Written By: Shannon R. Davis, Anne Kobari, Steven Flores, R. Réal Vargas Alanis, Freddy Gutierrez

August 19, 2022 at 7PM PST
@ Theatre of Yugen
2840 Mariposa St, San Francisco, CA 94110

August 21, 2022 at 7PM PST
@ Cal Shakes’ Bruns Amphitheater
100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Taquiza catered by Sexii Tacos at Cal Shakes

We would like to acknowledge the Ramaytush Ohlone people, who are the traditional custodians of this land. We pay our respects to the Ramaytush Ohlone elders, past, present, and future who call this place, the land that we sit upon, their home. We are proud to continue their tradition of coming together and growing as a community. We thank the Ramaytush Ohlone community for their stewardship and support, and we look forward to strengthening our ties as we continue our relationship of mutual respect and understanding.

Support local land rematriation efforts: Pay the Yunakin Land Tax to support the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone: [www.ramaytush.org/donate.html](http://www.ramaytush.org/donate.html)

Produced and Presented by Theatre of Yugen in Association with In The Margin

SUPPORTED BY:
Director’s Note

BRAIDED began as an idea in 2018, discussed over tea in the Mission. One of us, a descendant of a WWII Native Army Airforce decoder stationed in Japan; the other of interned Japanese Americans. We pondered - what if we are healing our ancestors' trauma and pain by sitting here and chatting over tea and scones? What if we could heal backwards through time, and right past hurt and injustices with our mere existence together? Bring them joy on the other side. What if we made a show about it?! Yugen wrote and secured an NEA grant to explore the idea. Rainin Foundation matched it! Yugen enlisted local Indigenous playwright/artists: Steven Flores, R. Réal Vargas Alanis, Freddy Gutierrez, and myself. After meeting Anne Yumi Kobori through participation in an “Undoing Racism” workshop, where Kobori discussed her family’s internment during World War II, our writing quintet was formed. BRAIDED explores the intersections of the Native American and Japanese American experiences through storytelling, movement, sound, and absolute absurdity.

Four years and many covid delays later, I’m happy to finally share our staged reading of BRAIDED with you. Maybe one day we’ll get that fully-staged, million dollar, Broadway production you’ll hear dreamed up in our stage directions. But for now, your imaginations are our canvases. Our voices are your paints. Let’s create some art together.

Shannon R. Davis

Theatre of Yugen is an innovative theatre ensemble that is rooted in Noh drama and Kyogen comedy, the oldest continuous theatre traditions of Japan. Fusing contemporary and classical materials, we create and offer intercultural theatrical experiences that engage and inspire diverse peoples in the San Francisco Bay Area and the world. www.theatreofyugen.org

IN THE MARGIN seeks to break patterns and cycles of harm individually, collectively, and globally to carve capacity for the ever-evolving forms of storytelling that inspire a radically inclusive, equitable, accessible, intersectional, and just future. For more information, visit www.inthemargin.org

California Shakespeare Theater Redefines the classical theater for the 21st Century, making works of extraordinary artistry that engage with our contemporary moment so we might learn about ourselves and each other in the fullness of our world. There are three pillars of our work: MAKE, LEARN, ENGAGE. https://calshakes.org
Braided

CAST

Steven Flores
Anne Yumi Kobori
R. Réal Vargas Alanis
Ron Munekawa
Aureen Almario
Matt Kizer
Freddy Guiterrez

NOLAN
MEI DOI
CEDAR
OJICHAN
SWEETGRASS
TOBACCO
BRIAN

CREATIVE / PRODUCTION TEAM

Shannon R. Davis
Steven Flores
Anne Yumi Kobori
R. Réal Vargas Alanis
Freddy Guiterrez
Pano Roditis
Dave Ragaza
Carlos Aguiree
Sonia Álvarez
Roberto Hernandez
Whitney M. Reed
Eleanor Hobson
W. Fran Astorga
Kyoko Yoshida
Miwa Kaneko

Director / Lead Writer / Producer
Lead Writer / Actor
Co-Writer / Actor
Co-Writer / Actor / Co-Producer / Associate Director
Co-Writer / Consultant
Stage Manager
Lighting Designer
Sound / Live Performer
Co-Producer
Graphics Design
Urban Window-Marketing Consultant
Social Media Coordinator
Program Design
Co-Producer
Co-Producer
Theatre of Yugen
Kyoko Yoshida  Co-Director
Miwa Kaneko  Co-Director
Shannon R. Davis  Artistic Associate
Grisel Torres  Interim Technical Director
Crystal Liu  Technical Staff
Saoirse Weaver  Technical Staff
Harrison Moye  Technical Consultant

Board of Directors: Haruko DeArth, President; Nina Bazan-Sakamoto, Secretary; Mariko Grady, Treasurer; Jock Walker; Kyoko Yoshida; Yuriko Doi

In the Margin
R. Réal Vargas Alanis  Artistic Director
Sonia Álvarez  Artistic Producer
W. Fran Astorga  Core Leader
Amber B. Ball  Core Leader
Edgar Alamo  Core Leader

CAL SHAKES
LeeAnn Dowd  Artistic Producer
Haley Miller  Production Manager
Jesse Guzman  Marketing and Communication Manager

Special Thanks to:
Z Space, Ty Defoe, Joshua Zatkin-Steres, Yuriko Doi,
Carla C. Correo, Nick Ishimaru, Lluis Valls, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley,
Bindlestiff Studio, California Shakespeare Theater (Cal Shakes)

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