



THEODORE AND ADELE
SHANK THEATRE

NOV. 7-16 @ 2:00PM* / 7:30PM

HEDDA GABLER

WRITTEN BY HENRIK IBSEN
ADAPTED BY JON ROBIN BAITZ
DIRECTED BY LISA PORTES

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CAST

Hedda Gabler	Ruva Chigwedere
George Tesman	Germainne Lebrón
Thea Elvsted	Sage Evans
Judge Brack	Kenneth Ray
Eilert Lovborg	Ricardo Lozano
Julia Tesman/ Hedda Gabler (u/s)	Charity Reid
Berta/ Thea Elvsted (u/s)	Georgia Horton
George Tesman (u/s)	Colby Koo
Eilert Lovborg (u/s)	Ivan Quezada
Julia Tesman (u/s)	Rachael Baum
Berta (u/s)	Quinn Lewis

CREATIVE TEAM

Assistant Director	Kieran Beccia
Assistant Director	Shyama Nithiananda
Scenic Designer	Tzu Yu Su
Assistant Scenic Designer	Muting Fan
Costume Designer	Anabel Olguin
Assistant Costume Designer	Maricela Alaniz
Assistant Costume Designer	Kieran Padgett
Lighting Designer	Stephany Knapp
Assistant Lighting Designer	Leah Mitchell
Assistant Lighting Designer	Jake Olson
Sound Designer / Composer	Padra Crisafulli
Assistant Sound Designer	Jia Shi
Production Stage Manager	Katie Davis
Assistant Stage Manager	Piper Lord
Assistant Stage Manager	Juhi Sabharwal
Production Assistant	Ziyi Fang
Production Assistant	Maya Melancon
Stage Management Swing	Avery Simonian
Voice Coach	Ursula Meyer
Violence and Intimacy Coordinator	Zachariah Payne
Scenic Crew	Bao Thuong Ho, Rouyou Lu, Vivian Wu
Wardrobe Crew	Catherine, Gintowt, Nena Lockhart, Shelby Moore, Amelia Sandweg

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The feminist thinker, Susan Faludi, argues in her introduction to Jon Robin Baitz' adaptation of Hedda Gabler that Ibsen's controversial work is not a feminist tragedy, but an artist's tragedy. In making the argument she highlights Ibsen's own internal struggle between living up to societal expectations and exploring his wildest instincts. As a woman artist, I feel the story as both. I often imagine what would happen if Madonna or Beyonce or Chappelle Roan found themselves in a small academic town in the middle of nowhere with no way out. She might want to burn someone's hair off! While I'm no fan of Freud, I remain curious about his argument that fundamentally all that mentally ails us stems from the expectation that the individual -- in all her fullness and ferocity -- conform to societal expectations.

I was also struck by a conversation with one of our dramaturgy students who averred that "we like our women celebrities dead." That has been true throughout the Western theatrical canon - all the bad girls--Phaedre, Medea, Lady Macbeth, Miss Julie, and, yes, Hedda--want more than their worlds have rationed for them. So they have to die. Not only that, they are also most often charged with murdering themselves. We fight that narrative.

It's been a thrill to work with our talented and tenacious MFA and BA students as we wrestle with one of Ibsen's most challenging plays. Thank you for joining us!

CONTENT WARNING

Some Flashing Lights/Strobe

Gunshot

Mentions of Suicide (Not Depicted)

Content of a Sexual Nature

THE DIRECTOR

Lisa Portes has created work regionally for California Shakespeare Theatre, the Cincinnati Playhouse, Children's Theatre Company, the Denver Center, Guthrie Theatre, Olney Theatre, Portland Center Stage, Round House Theatre, Seattle Rep, South Coast Rep and the St. Louis Shakespeare Festival. In Chicago she has directed projects for Goodman Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Teatro Vista, Timeline Theatre and Victory Gardens. New York credits include productions at Playwrights Horizons and Soho Rep, and developmental work at New York Theatre Workshop, the Flea Theatre and the Public Theatre. Recent projects include Quixote Nuevo by Octavio Solis (Round House, Denver Center, South Coast Rep, Seattle Rep, Portland Center Stage), Twelfth Night (St. Louis Shakespeare Festival), and the world premieres of Laughs in Spanish by Alexis Scheer (Denver Center) Clean/Espejos by Christine Quintana (South Coast Rep), Rightlynd by Ike Holter (Victory Gardens), I Come from Arizona by Carlos Murillo (Children's Theatre Company) and This Is Modern Art by Idris Goodwin & Kevin Coval (Steppenwolf Theatre)

CAST

Rachael Baum (Miss Julia Tesman U/S) is a fourth year theater major from Encinitas, CA. UC San Diego credits: *Star Crossed Lovers*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Orlando*, *नेहा & Neel*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Indecent (final scene)*. Other Credits: *The Running Show* (La Jolla Playhouse W. O. W. Festival), *The Wolves*, *Figments of Lamentations*, *hey Ester*, *Rot* (Company 157), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *She Kills Monsters*, *Mamma Mia!* (San Dieguito Academy). (she/they)

Ruva Chigwedere (Hedda Gabler) is a second-year MFA student. UC San Diego credits: *The Half-Sibling Play* (Amoaa), *Romeo and Juliet* (Priestess Laura), *Orlando* (Marmaduke). Other credits include *Richard III* (The Flea Theater), *The Emperor's New Clothes* (American Repertory Theater), and *Sweeney Todd* (Lowell House Opera). She received her B. A. in Theater and History and Literature at Harvard University, where she was awarded the Jonathan Levy Prize for the most promising undergraduate actor. Connect with Ruva at ruvachigwedere.com or on Instagram (@ruvalicious).

Sage Evans (Thea Elvsted) is a first year theater major. She is thrilled to be part of this show with such a wonderful cast and crew. She studied acting at Idyllwild Arts Academy and British American Drama Academy. Credits include *Amadeus* (Mozart) and *Metamorphosis*.

Georgia Horton (Berta, Thea Elvsted U/S) is a third year theater major from Glendale, CA. She'd like to thank everyone involved in this production and all her friends who have been a tremendous help through this process! UC San Diego Credits: *Thicker Than...* (ASM), *The Wolves* (CO157), *Flash & Knox* (CO157)

Colby Koo (George Tesman U/S) (He/Him/His) is a fourth-year transfer theater major. Select credits: *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *From Stage To Screen (And Back Again)*, *Porcelain and Pink*, *She Speaks: A Musical Revue*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Into the Woods* (Grossmont Community College), *Little Women the Musical* (Theatre for Young Professionals). @colbysinsecurities

Germainne Lebrón (George Tesman) (he/him) UCSD Credits include: *The Promise* by Jose Rivera, *Romeo and Juliet*, *809 Almond* (Wagner New play Festival 24'). Regional Theatre credits include: *La Gringa* (American Stage); *Native Gardens* (The Warehouse Theatre), *The Inheritance* (Trinity Rep); *Eight Tales of Pedro* (The Secret Theatre); *Deadman's Cellphone* (Cahill Theatre), *Madre Tierra*; (Louisville// Kentucky// USA; Fifth Third Banks), *Dracula*, *A Christmas Carol* (Actors Theatre of Louisville), *Are You There?* (Humana Festival of New American Plays 20')
Education: 2nd year MFA Actor at UC San Diego.

Instagram: [Germainne_lebron](https://www.instagram.com/Germainne_lebron)

Website: Germainnelebron.com

Quinn Lewis (Berta U/S) is a fourth year Undergrad Theatre major student, previously attending Santa Barbara City College. UC San Diego credits: *Comedy of Errors* (Employee/ Angelo U/S), Hedda Gabler (Berta U/S). Select credits: *Forbidden Fruit* (Santa Barbara City College), *George and Emily Get Married* (Costumer, Santa Barbara City College), *My Scale Is Lying To Me* (Costumer, Santa Barbara City College), and *Mama Mia* (Rubicon Theatre Company). (She/They).

Ricardo Lozano (Eilert Lovborg) (he/him) is a second-year MFA actor from Laredo, Texas by way of Mexico. Ricky loves performing in work centering around the Mexican experience through art creation that provokes conversations and amplifies the voices of the underrepresented. UC San Diego Credits: *The Promise* and *Cancelina*. Selected Credits: *Mother of God* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Thomas!* (Mill Mountain Theatre), Black and Latino Playwrights Conference, and *Mad like the devil*. Ricardo received a B.F.A in Acting and a Minor in Dance from Texas State University.

Kenneth J. Ray (Judge Brack) is a second year MFA student.

Charity Reid (Julia Tesman, Hedda Gabler U/S) is a theater major in her last quarter. She transferred from Santa Monica College with an AA in Liberal Arts & Humanities. UCSD credits include *809 Almond*, *I'm Really Glad I Got To Get To Know You* (Winter '24 LAB), *Fables Unfold* (Fall '23 LAB).

Ivan Quezada (Eilert Lovborg U/S) is a 4th year undergraduate student who transferred from Mira Costa. He is looking forward to his last year at UCSD and moving on in his theater career. His collegiate credits include: *Native Garden*, *Flint*, *Freaky Friday*, *Tiny Beautiful Things*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. When he is not acting he is running his media production company.

CREATIVE TEAM

Katie Davis (Production Stage Manager) is a third-year MFA student originally from La Crescenta, CA. UCSD credits include: *Dance Nation*, *A Flea in Her Rear*, *नेहा & Neel*, *X*, and *Dead Girl's Quinceañera*. Select credits include: *Derecho* (La Jolla Playhouse), *The Glass Menagerie* (Diversionary Theatre), *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *The Circuit* (PCPA - Pacific Conservatory Theatre), *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *A.D. 16*, and *The Music Man* (Olney Theatre Center). She got her BFA in Stage Management from the University of Miami.

Ziyi Fang (Production Assistant) is a 3rd year Business Economics major with a Theatre minor. UC San Diego credit: *809 Almond* (WNP 24, ASM).

Piper Lord (Assistant Stage Manager) (she/her) is a second-year theater major. UC San Diego credits: *New Directions* (ASM), *Dead Girl Quinceañera* (Light Board Op.), *The Half-Sibling Play* (Light Board Op.), & *It's Not Getting Better* (Actor, Co.157), *Feywild* (PA, Co.157), and *Fables Unfold* (Actor, Fall LABS '23). She is also the Assistant Managing Director of Company 157.

Maya Melancon (Production Assistant) is a fourth-year theater major that focuses on stage management and design. She's so excited to be working on this amazing production with everyone. UC San Diego Credits: *New Directions* (PA), *Vinegar Tom* (Assistant Props Designer) *Muir Musical Something Rotten* (Props Designer), *Company 157's Women in Rubber* (Props Designer)

Juhi Sabharwal - (Assistant Stage Manager) is a fourth year theater and linguistics double major originally from Mumbai, India. UC San Diego Credits: *809 Almond* (PSM), *X* (PA), *नेहा & Neel* (ASM), *The Winter's Tale* (ASM), *A Night at The Grand Guignol* (ASM, Fall Labs '21). Other Credits: *Company 157's Women in Rubber* (PSM, Fall Labs '23), *Embers Adrift* (PSM), *I ____ You* (PSM, Fall Labs '21) and *Muir Musical's American Idiot* (PA).

Avery Simonian (SM Swing) is originally from Los Angeles, California and is studying theater with an emphasis in stage management at UC San Diego. UC San Diego Credit: *Cancelina* (ASM), *Romeo and Juliet* (PSM), *Once Daily* (Fall LABS '23), *Grippy Sock Vacation* (PSM), *Bach at Leipzig* (ASM) *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* (ASM), *WinterWORKS 2022* (ASM), *New Directions* (ASM), *Men on Boats* (PA), *A Night at the Grand Guignol* (Fall LABS '21). Other credits: *The Addams Family* (PSM), *The Color Purple* (ASM Swing), *Legally Blonde the Musical* (ASM), *NVA's Eco-Jewish Play Festival* (SM).

Maricela Alaniz (Assistant Costume Designer) is a first-year MFA costume design student, originally from Oceanside, CA, and recently based in San Antonio, TX. She holds a BFA in Theatre Design from The University of Kansas and has spent the past three years working on films and music videos.

Kieran Beccia (Assistant Director) is a California-based director and dramaturg, and a first year MFA student at UCSD. A fierce champion of new plays and living writers, Kieran is drawn to plays that poke at the seams of our social fabric to expose contradictions and challenge entrenched bias. They are a company member at the Oakland

Theater Project, a former artistic director of U.C. Santa Cruz's Barnstorm theater, and a founding member of The Forum Collective. Kieran is also an acclaimed Casting Director and owner of the Casting Collective, an organization dedicated to promoting local Bay Area actors and changing the demographics on Bay Area stages. www.kieranbeccia.com.

Padra Crisafulli (Sound Designer/Composer) [they/them] is a third-year MFA candidate, and a multi-multi-hyphenate theater artist. UC San Diego Credits: *oh deer (IDEAS)*, *No Singing in the Navy*, *Cancelina*, *809 Almond*, *WinterWorks '24*, *X*, *Orlando*, *I Found a Zipper*, *Boxed*, *Mortal Digits (IDEAS)*, *blu*, *FallWorks '22*. Other Places: La Jolla Playhouse, Edinburgh Fringe, Hollywood Fringe, Park Avenue Armory, National Museum of Serbia, and the Prague Quadrennial '19. BFA: Carnegie Mellon University.

Muting Fan (Assistant Scenic Designer) is a first-year MFA scenic designer from Beijing, China. His selected design credits include: *It Doesn't Matter What You Look Like* (National Theatre of China), *Alibaba and the Forty Thieves* (Poly Theatre), and *Waiting for Godot* (Central Academy of Drama)

Stephaney Knapp (Lighting Designer) is a UC San Diego alumna. UC San Diego credits: *No Singing in the Navy* (LD), *New Directions '24* (LD), *Cancelina* (ALD), Studio Shakes: *Comedy of Errors* (LD). Selected credits: *You're a Good Man*, *Charlie Brown* (LD) and *The Color Purple* (ALD) at New Village Arts. She received her BA in Theatre and Psychology.

Leah Mitchell (Assistant Lighting Designer) (she/her) is a fourth-year theater major and writing minor from Diamond Bar, CA. UC San Diego credits: *Cancelina* (ASM/WNPF '24), *Can You See it Too?* (Winter LABS '24), *X*, *Orlando*, *900 Years* (WNPF '23), *45 Minutes of Chaos!* (Staged Reading, Winter LABS '23), *Luck Games* (Fall LABS '22). Select credits: *As You Like It* (BADA), *Evelyn Hates Porkchops* (CD/Zombie Joe's Underground Theatre Group).

Shyama Nithiananda (Assistant Director) is a first year MFA director from Texas. This is her first production at UC San Diego. She received her BFA in Theatre Studies from Southern Methodist University. Directing credits include *Lizzie* (Theatre Three) and *Guards at the Taj* (Stage West Theatre).

Anabel Olguin (Costume Designer) is a third-year MFA costume design candidate from Phoenix, AZ. UC San Diego design credits: *Dead Girl's Quinceañera*, *WinterWorks '24 "Open Your Eyes"*, *The Promise*, and *नेहा & Neel*. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Education from Grand Canyon University.

Jake Olson (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a first-year MFA student.

Kieran Padgett (Assistant Costume Designer) is a fourth-year Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience major and Human Developmental Sciences minor. UC San Diego credits: *The Promise*, *Winter Works '24*, and *Dead Girl's Quinceañera*.

Jia Shi (Assistant Sound Designer) is a first-year MFA student in sound design. Her selected sound design credits include: *ASCENT* (Bangwan Theatre, Wuzhen, China), *Jin Hua Jin Hua* (Tianqiao Performing Arts Center, Beijing, China), and *The Lady with the Dog* (Central Academy of Drama). She holds a BFA in Performing Art Sound Design from the Central Academy of Drama.

Tzu Yu Su (Scenic Designer) is a third-year MFA set designer. UC San Diego credits: *Hedda Gabler*, *Dead Girl's Quinceañera*, *The Half-Sibling Play*, *Orlando*, *I Found a Zipper*, *A Flea in Her Rear*. Other selected credits: *Uncle Vanya* (ASD), *Hell's Kitchen* (ASD), *Hedwig and The Angry Inch* (Props Design), *57th Golden Bell Awards*, *Afterlife Passport*, *Uncle Vanya is _____*, *Old Saybrook*. She received her BFA in Theatrical Design & Technology from Taipei National University of the Arts. Instagram: @tzuyusudesign Website: www.tzuyusu.com

Special Thanks to the Production Dramaturgy class (TDHT 119) for their dramaturgical work.

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