A stunning new play where the planets of a transitioning man and a 12-year-old girl collide.

woon

helptexts

**MOXIE** Theatre

A PLAY BY SIENA MARILYN LEDGER

Nov 5 – Dec 3, 2023

all

DIRECTED BY DESIREÉ CLARKE MILLER

## FROM THE **DIRECTOR**

A dedication to my sister Annette. A survivor. Desireé Clarke Miller, Director

### In partnership with

ne

Help Texts is a one-way, text-based grief and mental health support service that delivers personalized texts based on each individual's situation. It's a great way to get expert, safe, nonjudgmental support, straight to your phone. When life gets hard, getting support from Help Texts is easy.

Signup at **helptexts.com/moxie-theatre** to receive a discount and support MOXIE with your purchase!

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Learn more about how to become a MOXIE Sponsor at **moxietheatre.com/donate** 

# MAN AND MOON

by Siena Marilyn Ledger

## Directed by Desireé Clarke Miller

# CAST

Luna Aaron Tirzah MG Green

# CREATIVE AND TECHNICAL TEAM

Assistant Director Stage Manager Scenic Designer Costume Designer Lighting Designers Sound Designer Props Designer Wig & Make Up Designer Technical Director Assistant Stage Manager Scenic Artist Production Manager Farah Dinga Ali Flores Yi-Chien Lee Claire Peterson Annelise Salazar Eliza Vedar Rai Feltmann Monique Hanson Robert Malave Kayli Dela Vega Julie Lorenz Megan Aguilar-Ames

## TIME & PLACE

The waiting room of a hospital's Oncology unit, present day.

Run time 80 minutes. No intermission. Please note that the show contains the use of special effect fog and laser beam lighting effects.

MAN AND MOON is produced at MOXIE Theatre.



**MOXIE Theatre's mission is to create more diverse and honest images of women+ for our culture.** We do that by focusing on producing work written by women+ and providing opportunities to women+ in theatre, an industry where they are still underrepresented in leadership and technical roles. Now in our 19th season, we welcome you to learn more about our mission, values and work as an antiracist organization at <u>moxietheatre.com</u>.

**This Land Doesn't Belong to MOXIE.** Our theatre exists on the original unceded territory of the Kumeyaay people, referred to as Diegueños by the Spanish colonizers, a territory later occupied by Mexico. We acknowledge the Kumeyaay Nation spans the two countries that now form our border cities and acknowledge the Kumeyaay as the past, present and future caretakers of this land.

## MOXIE BOARD (2023)

Edith Benkov, **President** Jamie Fox, **Secretary** Vivienne Esrig, **Treasurer** Mayra L. Garcia

# THE MOXIES

Desireé Clarke Miller Valentina Lunati Vanessa Duron Megan Aguilar-Ames Sara Varela Natalie Guerra Callie Prendiville Melissa Lunardini Felicia Shaw Natalie Spiro Shannon Sweeney

Executive Artistic Director Development Director Associate Artistic Director Production Manager Marketing Manager Box Office & Sales Associate Literary Manager

#### special thanks & acknowledgements

Many thanks to the following volunteers, community members, businesses, and organizations who supported this production of Cry It Out.

Richard Ames, Alex Mack, Maxx McCartney, La Jolla Playhouse. Our house managers: Rola Barbakh, Jennifer Burch, Mike Carroll, Janelle Conde, Enid Farrell, Leela Hamm, Lisa Kennedy, and Sarah Younan.

#### the playwright



## SIENA MARILYN LEDGER

**they/he/she** is a playwright and actor from San Diego, CA. Their educational journey includes graduating from Cal State Fullerton's BFA Acting program and completing the Tutterow Fellowship at Chicago Dramatists. Much of their work is characterized by its symbolic nature, delving into queer dynamics and experiences through the use of poetic language and exploration of spacetime. Ledger has a portfolio of seven stage and screen

plays, with three of them having been produced in various locations across the United States and abroad. You can connect with them on Instagram: @tadasiena or visit their website: gayforplays.com.

*Man and Moon* started as a collaborative collegiate project with director Kat Devoe-Peterson. Several years later, it made its debut in three different cities as part of the National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere, with performances held at Good Company Theatre, The 16th Street Theater NFP, and Oregon Contemporary Theatre.

#### the director



# DESIREÉ CLARKE MILLER

**she/her** is a San Diego based director, actor, and teaching artist with credits in the Coachella Valley, San Diego, Los Angeles, and Houston. She received her BFA in Acting from AMDA: College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts and is also a graduate of the British American Drama Academy. She recently directed *Monsters of the American Cinema* at Diversionary Theatre, *Mother of the Maid* and *The Chronicles of Kalki* at MOX-

IE. In 2019, she directed a staged reading of Rajiv Joseph's *Gruesome Playground Injuries* for which she was awarded the Desert Theatre League Award for Best Director of a Staged Reading. She has been a teaching artist specializing in devised theatre for under-resourced and underrepresented folx at La Jolla Playhouse, The Old Globe and Imagine. Desireé is extremely passionate about the impact that theatre can have on youth and its application as a healthy coping mechanism. Desireé was announced as MOXIE Theatre's Executive Artistic Director in spring of 2023.

#### the cast

# TIRZAH (LUNA)

**she/her** is a 17-year-old high school senior who was recently awarded Broadway San Diego Awards' Best Actress, which made her a 2023 National Jimmy Award Nominee. She made her Broadway debut at the Minskoff Theatre. She has been performing since the age of 3



on stage, short film, commercial, and print—you may even still catch sight of younger Tirzah on Nickelodeon during the holiday season. Tirzah's favorite roles include Adelaide (*Guys and Dolls*), Anne (*Diary of Anne Frank*), Ellie Blake (*Freaky Friday*), Lorraine (*All Shook Up*), Annie (*Annie*), James (*James and Giant Peach*) and more. Tirzah would like to thank MOXIE Theatre for this opportunity to portray Luna! IG @tinytirzah

"You never change, you only expand. All of you is still you" -Luna

## MG GREEN (AARON)

**they/them** is a multi-racial, trans and non-binary recent San Diego transplant who is also a performer, music creator, writer and arts administrator. With their longstanding dedication to uplifting the stories of marginalized folks, they are thrilled to make their San Diego performing debut at MOXIE Theatre! Coming from a background of devised theatre, they co-created and performed in the full length Theatre for Young Adults play *Epic Tales from the Land of Melanin* (Free Street Theatre, American Alliance for Theatre Education, and LTC Theatre for Young Adulences "Sin Fronteras" Festival). They also



have performed in and produced devised work with Chicago-based companies that center arts education (Playmakers Laboratory), mental health awareness (Erasing the Distance), and sexual health education (For Youth Inquiry). At the heart of their practice is elevating stories of marginalized folks to increase empowerment and awareness. Endless gratitude to their family for their support along this long life journey and to the community of loves and friends who celebrate me and queer and trans joy!

# FARAH DINGA (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR)

**they/them** is a San Diego-based Pakistani-Queer theatre actor, playwright, producer, and educator. They are so excited to be back at MOXIE Theatre after being part of *Birds of North America* (Caitlin) and *The Chronicles of Kalki* (Kalki). Trained at the University of California San Diego, you may have also seen their work at; Diversionary Theatre, The Old Globe, La Jolla Playhouse, New Village Arts, SD REP, University of San Diego, and many more. They are also the current Rising Tides commissioned playwright with Diversionary Theatre and National New Play Network. IG: efarahdinga

# ALI FLORES (STAGE MANAGER)

**she/her** is excited to be making her MOXIE debut with *Man and Moon*! Born and raised in San Diego, Ali started her career as an actor but quickly discovered her passion for stage management. She's been stage managing local productions for five years now and has a successful social media following creating stage manager content. Credits: *Rent* (Patio Playhouse - SM), *The Ferryman* (New Village Arts - ASM), *Elmo's Christmas Wish* (SeaWorld San Diego - SM), *Black Voices/Black Writers* (SDBAC/The Old Globe - SM), *Stellaluna School Tour* (New Village Arts - SM), *Evita* (Cygnet Theatre - PA). Ali would like to thank the cast and crew for being amazing and her friends and family for all the love and support! IG: estagemanagerl618

## YI-CHIEN LEE (SCENIC DESIGNER)

**she/her** is a San Diego-based set designer working in theatre and film. She recently received the Craig Noel Award 2022 for Outstanding Scenic Design for her work on the October Night of Johnny Zero at Backyard Renaissance Theatre. Credits include On This Side Of The World (East West Players), Sharon, El Huracán, Life Sucks, Water by the Spoonful, The Great Leap (Cygnet), The Secret Garden (Music Theatre Heritage) God of Carnage (Backyard Renaissance), The Future is Female (Flint REP), King of the Yees (Sierra Madre Playhouse), The Great Khan (SD REP), Dragon Mama, Monsters of the American Cinema, The High Table, Eighty-Sixed, Girlfriend, A Kind of Weather (Diversionary Theatre), Mother of the Maid, The Pleasure Trials (MOXIE), The Winter's Tale – Globe for all (The Old Globe). Portfolio: yichienlee.com

# CLAIRE PETERSON (COSTUME DESIGNER)

**she/they** is a third year graduate student at San Diego State University in Costume Design. As one of MOXIE's 2023 Hurston Fellowship recipients, Claire is honored to be a part of a theatre that provides so many opportunities to share stories of women+. Originally from Montana, Claire came to California to pursue costume design full time and earn her master's degree. She is specifically interested in theatre for social change. Her credits at SDSU include costume design for *Cabaret* (2023) and *A Raisin in the Sun* (2022). Previous designs also include *The Little Mermaid* (Grandstreet Theatre), *The Fog* (Montana Repertory Theatre). She would like to thank her Mom, a female role model and cancer survivor who continues to inspire her every day.

## ANNELISE SALAZAR (LIGHTING DESIGNER)

**she/her** is a San Diego based lighting designer. These days Annelise is a Festival and Concert lighting designer, but can never leave her theatre roots too far behind! Past Design credits include: *Incognito* at Bay Street Theatre; *Desert Rock Garden, The Ferryman, The Roommate,* and *Singing in the Rain* at New Village Arts; *On Her Shoulders* at TuYo Theatre; *Irma Vep, The High Table,* and *Dragon Mama* at Diversionary Theatre. Assistant Lighting Design credits include: *Water by the Spoonful* at Cygnet Theatre; *How The Grinch Stole Christmas* at The Old Globe Theatre. Annelise invites you to visit her website for more information on her past and upcoming work. BFA, Millikin University MFA Student, San Diego State University. Annelisesalazardesign.com

# ELIZA VEDAR (SOUND DESIGNER)

**she/they** is a San Diego-based sound designer, composer, music director, and pianist. Their work has been featured in theatrical productions with: La Jolla Playhouse, TuYo Theatre, Diversionary Theatre, MOXIE Theatre, Cygnet Theatre, New Village Arts, Common Ground Theatre. As well as at various educational institutions including: San Diego State University, California State University (CSU) San Marcos, and University of San Diego. She was Artist in Residence at CSU San



MOXIE is proud to provide opportunities for everyone to feel safe in our space. During our First Sunday *Masked Matinee* masks are required indoors at all times. Masks are encouraged for all other performances. Details and updated policies at **moxietheatre.com**. Marcos Theatre Arts for the 2021–2022 academic year. Eliza holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Performance: Piano from San Diego State University. www.elizavedar.com

# RAI FELTMANN (PROPS DESIGNER)

**she/they** graduated from the Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University. She has worked as a Props Artisan, Assistant Props Master, and Props Master at various theaters including Stages St. Louis, Cleveland Play House, Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, and Cortland Repertory Theatre. She is currently the Properties Artisan at La Jolla Playhouse. She would like to thank Desireé for this wonderful opportunity and her family for their continued support.

# KAYLI DELA VEGA (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

**she/her** This is Kayli's first production with MOXIE and she is delighted to be able to help bring this story to life! Her most recent credit is *August Osage County* with Backyard Renaissance, where she worked as Assistant Stage Manager. She thanks Robby and Vanessa for bringing this opportunity to her and a special thanks to Mattie for the love and encouragement!

# Creating opportunities for Young Designing Women+!

**The Hurston Fellowship** is made possible through the generous support of Dea & Osborn Hurston. Thanks to their leadership, MOXIE is able to **partner with SDSU** every season to select outstanding women+ studying theatre design and give them paid, professional design positions. This gives young professionals just starting their career a leg up in the world of professional theatre design, still severely lacking in equal opportunities.

## Congratulations to Hurston Fellow Claire Peterson

If you are interested in sponsoring this kind of opportunities for women+ in theatre, contact <u>valentina@moxietheatre.com</u>.

# Making MOXIE More Accessible

**Assistive Listening Systems** are now available at MOXIE for our patrons with hearing loss.

Simply request a receiver when you check-in at the box office and our staff will provide you with a free device to use during the performance.



Devices are usable by people with or without hearing aids.

## Thank you to Jay & Julie Sarno

Their generosity is what allowed MOXIE to become a more inclusive space



# **Check Out Those Boobies!**



MOXIE Theatre is proud to partner with **Keep A Breast Foundation**, an organization with the mission to reduce breast cancer risk and its impact globally through art, education, prevention and action. Learn about all their programs at **keep-a-breast.org**.

## **BREAST CAST GALLERIES**

Believing that through art, we can uniquely communicate and express deep, complex concepts and emotions, founder Shaney jo Darden created the **Keep A Breast Foundation Breast Cast<sup>TM</sup>**, a unique program to make casts of women's chests symbolizing the strength, resilience, and beauty in every woman, no matter shape or size. Since its inception, Shaney jo has cast hundreds of women including survivors, athletes, musicians, and artists. These casts have been painted by some of the worlds most incredible and influential artists, such as Shepard Fairey and Dalek, and have found their way into homes, museums, galleries, and now... **MOXIE's lobby.** We are grateful and proud to be able to share these pieces with all

#### Download the Keep A Breast App

The Keep A Breast app focuses on information, support, and, most importantly, access. Download it and start your self-check routine today.





Delicious dessert and coffee shop down the street from MOXIE at **6353 El Cajon Blvd, Ste.132** 

www.westcoastconfection.com

#### donor recognition

We are truly grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their generous support of MOXIE.

# POWER PLAYERS (\$10,000+)

Anonymous (1) California Arts Council Commission for Arts & Culture, City of San Diego Beth Goodman The Conrad Prebys Foundation Dugan & Philippe Lamoise The Shubert Foundation State of California, Office of the Small Business Advocate

#### VISIONARIES (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Jean & Gordon Kelly The Dougals B. & Susan H. McLeod Fund Wendy Nash Joani Nelson

#### ANGELS (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Anonymous (1) Lawrence & JoAnn Baca Edith Benkov Patricia Geist Martin Judith A Hansen Dea & Osborn Hurston & Phillip J Burke Aline N. King Sheri & Jess Kraus Patrick & Sarah Klacka Patricia R. Low & Mark W. Majette Marilyn & Arthur Neumann Carol Rainey Jeanette Rigopoulos John & Mary Ann Rodarte The Jay & Julie Sarno Fund of the Jewish **Community Foundation** Jocelyn Shannon Felicia Shaw Stephanie Sides Shannon Sweeny Dr. Lynne Thrope, The Reading Room Yahayra

#### MUSES (\$500-\$999)

Anonymous (1) Lois Bloom Rita Chenoweth Diana Denoyer Silvia & Paul Esrig Enid Farrell Fengar Gael Mayra Garcia Donna Perdue & Calvin Johnson Dario & Dan Jones Trina Kaplan Rhea & Armin Kuhlman Maggie Law Sue Marberry & Kay Chandler Ann McDonald

This list includes donations over \$100 received between 10/15/22 and 10/15/23

> Rich Meeker Mark H. Peterson Laura Levine & Peter Politzer Dr. Katherine Spengler, The Reading Room Janet & Laurie Worthington

#### ADVOCATES (\$100-\$499)

Anonymous (9 In honor of Delicia Turner Sonnenberg Wes Anson Kathy Brombacher John Brooks Jan Carpenter Tucker Teresa Chamiec Janelle Conde Elizabeth Corrow Claire M. Diallo Evelyn D. Cruz Carol Durham Bill Eadie Peter Engstrom Gloria Ann Espeseth Vivienne Esrig **Betty Flores** Twila & Bill Ginn Russell Ginns Fred & Lisa Goldberg Lisa Grifiths Jo Guinn & Bradley Spitz Kithie Gately Anne Haule Anne Hoiberg

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Rob Melton & Vic Cardello Janet Merutka Clark G. Mires Dawn Moore & Larry Alldredge Greg & Kerstin Maggie Price & Joel Tobiason Kim & Jenni Prisk Linda & Stuart Robinson Itala Rutter Alisa Shorago & Ken Reinstein Emily N Smith Jean Spafford Maureen Steiner Louise Strecker April Taie & Dave Tomik Nancy Taylor Delicia Turner Sonnenberg Ginita Wall Richard Wood

# Join the MOXIE Community

*Ready to take the next step in supporting MOXIE?* Explore the **many ways you can contribute**!

With **ticket sales only covering 30% of our costs**, the generosity of our community is essential for MOXIE to continue producing the imaginative and inspiring theatre you expect.

**Find the best fit for you:** Make a one time gift, or set up a monthly recurring donation; Donate your time and talent, or your business' services or products; Sponsor the show that inspires you most, or donate to our artist fund.

Whichever way you give, you'll have our deepest gratitude!

Info at **moxietheatre.com/donate** or email any questions to valentina@moxietheatre.com

### Donating Your Time is just as valuable...

**Volunteer opportunities include:** House Managers, Ushers, Youth Ushers Artistic & Production Support Special Events, Fundraising & Admin Help

Questions? Email: volunteer@moxietheatre.com



The MOXIES

# May 19, 2024

**The MOXIE Awards** honor 10 exceptional women+ every year, who are transforming our San Diego community and inspiring future generations through their accomplishments and leadership, in any field.

Do you know anyone that fits this description? We would love to hear about them! Scan the code below to submit your nominations by Dec 31.



#### **MOXIE** Theatre

6663 El Cajon Blvd, Ste N San Diego, CA 92115 (858) 598 7620 boxoffice@moxietheatre.com

MOXIE Theatre is a registered 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organization **Federal Tax ID # 20-1080613** 



moxietheatre.com

eMOXIETheatre

@ emoxietheatre

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## COMING UP IN SEASON 19

#### Feb 4 - Mar 10, 2024

Tony Award®-nominated Best New Play **Clyde's** by Lynn Nottage Directed by Delicia Turner Sonnenberg A truly inventive comedy about the formerly incarcerated, in pursuit of the perfect sandwich.

#### May 5 - June 2, 2024

West Coast Premiere

#### Notes On Killing Seven Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Board Members

by Mara Vélez Meléndez

Lolita faces the Board of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, with glitter and a gun. This show, where absurdism and drag collide, explores decolonizing places and people. *Co-production with Diversionary, playing at MOXIE*.

#### May 9 - June 2, 2024

A World Premiere Musical

### \*TL;DR: Thelma Louise; Dyke Remix

by EllaRose Chary & Brandon James Gwinn Directed by Sherri Eden Barber T and L drive their convertible off the edge of a cliff and into a fantasy-driven, irreverent, queer, rock musical, where strong female characters don't "always gotta die."

Co-production with - and playing at - Diversionary Theatre. \*Not included in subscription prices. Special discount for MOXIE subscribers.

## NEW: 3-Packs and 6-Packs!

Our new **Flex Ticket Passes** allow you to use 3 or 6 tickets however you'd like for the remainder of Season 19. Use all the tickets yourself or bring family and friends to a show! PLUS passes give you access to **exceptional deals and exclusive subscriber benefits!** 









## SUPPORT OUR LOCAL TALENT

## **Donate to MOXIE's Artist Fund**

Did you know that **85% of MOXIE's production costs** go directly into the pockets of actors, directors, designers, playwrights, stage managers, and technicians working on our shows?

We are proud of our commitment to hiring a **diverse pool of local artists**, who are often just starting their careers. We strive to **nurture their blossoming talent** by offering them resources, mentorship, support, and a living wage.

#### Help us launch their careers!

Your donation to MOXIE's Artist Fund will help support the **over 80 working artists** who are part of our Season 19. Help us reach **our goal of \$60,000** to give them a chance to shine on our stage!

#### Unlock a \$15k Match!

Thanks to the generosity of *two* of our amazing patrons, all donations received during the run of *Man and Moon* will be **matched up to \$15,000!** 

A gift of any size today will make double the difference. Scan the QR code to make your donation.

For more information, email us at *valentina@moxietheatre.com* or call our box office at (858) 598-7620.



Donations to MOXIE are fully tax deductible. Tax ID #20-1080613.