ROUGH MAGIC

BY ROBERTO AGUIRRE-SACASA
directed by Myra Platt

JONES PLAYHOUSE
45th Season
234th Production
November 30-December 11, 2011
ROUGH MAGIC
by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa
directed by Myra Platt

Technical Director
Alex Danilchik

Vocal Coach
Judith Shahn

Dramaturg
Melodie Reece

Running Crew
Cameron Brow
Steven Cazales
Ao Ding
Liz Lay
Josh Umbinetti

House Manager
Genesis Pardo

Costume Design
Peter Donnelly

Lighting Design
Marnie Cumings*

Choreographers
Shannon Campbell
Creighton Oliver
Amanda Pieper

Fight Choreography Consultant
Geoffrey Alm

Stage Manager
Anneka Kielman

Assistant Directors
Emily Fassler
Amy Olson

Assistant Stage Manager
Nancy Erickson

Assistant Costume Designers
Hannah Watson
Elizabeth Wu

Student Carpenters
Angie Harrison*
Jennifer Sipila*

Costume Crew
Ricky Agustin
Youran Chang
Hannah Kim
Rosalind Phelps
Sarah Sutin

Costume Construction Crew
Sarah Barrett
Allison Panzarella*
Michaela Petrovitch*
Anya Savranskaya

Light Board Operator
Lyssa Davis

Light Board Programmer
Alasdair Swarner

Sound Board Operator
Wanda Moats

Assistant Sound Designer
Nina Trotto

Student Electricians
Paul Arnold*
Ryn Flynn*

Charge Artist
Jordan Baker

CAST in order of appearance

Linda Summers / Alecto ................................................................. Shannon Campbell
Prospero ..................................................................................... Jay Myers
Miranda ......................................................................................... Rachel Brun
Chet Baxter .................................................................................. Nic Morden
Melanie Porter ........................................................................... Hannah Ruwe
Ariel ............................................................................................... Ben Phillips
Sasia ............................................................................................. Elizabeth Officer
Caliban .......................................................................................... William Li
Mr. Shylock .................................................................................... Andrew Pritzkau
Caius Marcius / student / waiter / bartender / nurse ............................. Sean Fawaz
Tisiphone ....................................................................................... Creighton Oliver
Megaera / Dr. Rosemary Ridgeon / student / waiter ............................. Amanda Pieper

* Member of the Master of Fine Arts Program in design.

ROUGH MAGIC is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York. ROUGH MAGIC was produced at the Yale School of Drama. ROUGH MAGIC received its world premiere at the Hangar Theatre in Ithaca, New York, in July 2005.
We wish to extend a very hearty thank you to all those who made a financial contribution to the School of Drama in the 2011 fiscal year (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011). Your new and ongoing gifts make a genuine impact in the lives of our students, and in turn, within the greater theatre community. Thank you!

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Special thanks to Scott Gray, SCT costume shop, Matt Starritt and graphic artist Jonny Sikov.

Director Myra Platt is indebted to Lenore Bensinger, a superhero dramaturg in real life. Thanks also to Judith Shahn, Geoff Alm and Emily Fassler for their assistance. Christopher Mumaw, a true creative partner, and Anneka Kielman for her steadfast supervision.

The School of Drama is proud to be a member of: U/RTA Theatre Puget Sound
ABOUT THE PLAY

*Rough Magic* runs 2 hours, including a 10-minute intermission.

TIME AND PLACE

*Rough Magic* takes place on an enchanted island somewhere in the Mediterranean frozen in time and in present day Manhattan Island during an intense, summer heat wave.

DIRECTOR’S NOTE

What a joy and honor it has been to work with this incredible design team and remarkable cast of heroic actors. *Rough Magic* boasts a delicate balance between a Shakespearean graphic novel and an episode of *30 Rock*. It is a post-9/11 American tale of magic-realism grappling with nightmarish realms of destructive power. Everyone was asked to unleash their imaginations and investigate magic (beyond *Harry Potter*) in finding our approach to telling this enchanted story. We’ve driven ourselves crazy with, oh, simple questions like: What is real? Does magic exist? Can anyone be trusted with ultimate power? Together we explored the many allusions and theatrical themes that crack in this weird, thunderclap bravado of a script. As theater artists, we learn to trust our unique craft, and not rely on the trappings of what we are used to seeing in film, TV and computer imaging. Collectively, we have navigated our way through a world turned upside down, where terror seems to reign, and revenge enslaves our hopes and dreams. Creating theater can be terrifying. But what if the magical art of theater can, in fact, save lives?

— Myra Platt, Director

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa is an American playwright, screenwriter and comic-book writer best known for his work for Marvel Comics and for the HBO drama series *Big Love*. Born in Washington, D.C., the son of a prominent Nicaraguan diplomat, he was raised in both the United States and Nicaragua. He received his undergraduate degree at Georgetown University, where he studied playwriting under Donn B. Murphy. He holds a Masters Degree in English literature from McGill University and graduated the Yale School of Drama in 2003.

Aguirre-Sacasa grew up liking comic books and upon graduation began writing for Marvel Comics. In 2009, the Round House Theatre in Bethesda, Maryland, premiered his play *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, based on the novel by Oscar Wilde. That same year, Aguirre-Sacasa and artist Tonci Zonjic finished Marvel Comics’ *Marvel Divas* miniseries, and he began working as a writer for the HBO series *Big Love*. In February 2010, he was announced to write the book for the musical adaption of the novel *American Psycho*. In 2011, Aguirre-Sacasa was approached by the producers of the troubled Broadway musical *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark* to help rewrite its script. In May 2011, Aguirre-Sacasa was hired as a co-producer and writer of *Glee*.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Myra Platt is Co-Artistic Director and Co-Founder (with Jane Jones) of Book-It Repertory Theater, helping to produce over 60 world-premiere stage adaptations. She has worked with such authors as Isabel Allende, Berkeley Breathed, Chris Cleave, David James Duncan, David Guterson, Pam Houston, John Irving, Stephanie Kallos, Jim Lynch, and Tom Robbins. You can see her in Book-It’s upcoming production of *Prairie Nocturne* by Ivan Doig, and her adaptation of *The Art of Racing in the Rain*, by Garth Stein will premiere April 2012. Directing credits include *Cry the Beloved Country*, *Giant*, *The House of the Spirits*, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, *Night Flight*, *Persuasion*, *Plainsong*, *The River Why* and *Sweet Thursday*. Acting credits include performances at Seattle Repertory Theatre, the Mark Taper Forum, Intiman and New City Theater. Roles include *The Awakening* (Backstage West Garland Award), *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*, *The Chairs*, *The Dying Gaul*, *Howards End*, and the original role of Candy in *The Cider House Rules*. She (and Jane Jones) received the Paul G. Allen Foundation Founders Award, the 2010 Women of Influence, and the Seattle Times Unsung Heroes and Uncommon Genius for their 20-year contribution to the Puget Sound region.
**COMING UP**

*Script to Stage*
w/Book-It Repertory Theatre
January 12-January 15
Glenn Hughes Penthouse Theatre

*Emma*
by Jane Austen
adapted by Michael Bloom
directed by Victor Pappas
February 8-February 26
Jones Playhouse

*The Illusion*
by Pierre Corneille
adapted by Tony Kushner
directed by Andrew McGinn
April 25-May 6
Jones Playhouse

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:**
UW Arts Ticket Office
1313 NE 41st St
Seattle, WA 98105
M-F 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
206-543-4880
meany.org/tickets

For more information, or to make a donation to the UW School of Drama, please visit: drama.uw.edu

**FURTHER READING**

*The Tempest*
by William Shakespeare
Dover, 1999

*Watchmen*
by Alan Moore
DC Comics, 1995

*The House of the Spirits*
by Isabel Allende
Random House, 1986