



TRUST FOR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

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ARTS COMMISSIONS

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THE IMAGINISTS



someone dies again



SDA

Directed by Árpád Schilling



Director's Notes:

The theatre is a laboratory for studying human beings. We are not interested in promoting a particular ideological or political point of view, but in using theatre to show how people live behind the big words and movements of our time.

Our subjects are people who can sit in the auditorium or appear onstage. We are not making opinions about others but are, first and foremost, researching and critiquing ourselves.

Is it possible to be influenced by circumstances to such an extent that we do something completely contrary to our beliefs? Is it possible that we do not know ourselves, our inner nature? Is it possible that desperation can drive us to radical action? Could it be that nothing is ever truly stable and predictable when confronted with the relentless unpredictability of life?

A family loses a child in unclear circumstances. Although at the time they accept the official position that it was an accident, six years later the question is revived with the appearance of a lawyer. They want the truth, but which truth? Whose truth? They want the cause of the terrible incident to be found somewhere "out there," but are unable or unwilling to face up to their own roles and actions, or even to the inexorable nature of reality: its randomness.

It is undoubtedly difficult to resist the psychological and intellectual distortions of a media-saturated world, but we cannot renounce our right and duty to take responsibility for our own actions. Ultimately, whether we realize it or not, we are left alone to live with the consequences of our actions, and that is a difficult task.

Even as we arm ourselves against extremist ideas, under the surface we are driven by instincts that are sometimes difficult to square with laws, cultural codes, or community expectations. Our fears and anger take hold of us with elemental force. Better to face it: we are instinct-driven creatures; we are fallible and contradictory by our nature. When despair takes us over, the scaffolding of convention and routine don't necessarily support us. The image we have of ourselves and our connection to others doesn't always help. Indeed, they may no longer be what we had thought they were.

The point of our story is not to pass judgments, but rather to disturb in order to invite reflection and conversation. In our view, there is no ultimate answer to the causes and purposes of human existence. We must always rethink everything and accept that mistakes, misunderstandings, and wrongdoing are as human as love, creativity, and solidarity.

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Production Sponsors:

Anonymous, Coddling Foundation, Susan Shaw, Richard Burg, J Mullineaux and Matt Malek, Vicky Kumpfer, Kate Black, Julian Billotte, Ana Wizarde, Irma Cuevas, Alejandro Salazar, Margret Valdes, Lisa Maldonado, Heidi Pedrezzetti, Cincinnatus Hibbard, Jessica Yoshiko Rasmussen, Ana Rangel, Brenda Fox, Jereme Anglin, Mary Ann Ciavonne, Kate Eilertsen, Leighann Lindsay and John Rader, Kristen Madsen, Wicked Slush Petaluma, Spring Maxfield, Nora and Michael McBride

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About the Director

Árpád Schilling works throughout Europe, creating and directing for theater, opera, film, and community-specific social art projects. His productions have premiered at renowned theaters like the Berliner Ensemble, Opera Stuttgart, Opera Basel, Chaillot National Theatre, and the National Theater of Lithuania, to name a few. Schilling's work and educational initiatives address pressing societal issues, from racism and xenophobia to freedom of speech and expression. In his native Hungary he became a national figure of the opposition to the divisive and oppressive regime under Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and his right-wing Fidesz party, organizing huge social justice actions through his company Krétakör. He lives in France. <http://schillingarpad.com/artist>

About the Imaginists

The Imaginists is a Santa Rosa based, artist-run performing arts organization that explores the intersection of art and community, honoring the power of live performance as a vital space for questioning, dialogue, and reinvention. Their innovative work has led to groundbreaking partnerships with community members and artists across disciplines. From community-based projects and education initiatives to multidisciplinary works and international collaborations, the Imaginists up-end convention, re-imagine public space, and cultivate radical inclusion as they continually re-think theater. theimaginists.org.

Performed by: Emma Attwood, Alessandro Bravo, John Craven, Zahira Diaz, Yareny Fuentes Jara, G. Brent Lindsay, John Most, Stephen K. Patterson, Amy Pinto, Karina Pugh, Tessa Rissacher, and David Roby.

Based on the actor's improvisations, written by Árpád Schilling

Directed by Árpád Schilling

Music and Sound Effects: Xtevion

Lighting Design: Gabe Maxson

Costume Design: Coleen Scott

Assistant Lighting Designers: Miles Young, Daniel Hall

Light Board Operator: Daniel Hall

Production Manager: C.K.Itamura

Production Assistant and Research: Ildikó Ságodi

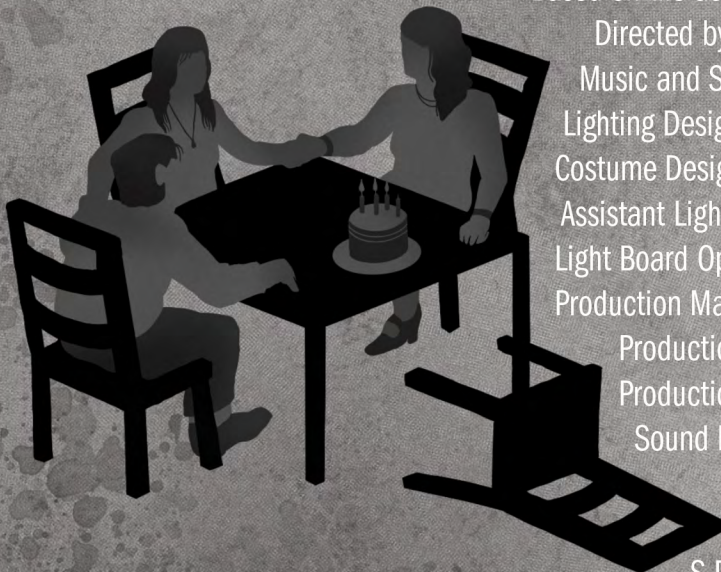
Production Intern: Rae Lipman

Sound Engineer: Jason Kick

Research: Lennart Nielsen

Song: Some Sweet Day by Si Khan (Used with permission by Mr. Khan)

S D A Producing Artistic Directors: G. Brent Lindsay and Amy Pinto Poster & Program by levimillerart



Ensemble

Emma Attwood is an actor, writer, and director living in San Francisco, where she has recently worked with 3 Girls Theatre, Bread and Butter Theatre, Contra Costa Civic Theatre, and Fuse Theatre. Attwood received a TBA Creates Grant for her play *The Lady and the Unicorn*. She is a tutor for the Writing for Performance Master of Studies program at the University of Cambridge, and a co-founder of Write Her, Direct Her, a collective that supports women in film and theatre.

Alexsandro Bravo is a Santa Rosa High School ArtQuest theater alumni and has been acting since the third grade. He was selected for a 2019 paid internship at the Imaginists, performing in *El show el arte es medicina*. He works as a teacher's assistant, manages an indoor soccer team, makes YouTube videos, and is currently in the top two percent of players in Rocket League. He will attend Santa Rosa Junior College in the fall.

Since 1980, John Craven has acted in and/or directed for several theaters over the span of almost forty years, mostly in the North Bay, including a couple of theater projects with The Imaginists. Earlier (much earlier), Craven was fortunate to work with Zbigniew Cynkutus formerly of the Polish Laboratory Theater, as well as with fellow countryman Henrik Baranowski; the latter in George Tabori's *Mein Kampf*. He has also worked with Vladimir Balev from the Maly Theater as *Gaev* in *The Cherry Orchard*. For twenty-seven years, however, John was the founder and co-director of the Art Quest Theater Arts program at Santa Rosa High School in Santa Rosa. That was the best. Many thanks.

Zahira Diaz Garibay is a performer, creator, teacher, and translator who has been working with the Imaginists since 2009. She has performed in and collaborated on many productions including *Extranjeros in su propia tierra*, *Women's Work*, *Everybody Eats./Todos Comemos*, *REAL*, *Spin-Off*, and four years of *El show el arte es medicina*, the Imaginists' iconic bilingual, bicycle-powered, free, park performances.

Yareny Fuentes Jara has been working with the Imaginists since 2011 when she was 12 years old! Over the span of 11 years, Jara has participated in many projects including *El show el arte es medicina*, *Spin-Off*, *Maguey*, *Stop That Show*, and *How Rain Found a Home in the Sky*. She is currently a teaching artist with the Imaginists' public school theater residency programming.

G. Brent Lindsay, proud member of the Osage Nation, is an independent artist who has been making collaborative performances for over twenty years. He attended University of North Carolina School of the Arts, worked in NYC with Ensemble Studio Theatre and the Living Theatre, and was a founding member of the art collective KITUS. In 2002 he co-founded the Imaginists with Amy Pinto.

This is John Most's first time performing with the Imaginists. He thanks the company and the director for the opportunity.

Stephen K Patterson is an experimental sound artist and performer. He attended the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and was a founding member of The Knights of Indulgence Theater United States (the origins of the Imaginists). He has been writing and recording original music under the name Xtevia since 1990 as well as fronting the avant-rock combo Schizopolitans since 2004.

Amy Pinto, founding artistic director of the Imaginists, is an actor, writer, director, and teacher. She has directed and co-created many works for the company, from community-based devised pieces to interdisciplinary works. Ms. Pinto loves working with young people. She teaches theater arts, with a concentration in group-devised work, in local public high-schools & elementary schools, and through the Imaginists' after school programming.

Karina Pugh is a recent Sonoma State graduate. Pugh was last seen as Mary Bennet in *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* at Spreckles. She is thrilled to be working with the Imaginists for the first time and would love to thank her friends and family for all of their support!

Tessa Rissacher is an actor and writer from the North Bay; Rissacher studied English and Theater & Perf. Studies at UC Berkeley, Santa Rosa Junior College, and the Santa Rosa High School ArtQuest Drama program. She first worked with the Imaginists in 2009 in *Ubu Rex*, and has since appeared in numerous productions, including *Left After Not*, *The Last Garden*, *Calaveras del Monton*, *Spin Off*, and many seasons of *El Show El Arte es Medicina*.

David Roby, an actor, playwright and director, is thrilled to be making his debut with the Imaginists. His favorite roles include *Brick* in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Feste* in *Twelfth Night*, *Ophelia* in *Hamlet*, and all 19 roles in his critically-acclaimed one person show *sometimes there's God so quickly*.

Crew

Daniel Hall is the Lead Production Technician at Z Space. Daniel has worked lights and sound at New Conservatory Theater, Children's Creativity Museum, SF Shakespeare, and Lamplighters Music Theater.

In the world of the Imaginists, C.K.Itamura created *12 Steps to Free* for Post-theater, provided visual art for *Instructions for Underground Movements*, she devised *Syzygy: Materia Prima* during a Guest House residency, serves as a Guest House custodian, and plays the supporting role of "Production Manager" for S D A.

Jason Kick is a sound engineer & music producer who has recorded over 50 albums, including the Gold-certified song "Homage" by Mild High Club; he has also scored short films, including the Center for Investigative Reporting's Emmy-nominated *The Dark Side of the Strawberry*.

Rae Lipman is very excited to be joining the Imaginists for this project! They have been acting their whole life, recently graduating from Santa Rosa High School ArtQuest where they collaborated with the Imaginists on *The Final*. After a year of traveling, they are excited to plant roots with local theater companies in Sonoma County.

Gabe Maxson is a Bay Area based lighting designer. Previous credits at Z Space include the Imaginists' *Magic Circle Cycle* and *Mark Jackson and Beth Wilmurt's The Companion Piece*. From 2002-2010, Maxson was a full-time artistic associate and designer with The Wooster Group (NYC).

Ildikó Ságodi has worked closely with Árpád Schilling for many years as project manager and research assistant. As an independent project manager she worked for different theatre and film projects including the Golden Bear winning Hungarian film *On Body and Soul* directed by Ildikó Enyedi. She is currently working on her doctoral thesis on relations between European and Bollywood style acting techniques.

Coleen Scott is a Costume Designer and Makeup Artist with an MFA in Costume Design from Boston University. She is the author of *The Costumes of Burlesque 1866-2018* for Routledge, Taylor & Francis. Coleen is a proud member of IATSE, USA 829, and is Programs Chair of The Costume Society of America's Western Region. Currently, Coleen can be found at Santa Rosa Junior College as full time faculty in Costume Technology and Makeup.

Miles Young enjoys transforming Z Space to accommodate any production and working with artists to fulfill their vision.