



CAST

Tadd Morgan (James) - Hometown: Mercer Island, WA

Tadd is honored to be performing with eSe Teatro. He was last seen onstage in *She Kills Monsters* at SecondStory Repertory. He has performed with many other local companies including Pacific Play Company, Hello Earth, Macha Theatre Works, Parley, Seattle Public Theater and Pork Filled Productions. This season he is also working at *Stranger Things: The Experience* in SoDo. He was a regular cast member and sometimes writer of the audio series *Brass* by Battleground Productions. His voice can be heard in audiobooks, video games and commercials. A Northwest native, Tadd grew up on Mercer Island and began his theatrical career at Youth Theatre Northwest, continuing his training at Bennington College in Vermont.



Nathan Allen Hare (Henry) - Hometown: Starkville, MS

Nathan is overjoyed to take part in eSe Teatro's production of *Two Big Black Bags*. An alumnus of Seattle Film Institute's first Acting for Film program, he studied technique for camera acting, stage combat, sitcoms, sketch comedy, voice/speech, and more. He is currently represented by Big Fish NW Talent and has appeared in commercial, voiceover and industrial work, as well as network television. Recent theatrical credits include the role of Francisco Vega in Seattle's first season of *House of Spirits: Casa Vega* and ensemble in the improv troupe *Applaud Me, Daddy!* Nathan also works as a bilingual (Spanish) educator for Highline Public Schools. He would like to thank his family and friends for being the backbone of support for his passions.



Adrián Cerrato (Chorus 1 & James/Henry Understudy) - Hometown: Lake Stevens, WA

Adrián is thrilled to be making his eSe Teatro debut! He was most recently seen as Big Brother in *Carmela Full of Wishes* at Seattle Children's Theatre. Other favorite roles include Capulet in Seattle Shakespeare's tour of *Romeo & Julieta*, and Hugo and Olmos in *Juan Palmieri* at ACT Lab. Adrián received his BA in Drama from the University of Washington.



Nathan Cárdenas (Chorus 2) -Hometown: Brewster, WA

Nathan is a theatre artist who is new to the area and is very excited to live and work in the Seattle Community. He is very passionate about diversity in theatre and hopes to work on projects with that same ideal in mind.



Teri Lee Thomas (Chorus 3) - Hometown: Shoreline, WA

Teri Lee enjoyed recent post-pandemic Taproot Theatre roles in *Babette's Feast*, *As It Is In Heaven*, *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley*, and *Black Coffee*. Diverse roles span four decades and seven states in Shakespeare, classics, new plays, musicals, TV and film. Local Puget Sound stage credits include Village Theatre, Taproot Theatre, Harlequin, Seattle G&S, Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle Shakespeare, Seattle Musical Theatre, Theatre Off Jackson, ACTLab, Bathhouse, Intiman, New City, Alice B. Theatre, SecondStory Rep, Driftwood Players, Woodinville Rep. Work elsewhere includes Texas Shakespeare, Montana Shakespeare, Oregon Repertory, Oregon Cabaret, Rogue Theatre Tucson, and TV's *Northern Exposure* and *Three Busy Debras*. Some favorites: Josie in *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, Shaw's *Candida*, Shakespeare's *Titania*, *Mistress Page* and *Queen Gertrude*. Teri lived in Bolivia for a year and speaks Spanish, with travels in Bolivia, Peru, Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Mexico and Spain, plus other countries. Next up: *A Christmas Carol* at Harlequin Productions in Olympia.



Monica Cortés Viharo (Chorus 4) - Hometown: Union City, CA
Monica is grateful to continue her journey with *Two Big Black Bags*. From two staged readings to the current production, Monica is honored to be part of the development and world premiere of Julieta Vitullo's amazing play, and her directorial debut! A proud member of SAG/AFTRA, Monica made her Seattle debut in eSe's 2016 bilingual production of *Mud/Barro* and has been a company member ever since. She thanks the mujeres of eSe Teatro for being her artistic familia, and Will Viharo, Elvis Presley, Sonja Albrecht, and her baby boy (with fur) Googie, for their love and inspiration.



Kerry Jacinto (Chorus 5) - Hometown: Lynwood, CA
Kerry is a local Seattle artist who received her undergraduate degree from UCSB's BFA acting program. Some of her more recent works include Prague Shakespeare Company's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as Puck, her solo show *The Ties of Ropa* with Macha Theatre Works' 17 Minute Stories in Seattle, and Tales of the Alchemists Theatre's *Ruins of Memory* as Claire Barchi. Kerry is very excited to be in her first production with eSe Teatro and hopes you enjoy the show!

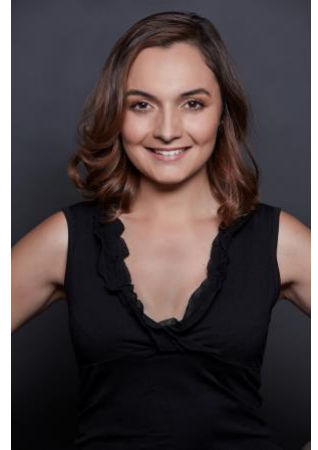


SWINGS

Fernando Ugaz (Chorus 1 & 2) - Hometown: Lima, Peru
Fernando studied film and video at the Robles Godoy Film Institute in Lima. He produced and edited three video documentaries: *North-South ConeXions Perú 94*, *North-South ConeXions USA 95* and *El último danzaq*. The latter was selected for the *Mira* Latino Film Festival of Seattle. He went to study acting at Magia Theater Group in Lima. He participated as a video artist for Seattle Group Theater's production of *Sarajevo, Behind God's Back* in 1995. He designed and shot video projections for *Tierra Sin Mal* by Rose Cano, which was presented in Seattle, Peru, Venezuela, Colombia and New York City. He co-founded North South-ConeXions, an international artist exchange project between Native American singers and dancers from Washington State and indigenous people of the Peruvian Andes. He's grateful to be part of the cast of *Two Big Black Bags*.



Iveliz Martel (Chorus 4 & 5) - Hometown: San Felipe, Chile
Iveliz is a Chilean actor who recently graduated from the MFA in Acting program at the UW School of Drama. She has been seen as Cassandra in *The Oresteia*, Allison in *Language of Angels*, and Pearl in *Bull in a China Shop*. Other acting credits include *In Between*, *Glass. Kill. Bluebeard's Friends*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, *Far Away*, and *Buda Errante*—a solo show created by herself along with Bradley Wrenn. Iveliz is also a science journalist and has developed a career as a radio journalist in her country.



Meg Savlov (Chorus 3) - Hometown: Rochester, NY
eSe Teatro's co-founder Meg Savlov comes from a theatrical family and started training in music and theater arts at an early age. She has worked as actress, writer, and co-producer in various bilingual ensembles and flamenco groups in Santa Fe, San Francisco, and Seattle. Locally, Meg has worked with the Group Theater, ACT, Puget Sound Revels and Miracle Theater in Portland. She was the Music Director of *Two Big Black Bag's* workshop production in 2019 and is thrilled to see this piece finally fully produced.



CREATIVE TEAM

Julieta Vitullo (Playwright & Director) ▽ - Hometown: Buenos Aires, Argentina
Julieta is a Seattle-based bilingual writer, playwright and dramaturge born and raised in Argentina. She holds an MA in English and a PhD in Spanish from Rutgers. She's the protagonist and co-script writer of the award-winning documentary *La forma exacta de las islas* and the author of *Islas imaginadas*, *La guerra de Malvinas en la literatura y el cine argentinos*. Her literary work was twice nominated for a Pushcart Prize and has appeared in *Into the Void*, *The Normal School*, *The Fabulist*, *Hawaii Pacific Review* and *The Massachusetts Review*. She's a resident playwright at eSe Teatro, and eight of her plays have been presented in Seattle. Julieta is also the creator of PoemasEternos, a typewriter poetry and art project.



Daisy Bower (Stage Manager) - Hometown: Adna, WA
This is Daisy's first show with eSe Teatro. She started her professional stage management career in Seattle with Cornish College of the Arts for their 2022 Fall Dance Showcase and was the Production Manager for *Showtunes* and Richard Gray's *Forbidden Christmas*. She graduated in 2022 and was brought back in the fall to the Oregon Center for the Arts to be the stage manager for a COVID-19-halted show *Hearts Like Fists*. Most recently, she was the Stage Manager at ArtsWest for the onstage world premiere of *Zach* by Christian St. Croix. During the day you can find her working at Bellevue Lighting. She would like to thank her family, Emmy, and boyfriend, for supporting her love of theatre.



Music Composer: Matilde Vitullo (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Assistant Director: Monica Cortés Viharo ∇ (Union City, CA)
Production Coordinator: Marissa Sandoval ∇ (Pueblo, CO)
Marketing Coordinator: Christie Zhao (Wuhu Anhui, China)
Production Consultant: María-Tania Bades B. W. ∇ (Jinotepe, Nicaragua)
Direction Coach: Pilar Ruiz (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Lighting Designer: Chih-Hung Shao (Taichung, Taiwan)
Sound Designer: Max Sarkowsky (Seattle, WA)
Costume Designer: Ro Miller (Davis, CA)
Singing Coach: Meg Savlov ∇ (Rochester, NY)
Scenic Designer: Alex Winterle (Santa Cruz, CA)
Set Builder & Graphic Designer: Matthew Smith (Newark, NJ)
Musicians: Matilde Vitullo, Jorge Mascardi and Pablo Marasco (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

∇ eSe Teatro company members

NOTES BY THE PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR

I was six when the Argentine military decided to appeal to an old anti-colonial cause to incite patriotic feelings and regain popularity. The U.S.-backed military dictatorship had been in power since 1976, having left 30,000 people “disappeared.” On April 2nd, 1982 the armed forces composed mainly of young conscripted soldiers with no training, landed on the Malvinas/Falklands, an archipelago 370 miles off of Patagonia that had been occupied by the British since 1833. Our teacher forced us to support “our troops” and sing against Margaret Thatcher. I felt conflicted knowing the military had killed one of my parents’ friends, and didn’t like that the conscripted soldiers had to fight while the professionals stayed home. The injustice

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of this got stuck inside of me, tucked away in a little corner of my being that held some other broken pieces – fragments leftover from my own childhood trauma.

Two decades later I was studying at Rutgers and had to choose a dissertation topic for my PhD in Latin American literature. The Falklands War crystallized as the most important event to have shaped my worldview. It was also a widely overlooked topic and little had been written about the literature produced in its aftermath up to that point. In the next few years, I traveled to the islands, finished my dissertation, published a book on the fictions of the war, went to the islands again, and made the award-winning documentary film *La forma exacta de las islas*, based on a traumatic experience I underwent following my first trip. By the time the film was released, I thought I was done with the topic.

However, a few years later, in 2019, an idea popped into my head and the seed for *Two Big Black Bags* was planted: a veteran of the Malvinas who is struggling with trauma and addiction awakes to two big black bags in his living room. I thought of this for days, trying to figure out the connection between the bags, which my imagination had filled with ten million dollars, and the trauma of the war. Where had this image come from? I didn't think I had anything else to say about the Malvinas, and yet there I was, writing my way into a play about it, and tapping again into that internal fracture that so many of us experience at some point or another as a result of various types of traumas.

As a citizen of a country that carries its traumatic past on its collective sleeve, and an immigrant who arrived in the U.S. right before 9/11 (witnessing the collapse of the towers and the breakdown of the American psyche), it perplexes me that mainstream U.S. culture attempts to normalize the idea of perpetual war. I believe there can never be too many plays about the devastating effects of war, and there can always be more stories to learn about cultures we may have little knowledge of.

I'm very fortunate to be able to finally premiere this play in front of Seattle audiences after the protracted effects of the global shutdown of 2020-22. I'm so blessed to be in collaboration with an amazingly talented group of actors, designers and company members who also think this story is worth sharing – and who decided to accompany me in this journey, which is also my directorial debut. Their talent, inventiveness and hard work made it all possible.

Julieta Vitullo, September of 2023

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SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Radford Court Apartments

Mark Chenovick

Amy Poisson

Chip Wood

Dacha Theatre

Taproot Theatre

Timothy Kinsella

Matthew Griffin

Bajón en Seattle (authentic Chilean-Argentine food in South Park)

Valkiria Bakery (delicious cakes and sweets in Mountlake Terrace)

eSe Teatro acknowledges that we are on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People (Dkhw Duw'Absh), and honor with gratitude the land itself and its people. We call for the federal government to give recognition to the Duwamish Tribe, and for all states at the federal and local levels to repair the historic injustices inflicted on this and all indigenous tribes throughout the Americas.

eSe Teatro is made possible by the support of:



And our fiscal sponsor:



Shunpike is the 501(c)(3) non-profit agency that provides independent arts groups in Washington State with the services, resources, and opportunities they need to forge their own paths to sustainable success.

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