

A Note *from the* Playwright/Producer

In the past I only used the word “miracle” to describe a desired purchase on sale or an unacknowledged parking transgression. However, since I decided to produce this play I have called events “miraculous” almost daily and without a hint of irony.

It all started in the fall of 2010 when I invited fifteen friends over to hear a reading of a first draft of a play I wrote. They shared their thoughts about the characters, relationships, and Internet dating in LA. I re-wrote the play and scheduled another reading. This process continued over the course of the next three years. I’d like to thank everyone who came to these readings, particularly Jennifer Jameson, Ruth Katz, and Joe Keyes. It takes a village to raise a child AND write a play.

It takes another village to produce the play. It’s been a privilege to work with (or watch work) the talented, dedicated, and deeply thoughtful people who made up the cast and crew of this production. Immense thanks and gratitude to the following geniuses: Craig Anton for stepping into this role with utmost passion and enthusiasm, asking for only the best, and tirelessly bringing his vision and dedication (and to his family for letting him dedicate so much time); our cast of gifted actors - Kim, Abigail, Brian, Sarah, Gloria, and Will - who have worked so hard and fearlessly asked many tough questions; Amanda Knehans - who can turn a burlap bags into a work of art (literally) - for creating a lovely hipster coffee shop with minimal (slight understatement) budget; Paige Stanley for her brilliant lighting design; Jordan Mills for being an excellent and delightful stage manager; Peter Carlstedt for making this play sound like a coffee shop; Leigh Fortier for guiding me in the ways of LA theater production; my cousin Phil Hernandez and his pal Ernie Lewis for creating the groovy Latin-vibe Kickstarter video soundtrack; Jim Coughlin for patiently shooting the Kickstarter videos; Maria Bamford for her endless positivity and support; Jared Planas for help with the website. And lastly, I want to thank my family for their endless support, especially my mom who signed me up for dozens of theater programs and always 100% supported every weird idea I ever had. I love you Mom.

- Solange Castro, 2014

The Production would like to thank...

All who gave to the Kickstarter (names below) for your blind faith in this project; Amit Itelman at Steve Allen for giving us a place to rehearse; Racquel Lehrman and Victoria Watson from The Lounge for all their guidance and support; Chris Clark at Groundwork Coffee for loaning us some super real café furniture and props; Jon Hudson, Eric Pinckert, and the creative team at Brand Culture for the beautiful and spot-on poster art and creative; Lesley Anton for her generous donation to the set; Sergio Diaz with Sato Screen Printing for creating the t-shirts... And enormous thanks TO YOU (the audience) for coming out to receive this creative venture.

Our KICKSTARTER Angels

Ryan Alford, Dong Sung An, Christopher Angel, Gabriella Valli Avina, Franz Baldassini, Maria Bamford, Marilyn Bamford, Joel Bamford, Jade Barclay, Aaron Baumhackl, Judy Belcher, Nina Belcher, Marjorie Berger, Cicely Bingener, Mark Bingener, Teri Bond, Allison Breen, El Rey Brian, Mollie Brown, James Bruce, Jack Burns, Janetta Burt, W. Bruce Cameron, Erlinda G. Castro, Rafaela Castro, Jennifer Cohen, Tim Davis, Cliff Dawes, Leila Decker, Raj Desai, Marya Dosti, Dana Eagle, Veronica Eguiguren, Jim Erwin, Will Fey, Sarah Fey, Daniel Frank, Mark Fujiwara, Robb Fulcher, John Gamboa, Laura Gamboa, Anne Garcia-Romero, Galen Gilbert, Allen Gittelson, Elsa Guerra, Jhony Gutierrez, Tania Haladner, Sara Halpert, Christopher Hecht, Marty Herman, Steve Hernandez, Edwin Hill, Darlene Hodgetts, Eliana Horeczko, Sharon Houston, Clinton Howard, Marcus Howard, Kira Hubbard, Jennifer Jameson, Amy Johnson, Ruth Katz, Joe Keyes, Erin Khue Ninh, Brian Kiley, Karl Wm. Klein, Paul Lair, Tanya Lauer, Carol Ann Leif, Errol Ivan Lewis, Gerald Lewis, Sylvia Loehndorf, Rebecca Long, Donald Roman Lopez, Linda Luevano, Michelle Machrone, Raul Macias, Jorge Martin, Suzanne Masterson, Emily McDowell, Michelle Pan Mendez, Amy Mew, Cathryn Michon, Emily Miller, Russell Mills, Pauline Mu, Maria Murakawa, Brian Ng, Anne Nguyen, Danielle Ozymandias, Rabuko Pavia, Claudia Perez, Jared Planas, Carole Raimondi, Louis Reyes, Kate Rhoades, David Rosenfeld, Solomon Russell, Susannah Schulman, Lori Seamon, Sarah Bamford Seidelmann, Lorenzo Semple, Judith Shelton, Edward W Shorter, Tophier Smith, Andrew Solmssen, Kendall Sor, Ratana Therakulsathit, Goro Toshima, Jennifer Vally, Maureen Vaughan, Eric Damon Walters, Jeanine Ward, Jeffrey C. Weiss, James Woster, Gregg Yearwood, Camilla Zamboni

Thank You

**b+c
brandculture**

*for your
Generous Contribution*

PROUDLY SUPPORTING SOLANGE



A WORLD PREMIERE



*Changes in the Mating
Strategies of White People*

• • •

*One coffee shop. Two couples.
A million chances to settle the score.*



A Play by Solange Castro Directed by Craig Anton

Lounge Theatre 2

6201 Santa Monica Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90038

A WORLD PREMIERE

Changes in the Mating Strategies of White People

Written and Produced by
SOLANGE CASTRO

Directed by
CRAIG ANTON

Set Design Amanda Knehans

Lighting Design Paige Stanley

Sound Design Peter Carlstedt

Production Stage Manager Jordan Mills

Production Consultant Leigh Fortier

Poster Design BrandCulture

Program Design Brad Steinbauer

CAST

(In order of Appearance)

Jade Abigail Marlowe

John William Nicol

Louise Gloria Charles *

Tyler Kim Estes *

Dirk Brian Cousins *

Roxanne Sarah Underwood Saviano *

* Member of Actors’ Equity Association,
The Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers
in the United States

Reservations

323-960-7787

www.plays411.com/changes

WHO’S WHO IN THE CAST

Gloria Charles (*Louise*). Gloria Charles is grateful to be returning to her first love in the industry, acting and the theatre, in this company of amazing talent. She has performed, produced and/or directed theatre locally at LATC, The Odyssey Theatre, Pacific Resident Theatre, Studio 52, and The Hudson, amongst others. She has also written theatrical adaptations from classical children’s literature. Years of television, film, commercial, theatrical, and voice-over work has afforded her the opportunity to co-create with some of her favorites: Richard Pryor, Walter Hill, Billy Bob Thornton, Ron Sossi, Esai Morales, Neema Barnette William Mastro Simone and Oz Scott. Gloria’s formal education and training includes

Fisk University, TSU, AFI, and The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, yet she most values the wisdom of spiritual guides, lessons from life, family, and treasured loved ones.

Brian Cousins (*Dirk*). Brian is pleased to work in Solange’s new play with his friend Craig. He has worked in Los Angeles and New York in both small houses and on Broadway, as well as at many of the great regional theaters across the country. He is also a playwright and loves to write fiction. He has been on many TV shows and loves qualifying for his SAG healthcare. He is married to the lovely Suss and is the proud father of Hanna and Viveka who have all given him so much joy and support for a long time.

Kim Estes (*Tyler*). Kim is ecstatic to be part of this production. His television credits include *The Fosters*, *The Bridge*, *NCIS*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *Private Practice*, *Law & Order: LA*, *House*, *Dexter*, *The Closer*, *Hawthorne*, *Body of Proof*, *Cold Case*, *Criminal Minds*, *Numb3rs*, and others. Estes has been featured in many films, including *Crossroad* (directed by Shervin Youssefian), *Not 4 Sale* (directed by Roger Melvin), *Volcano Girl* (directed by Ashley Maria), *Free Denmark* (directed by Ricardo Korda), *Each Other* (directed by Roger Melvin), and *The Birthday Gift* (directed by Marie Tang). In addition, he has appeared in the films *Five Hour Friends* (produced by Ron Jackson), *Breathing Room* (directed by John Suits), and *Save Me* (directed by Jennifer Getzinger). Estes was born and raised in Los Angeles.

Abigail Marlowe (*Jade*). Abigail Marlowe is a London/NYC transplant with a history of downtown experimental theater whose talents can now be easily enjoyed on your home TV set. You may know her from her roles on gems such as *Community*, *Ugly Betty*, and *The Sopranos*. Recent projects include the film *Playdate*, a Tribeca Film Festival selection, and the upcoming *Captain America 2*. Her dry sense of humor has sold many a product starring in countless advertising campaigns. She is thrilled to return to the theater for this fantastic new work!

William Nicol (*John*). William Nicol is an actor of film, television, and theatre. A graduate of Cal State University Long Beach with a BA in Theatre Arts, he now lives in Los Angeles working in film and television. William’s television credits include *Sons of Anarchy*, *Men of a Certain Age*, *Masters of Sex*, as well as several other shows. In film he can be seen in *L.A. Slasher*, *Perfect Cowboy*, and is currently filming *Sun Choke*. William loves acting and lives in constant fear on ending up living in a van down by the river.

Sarah Underwood Saviano (*Roxanne*). Sarah Underwood Saviano has an extensive professional career in the theatre. She played Harper in the National Tour of *Angels In America* and in Chicago, and performed at the Goodman, Steppenwolf, Northlight, Victory Gardens, Apple Tree, and Apollo theatres, to name a few. Sarah has had the great fortune to work with some of our most outstanding directors and playwrights including Michael Mayer, Rick Cleveland, Tony Kushner, Frank Galati, Kim Rubinstein, and Curt Columbus. For her television work she was written up in Chicago’s Screen Magazine in the 90’s as one of the 10 main talents to watch for. She is a highly accomplished jazz musician (saxophones, clarinet, and flute) and has performed onstage and/or recorded with Little Feat, Shaun LaBelle, The O’Jays, Bob Weir, Jules Day, Kenny Rankin, and Robert Irving III (formerly of Miles Davis Group). I am thrilled to work with Craig and am having a ball with Solange’s fantastic play and this exceptional company.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Solange Castro (*Playwright/Producer*). Solange Castro is a playwright, standup comic, digital producer, and user experience designer. After graduating from Berkeley High, Solange attended Yale University where she studied English Lit. and playwriting. As a comic, Solange has performed at The Comedy Store, Improv, Flappers, and opened for Maria Bamford. She produces the show *Standup Schtick* in Venice, CA, featuring comics from Conan, Letterman, and Ferguson.

Craig Anton (*Director*). Craig Anton is from Nebraska and has lived in Los Angeles for the last 20 years. Craig most recently directed Rob Elk in his one man show *Egg Face* for The Minneapolis Fringe Festival. Craig co-wrote and co-directed *The Idiots*, along with Ron Lynch which played all over Los Angeles and Chicago for years. Other credits include directing *The Temp* at The HBO/Comedy Central Workspace. As an actor, Craig appeared with The California Repertory Company in the fall production of *Penelope*. Other roles include, Rosencrantz in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, Dr. Royer-Collard in *Quills*, J. Robert Oppenheimer in *The Love Song for J. Robert Oppenheimer*, Ray in *The Hyacinth Macaw*, Viggo Schiewe in *Night of The Tribades*, and Joe in *Waiting for Lefty: Seeing Red*. Craig’s television work includes a recent recurring role on last season’s *Mad Men*, guest star roles on *Weeds*, *The Office*, *Entourage*, *CSI Miami*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Everybody Loves Raymond*, *MAD tv*, *Bob’s Burgers*, *Workaholics*, and *King of Queens*. He received his MFA in acting and directing from Cal State Long Beach and is now an adjunct professor there.

Amanda Knehans (*Set Design*). Amanda Knehans is a freelance scenic designer, painter, and model maker. Her most recent work includes designing the set for *The Underground: Street Chronicles*, a hip hop/krump dance piece that was part of USC’s Visions and Voices series, and working as the Charge Painter for Pepperdine University’s production of *Les Miserables*. She also teaches part-time at Cal State – Long Beach

Paige Stanely (*Lighting Design*). Paige has an extensive background in stage lighting, scenic design, and theatrical production having worked for numerous regional theatres and international opera companies. She currently works for The Ruzika Company and has assisted on architectural lighting design projects for hotels, casinos, restaurants, and private residences. She is an active board member for the Designers Lighting Forum of Los Angeles. Paige holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of Charleston and a Masters of Fine Arts in Lighting Design from California State University Long Beach.

Peter Carlstedt (*Sound Design*). A Santa Monica native, Mr. Carlstedt also works as a supervising sound editor and re-recording mixer for film and television. Recent theatrical collaborations include Sophie Treadwell’s *Machinal*, Sam Shepard’s *Curse of the Starving Class*, and Conor McPherson’s *The Good Thief*.

Jordan Mills (*Production Stage Manager*). Jordan Mills is a versatile musician, producer, and sound mixer for stage and studio. He has an affinity for ducks.

WHAT THE CAST AND CREW HAVE TO SAY ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

“Hope springs eternal.”

“Love frees the Spirit.” - *Gloria Charles*

“I’m no longer practicing.”

“What is love?... Oh baby, don’t hurt me. Don’t hurt me no more.” - *Haddaway*

“It’s like wine and a chocolate chip cookie. One can age and give you a buzz, the other is a reward for just trying...”

“Go beyond reason to love: it is safe. It is the only safety.” - *Thadeus Golas*

"Fancy lovers never last." - *Maxine Hong Kingston*

“Always get married early in the morning. That way if it doesn’t work out, you haven’t wasted a whole morning.” - *Mickey Rooney*

“The best proof of love is trust.” - *Joyce Brothers*

“Those men get along best with women who can get along best without them.” - *Charles Baudelaire*

“Sometimes I wonder if men and women really suit each other. Perhaps they should live next door and just visit now and then.” - *Katharine Hepburn*