhouse as Vanda in *Venus in Fur*. Some of her favorite credits include: *The Madres*, *Enron*, *Expecting Isabel* (MOXIE Theatre), *Beachtown*, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, *Corridos/ Remix*, *Earthquake Sun* (San Diego Rep.), *The Motherf\*\*ker with the Hat* (Cygnet), *A Permanent Image* (Pt. Loma Playhouse), *Lydia* (Ion), *Seven Spots on the Sun* (InnerMission), *Our Lady of the Tortilla*, *As Bees in Honey Drown* (Onstage Playhouse), *James & the Giant Peach* (Coronado Playhouse), *4.48 Psychosis*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UCSD). Born and raised in San Diego, Sandra received her BAs in Theatre & Human Development from UCSD.



**DAREN SCOTT (DANCE TEACHER PAT)** Last seen in *North Plan* and *The Normal Heart* at Ion Theatre where he also co-directed *Sex Drugs Rock And Roll*. As a founding member, Daren has almost exclusively worked at New Village Arts Theatre now in its 20th season. With NVA he has been an actor, director, assistant director, and since 2009 has photographed almost all of the productions. As an actor he has worked at many other San Diego theatres including Diversionary, Intrepid, Vantage, Ion, Cygnet, and now MOXIE. As a photographer he has worked for almost every performance space in town doing press and production photos. His work is regularly published in the UT and many other publications. His "day" is as a casting associate at Candis Casting working alongside the fantastic D Candis Paule, CSA on film and television projects.



**EDDIE YAROCH (LUKE)** MOXIE: *Diary of Anne Frank*, *Curious Case of the Watson Intelligence*, *Enron* (Craig Noel Award); NVA/Intrepid: *Buddy Holly Story*; La Jolla Playhouse: *The Car Plays*; New Village Arts: *Miss Firecracker Contest*, *Circle Mirror Transformation*, *Wait Until Dark*; Intrepid: *Midsummer*, *Hamlet*, *Richard II*, *King John*; Cygnet: *Our Town*; Diversionary: *Now or Later*, *Side Man*.





## about the creative team

**LESA M. GREEN (CHOREOGRAPHER)** took her first steps in dance class at the age of two in New York. She grew up in studios competitively dancing, so Dance Nation is quite special to her. Her training includes Tap, Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop and Modern. She has her B.A. in Dance from UCSD, trained at The Ailey School in NYC and has her M.S. in Physical Education from Azusa Pacific University. Some performance credits include MTV, Super Bowl Pre-Game Show, company dancer for bKSoul, and company dancer for The Lollipop Girls Burlesque (competitor on "America's Got Talent"). While teaching dance and choreographing at Grossmont and Mesa College, Lesa also teaches her own dance fitness format, The MIX Technique and teaches at Culture Shock Dance Center. In 2018, Lesa performed solos of her choreography for musical artist GINGEE (Coachella) and is excited to reunite again this November. Lesa would like to thank her mom for starting her in dance and driving her to every class, rehearsal, performance and competition...and making all of her costumes and watching everything she choreographed in the living room as a kid!

**NICOLE RIES (PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER)** has spent the last five years as MOXIE's Production Manager where her previous productions include *Voyeurs De Venus*, *Jade Heart*, *Coming Attractions*, and *A Man, His Wife and His Hat*. Her other regional credits include: *Julius Caesar*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Our Town*, *Stupid F\*\*king Bird*, *AJAX*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Pericles*, *Prince of Tyre*, *Antigone*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Measure for Measure*, *Twelfth Night*, *Trelawny of the "Wells"*, *Clybourne Park*, *Reckless*, and *Acquainted with the Night* (The Old Globe and USD Shiley Graduate Theatre Program) *Little Shop of Horrors* and *A Behanding in Spokane* (Cygnet), and *Into the Woods*, *Tom and Huck and Jim*, *Paradise Hotel*, and *Little Women: The Musical* (SDSU). Nicole is currently The Broadway/San Diego Awards Production Manager and has also worked with San Diego Repertory Theatre and Starlight Musical Theatre. Nicole holds a B.A. in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Arts Management from San Diego State University.

**NATE PARDE (LIGHTING DESIGNER)** is happy to be returning to MOXIE where he previously designed lighting for *Voyeurs du Venus and Brownsville*, *B Side for Tray*. Other credits include *Damn Yankees* (San Diego Musical Theatre), *Kingdom* (Old Globe Theatre), *MiXtape* (Lamb's Players Theatre), *Wit* (LPT), *Into the Woods* (LPT), and *Golden Boy* (New Village Arts). Nate is a member of the faculty in the University of San Diego Department of Theatre and received his MFA from the University of Texas at Austin.

**REIKO HUFFMAN (SCENIC DESIGNER)** is a Scenic Designer and Visual Artist currently located and originally from San Diego, CA and has designed and assisted in theatres on the west coast such as ACT Theatre in Seattle, WA, Book-It Repertory Theatre, 12th Ave Arts, ArtsWest, Cygnet Theatre, and more. She pursued Scenic Design in order to 'daringly' create and elects to choose the unconventional visual path in order to personify the complex emotional story that lies beneath human words. She believes in producing work that is led by the subtext so that the greater universal language of empathy can speak. She also uses this philosophy in her process, as she invests in genuine collaboration in order to produce a work from unique perspectives. Reiko's passion for Scenic Design is motivated by the bold and ambitious perspectives that she chooses to take when reading plays. She challenges audiences to emotionally dive into stories and see the similarities between ourselves and those onstage.

**KATE BISHOP (COSTUME DESIGNER)** is absolutely tickled to be back at MOXIE. For the past two years she has been running for local office, but felt the need to return for one show, only because *Dance Nation* is worth putting a campaign on hold for. Previous MOXIE work includes *Eternally Bad* and *Ruthless! The Musical*. Other theatres where you may have seen Kate's work include New Village Arts and Diversionary. She has also designed a bunch of movies nobody has ever seen and a music video for a pop star she wishes nobody had ever seen. Kate would like to thank Gail for her incredible work, Kat for her support, and her family for putting up with all of this. Eat. Sleep. Dance!



**ANGELICA YNFANTE (PROPS DESIGNER)** is a Texas State University graduate with a BFA in Theatre. For five years, she worked across US and Mexico in Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Vermont, New York, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Cancun, until she made it to sunny California. She was the Props Master/ATD for San Diego REP for 9 seasons, has designed props for MOXIE for 9 seasons, and worked for Diversionary, New Village Arts, Cygnet, Green Raven. She is currently with Pacific Event Productions.

**LILY VOON [SOUND DESIGNER]** is a graduate from University of California, San Diego. She studied Interdisciplinary Computing & the Arts (ICAM Music) with an emphasis on recording arts and sound design, and a minor in Music. Sound Design credits include: *Herland* (MOXIE THEATRE), *Fade* (MOXIE Theatre), *Anne Frank* (MOXIE Theatre), *Cell* (Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UCSD), *24 Hour Play Festival* (UCSD), and *A two People's Names and Yanipsich Krumbach and the Infinite Day Blue* (UCSD, UNPF 2014 Showcase). Assistant Sound Design credits include: *In the Crowding Darkness* (UCSD, WNPF 2014) and *Eternally Bad* (MOXIE Theatre).

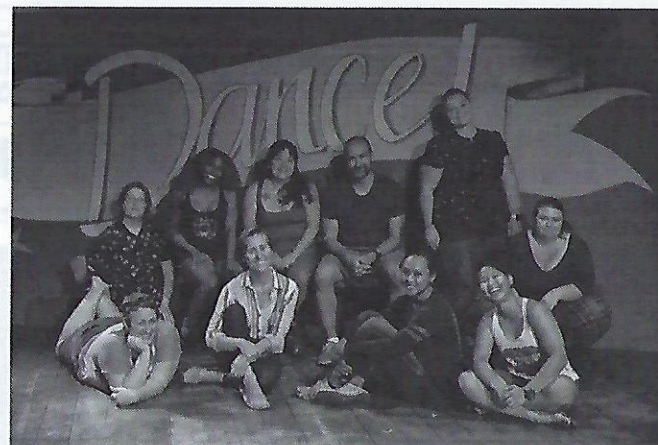
## SPECIAL THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*Many thanks to the following volunteers, community members, business and organizations who supported this production of DANCE NATION:*

Discount Dance, University Of San Diego, San Diego REPeritory Theatre, Karla Garcia (Production Intern), Alyssa Kane, Ashley Bietz, Mel Jones, Matt Lescault-Wood, Andy Scrimger, Volume 11 Graphics

Our House Manager Coordinator Debb Mattas and our house managers: Mike Carroll, Enid Farrell, Moira Berman, Leilani Snow and Sheila Robinson.

Want to get involved? Contact: [volunteer@moxietheatre.com](mailto:volunteer@moxietheatre.com)



Back Row: Madison Mellon (Assistant Director), Lesa M. Green (Choreographer), Angelica Ynfante (Props Design), Nate Parde (Lighting Design), Nicole Ries (Stage Manager), Megan Ames (ASM). Front Row: Kate Bishop (Costume Design), Jennifer Eve Thorn (Director), Reiko Huffman (Scenic Design), Lily Voon (Sound Design)

### What makes this picture unique?

MOXIE is proud to stack our design and technical teams with predominately female designers and in the case of Dance Nation, a couple fierce feminist guys. One day, we hope to see 50/50 representation on and behind the stage. Until then, we'll be giving sisters a leg up. This is MOXIE.

## SEE IT. BE IT.

Images matter. It's easier to BE something when you can SEE something. And at MOXIE you see women in charge of their own stories.

This year we celebrate 15 years of creating **more diverse images of women for our culture**. We are producing four plays written by exceptional playwrights, we are launching our Gender Equality Workshop to reach younger audiences, and we are lifting the voices of amazing women in San Diego through the MOXIE Awards.

**Want to join the movement?** Explore the many ways in which you can support our mission: donate, volunteer, join our Board of Directors, bring a friend to the theatre, spread the word... **BE a part of what you SEE** on stage, behind the scenes, and all around MOXIE. And as a donor you enjoy exclusive insider access, as well as our eternal gratitude!

Find out more at [moxietheatre.com/get-involved](http://moxietheatre.com/get-involved), or contact us at [devo@moxietheatre.com](mailto:devo@moxietheatre.com) or (858) 598-7620.