

SUNNYVALE COMMUNITY PLAYERS

PRESENTS

DRACULA

BY STEVEN DIETZ

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY BRAM STOKER

OCTOBER 25 - NOVEMBER 9

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY
SINJIN JONES

BOX OFFICE:

(408) 601-0375

info@sunnyvaleplayers.org

550 E Remington Dr.

Sunnyvale, CA 94087



Dracula is presented through
special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

This program is sponsored in
part by the City of Sunnyvale.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Our production of Steven Dietz's *Dracula* is rooted in collaboration and movement, driven by the relentless, evocative power of the human body. We approach the gothic legend not only as a period piece, but as a fever dream. It is a raw, physical exploration of the line between fear and desire.

Movement is the true pulse of this production. The Shadow Ensemble is not simply a chorus, but the bloodstream of the story, embodying the unseen tensions, the pervasive dread, and the overwhelming sensuality of Dracula's world. Through their work, we replace exposition with visceral, physical storytelling, allowing movement to reveal the deepest truths about craving, consumption, and tragic eternity. From the opening cycle of statues coming to life, feeding, and dying, we hope that you will witness a narrative told through muscle, breath, and shadow in addition to the words themselves.

Our aim is to draw you fully into this world. By focusing on the elemental terror and dangerous beauty of the vampire myth, we invite the audience to share in an immersive experience that is intensely personal and immediate. This is a *Dracula* that reaches out, not with fangs, but with a gaze. It is a production built on the belief that the most haunting stories are the ones told not just with words, but with the full, collaborative power of the body in motion. This incredible ensemble creates a production that explores the idea that the deepest fear is not loud and brash, but rather a quiet seeping thing that sticks, unknowing, with you. Always. A story that warns you to be wary of those that seek to instill fear.



A large, handwritten signature of the name "Sinjin Jones" in black ink.

Sinjin Jones^{^^}
Director, *Dracula*

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Thomas Times

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Jazmine Morris

BOX OFFICE MANAGER
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CAST

Castle Cast

Ali Wallace.....	Dracula
Erik Federwisch.....	Seward
Diane Thorne.....	Van Helsing
Ronald Feichtmeir.....	.....	Renfield
Joshua Bao.....	.....	Harker
Mandy Heiser.....	.....	Lucy
Keilese Oshaiya Ramirez.....	.....	Mina

Asylum Cast

Gahl Shottan.....	.....	Dracula
Vinh Ton.....	.....	Seward
Lisa Burton Guevara.....	.....	Van Helsing
Tim Garcia.....	.....	Renfield
Skyler Riordan.....	.....	Harker
Tiffany Nwogu.....	.....	Lucy
Maggie Cheung.....	.....	Mina

Cheyenne Bacon.....	.....	Shadow Ensemble
Emma Blickenstaff.....	.....	Shadow Ensemble
Heidi Le Huynh.....	.....	Shadow Ensemble
Zayra Lobo.....	.....	Shadow Ensemble

Castle Cast Performance Dates:

10/25, 10/30, 11/1, 11/6, 11/9

Asylum Cast Performance Dates:

10/26, 10/31, 11/2, 11/7, 11/8

Please note: only the roles of **DRACULA, VAN HELSING, SEWARD, HARKER, RENFIELD, LUCY** and **MINA** will have alternating performers.

All other cast members (*Shadow Ensemble*) will appear in every performance. When not performing in their named roles, actors from each cast (*Castle & Asylum*) will join the *Shadow Ensemble*.

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER
Sinjin Jones

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & COSTUME DESIGNER
Thomas Times

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Jazmine Morris

STAGE MANAGER
Andrew Merriam

INTIMACY & FIGHT COORDINATOR
Bessie Zolno

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Brittany Mellerson

SET DESIGNER
Louis Stone-Collonge

SET BUILDER
Miguel Wacher

SOUND DESIGNER
Sinjin Jones

PROP DESIGNER
Kevin Stanford

SCENIC ARTIST
Quinn Trixx

CAST



Ali Wallace (Dracula - *Castle Cast*) is thrilled to portray one of her favorite gothic horror icons: *Dracula!* It has been a joy bringing this undead aristocrat to life at SCP. Her previous roles include Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Thomas / Soul Sister in *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Outside of theatre, Ali enjoys roaming the countryside of Transylvania, applying SPF 100, and lurking in the shadows. Ali extends deep gratitude to the cast and crew, and to her family, friends and partner for their loving support.



Erik Federwisch (Seward - *Castle Cast*) is thrilled to be part of their first community theater show and first show with SCP! Erik has been performing in improv comedy shows for the last two years with the group Identity Theft at *American Improv Theatre* in San Jose. While it's been a bit intimidating to have a script again for the first time since high school, working with the cast and crew of *Dracula* has been an amazing experience. Off the stage, Erik is a public and high school librarian and can occasionally be seen performing story time for toddlers and high schoolers alike. He hopes you enjoy the show!



Joshua Bao (Harker - *Castle Cast*) is a Bay Area actor, previously seen with Sunnyvale Community Players as Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He can also be seen on stage with the Identity Theft improv troupe at *American Improv Theatre*. He is excited to return to SCP with *Dracula* and hopes you enjoy the show!



Diane Thorne (Van Helsing - *Castle Cast*) is very pleased to be appearing in her second Sunnyvale Community Players show. She was previously seen in SCP's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as Starveling. Earlier this year she also appeared in Santa Clara Players' production of *The Seventh Suitcase*.

Gahl Shottan (Dracula - *Asylum Cast*) is pretty darn excited to get spooky this season as Dracula in the *Asylum Cast*. They're really lucky to have been welcomed so joyfully into the Sunnyvale Community Players circle, having decided on a whim to audition for their first play last Spring where they got to play a freaky little fairy in SCP's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. When not being creepy on stage, they can be found writing, making art, and playing outside with plants. It goes without saying, but their husband and kid are pretty awesome as well. Thanks, B, for allowing chaos to thrive.



Vinh Ton (Seward - *Asylum Cast*) is incredibly excited to be in *Dracula!* This is his first show performing with Sunnyvale Community Players. When not on stage, Vinh is either at work (boring!), reading, writing, or practicing guitar (all much more interesting!) He offers his gratitude to his friends and family for their support, and to the cast and crew for helping craft such a memorable show.



Skyler Riordan (Harker - *Asylum Cast*) is a stage technician, performer and theater educator, chiefly with Silicon Valley Shakespeare, Palo Alto Players, and The Pear. Some recent credits with these companies include—Onstage: *The Tempest* (Sebastian), *Jersey Boys* (Joe Pesci/Others), and *The Music Man* (Teen Ensemble). Backstage: *Gypsy* (spotlight/A2), Jane Austen's *Emma* (A1), *Constellations* (stage management/box office). Outside of the theater building, Skyler is an avid enjoyer of boba, vintage aesthetics, and reliable public transit.



Lisa Burton Guevara (Van Helsing - *Asylum Cast*) is delighted to make her debut at Sunnyvale Players in the iconic *Dracula*. She has been performing in local Bay Area theatre for more than 5 decades. This year she has appeared as Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit* (Coastal Rep), the titular role in *Julius Caesar* (Berkeley Shakespeare Company) and Diana in the world premiere of *Cyrano* (Los Altos Stage Company). When not on stage, Lisa organizes for a more equitable future with *SURJ* (*Showing Up for Racial Justice*).



CAST



Ronald Feichtmeir (Renfield - *Castle Cast*) is pleased to be performing for the first time with the Sunnyvale Community Players. He recently acted in *For Peter Pan on Her 70th Birthday* by Sarah Ruhl, at the Pear Theatre as Michael, the youngest sibling. He's been acting in community theatre for the past 12 years, and likes to take acting classes through Studio ACT in San Francisco, and the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre. In his free time he's a great enthusiast of film, and enjoys the company of fellow learners.

Tim Garcia (Renfield - *Asylum Cast*)

is thrilled to help resurrect and reimagine this classic. As a Bay Area based actor, he has worked with Crowded Fire Theatre Company, Los Altos Stage Company, Aurora Theatre Company, New Conservatory Theatre Center, TheatreFIRST, SF Playhouse, Cal Shakes, Theatre Rhinoceros, Custom Made Theatre Company (*SFBATCC nomination*), Shotgun Players, Brava Theatre Center, Douglas Morrison Theatre, Boxcar Theatre, Z Space Studio, Coastal Repertory, Pacifica Spindrift Players, Left Coast Theatre Company, and The Pear Theatre. He studied at San José State University (B.A., Theatre), and also works in arts administration and healthcare. tim-garcia.com



Mandy Heiser (Lucy - *Castle Cast*) is STOKE(r)D that you're here. You may have seen her previously as part of the Manson Trio in *Pippin* at WVLO, or Lady MacDuff in *Macbeth* at Silicon Valley Shakespeare. She graduated with a BA in Theatre from Fordham University and is a tech marketer by day. Oodles of thanks to Tiffany. Much love to her husky Silfra who joined in on vocal warmups, and her husband Piers who supported her as she practiced screaming and crawling around the house like a disturbed gremlin. Love you honey.

Tiffany Nwogu (Lucy - *Asylum Cast*) is a

UC Davis graduate with a bachelor's in Theatre. Tiffany was awarded best ensemble by KCATF with her role as PECOLA in *The Bluest Eye*, other credits include Celebration Art's MAIMA from Eclipsed; UC Davis' MR. PEACHUM from *Threepenny Opera*; TED from *Peter and the Star Catcher*, Palo Alto Players' NARRATOR in *Puffs*, VANESSA in Los Altos Stage's *Significant Other*, and Tabia Theatre's production of *Shakin the mess outta misery* as DAUGHTER and Crown's YOLANDA. This is Tiffany's first show with Sunnyvale Community Players and she feels extremely excited to be working on a production filled with such dedicated and hardworking artists. She dedicates this performance to her father who will forever support her in spirit.



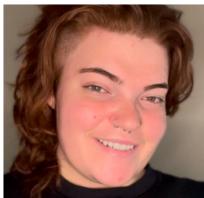
Keilese Oshaiya Ramirez (Mina - *Castle Cast*) is delighted to be joining the Castle Cast in *Dracula* as Mina! This will mark her first show outside of a school environment, with past roles including Con in *Stupid Fucking Bird* and Professor Plum in *Clue: On Stage!* Outside of theatre, Keilese enjoys writing and cosplay. She hopes to make the entire audience leave with a newfound fear for vampires. Enjoy the show, and make sure to come back twice for both talented casts!! And maybe stock up on garlic.

Maggie Cheung (Mina - *Asylum Cast*)

is so excited to be making her Sunnyvale Community Players debut! She recently played Mrs. Phelps in *Matilda* (Stanford AATP). She has a minor in Theater & Performance Studies from UC Berkeley. Outside of theater, she enjoys working with kids and is currently teaching Kindergarten.



CAST



Cheyenne Bacon (*Shadow Ensemble*; they/them) is excited to be inciting chaos in *Dracula* as a Shadow! When not onstage, Cheyenne can be found costume designing, lifting weights, or really just anything creative. Previous credits of Cheyenne's include, but are not limited to: Big Jule in *Guys and Dolls: In Concert* (Sunnyvale Community Players), Bridget in *Lizzie the Musical* (Redwood City Players), Veronica Novak in *God of Carnage* (Ne'er Do Wells) and *American Psycho*'s Masc Swing (B.A.D Musical Theatre). They can't wait to show you a deeper side to an infamous vamp! Keep up with Cheyenne on Instagram! @_cheyennebacon_ and watch who you invite into your home ;)



Heidi Le Huynh (*Shadow Ensemble*)
Hi! Thanks for reading! Thanks for showing up! I do a lot of stuff you can probably ask me about. If you've read this far, please find me and meow at me. Meow!

Emma Blickenstaff (*Shadow Ensemble*) is excited to be back on the SCP stage! Last season she could be seen as Rusty Charlie in *Guys & Dolls: In Concert*, Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and in the ensemble of *In the Heights*. She

also had the pleasure of vocal directing SCP's *Frozen Jr.* She has been involved with theater since age eight and has a BA in Theater from Occidental College. Past roles include Tracy Turnblad (*Hairspray*), Little Becky Two Shoes (*Urinetown*), Mrs. Cohen/Coat Lady (*RENT*), and John the Apostle (*Jesus Christ Superstar*). When not on stage you can find Emma teaching elementary school or playing board games with friends.



Zayra Lobo (*Shadow Ensemble*) is overjoyed to be performing in her first show with SCP—and her first professional production! She previously appeared as Puck in her college Shakespeare course's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She codes by day as a software engineer and bakes by night as a flour-covered gremlin. Zayra is so thankful to the amazing cast and crew at SCP for making her feel right at home! She sends endless love and gratitude to her friends, coworkers (past and present), family, and especially her husband, Sebastian, for cheering her on every step of the way :)



PRODUCTION TEAM

Sinjin Jones (Director & Choreographer) is a storytelling artist and the former Executive Artistic Director of The Pear Theatre. Over the past five years, he's been honored to direct many productions and design for many more. Favorites include *Sunset Baby* by Dominique Morriseau, *Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea* by Nathan Alan Davis, *Pass Over* by Antoinette Nwandu, and the musical *Once on this Island*, for which he won an *Excellence in Theatre Award* from the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics' Circle (SFBATCC) for *Best Choreography*. He loves the intersection point of media forms and the intimacy of theatre.

Jazmine Morris (Production Manager) has been working with SCP since 2018 as the Hair and Makeup Designer - working on shows such as *West Side Story*, *Sweeney Todd* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Jazmine is excited to be able to work once again and hopes that audiences will enjoy the hard work that everyone has put into this show!

Andrew Merriam (Stage Manager) is thrilled to help bring *Dracula* to unlife! Previously appearing as Francis Flute in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and moving into tech as A1 for *Little Shop of Horrors*, Andrew takes on stage managing for the first time here. Offstage, Andrew enjoys board games and classic rock. He would like to thank his family and friends for encouraging and supporting him through this production and into the next.

Miguel Wacher (Set Builder) is an Oakland-based actor, musician, filmmaker, and theatre technician. His strong love for performing and the performing arts has led him to many opportunities to engage with the performing arts community and work with theaters all around the greater Bay Area. His talents extend beyond being on stage, working for many a theater company and live entertainment productions behind the scenes. He is currently expanding his career as an actor and filmmaker while working towards establishing his own production company.

Louis Stone-Collonge (Set Designer; he/him) has been involved in local theatre since 1979 when he worked with his father at Montalvo Players. He is the founder of The Audacity Performing Arts Project, Technical Director at The Pear Theatre and Silicon Valley Shakespeare, holds a degree in religious studies, and has been sober for 13 years. Louis believes in stomping on the throat of normative white patriarchal racism, misogyny, and hegemony. The best part of his life is his family: Michelle and Caitlin

PRODUCTION TEAM

Thomas Times (Costume Designer) is a Bay Area local actor, director, writer, producer, and the Artistic Director here at SCP. Thomas' recent directing credits include: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Guys & Dolls: In Concert*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *In The Heights*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Sweeney Todd* at SCP, *Pear Slices* at The Pear Theatre, *SpongeBob The Musical* with Milpitas Community Center and *WORKING: A Musical* with SCP. Thomas is super grateful for this hardworking cast, staff and crew for their talent and their care and love for this show. He's incredibly proud to have worked alongside each and every one of them as we brought this beautiful story to life in a way no one really expected. And would like to thank God and his village for always loving, supporting, and believing in him.

Brittany Mellerson (Lighting Designer; b/she/they) - With a BFA in Theatrical Lighting and Sound Design from Point Park University's Conservatory Program, Brittany is a multi hyphenate designer/director with a focus in sharing black stories and cathartic experiences. Some of their most notable professional credits include long term residencies with PlayGround SF and Lamplighters Music Theatre for Lighting Design and Production Management; while also utilizing an extensive concentration in Sound Design and Intimacy Coordination as a freelance, professional consultant. When they are not bringing scripts to life on stage, Brittany is curating their own visions, acting as the Director and Visual Designer/Consultant of published content, archival footage, and live performances for their own entertainment collective. IG: br00klynmonroe

Bessie Zolno (Intimacy & Fight Coordinator) is a mental health-informed violence and intimacy choreographer and mental health coordinator for theater and film. Based in the San Francisco Bay Area, she thoughtfully cultivates collaborative and consent-driven environments, an approach deeply rooted in her certification in Mental Health Coordination (Association of Mental Health Coordinators). Additionally, she is a member of the Society of Directors and Choreographers and the National Society of Intimacy Professionals. Her expertise is dedicated to facilitating the safe and impactful execution of heightened moments on stage and screen for performers of all ages, across both professional productions and educational settings. This fall, you can see her work across the Bay Area in: *Othello* (Theater Rhinoceros), *Art of Murder* (The Pear), *The Return* (Golden Thread), and *Spring Awakening* (All About Theater). For more information, please visit: bessiezolno.com

Kevin Stanford (Prop Designer) happily makes another appearance here at SCP. You may have seen his creations in our recent *Little Shop of Horrors*. When not designing for the stage, Kevin is a Creative Arts Director for a high-end arts supply firm, as well as a Volunteer Fire Brigade Captain and Rattlesnake Wrangler.

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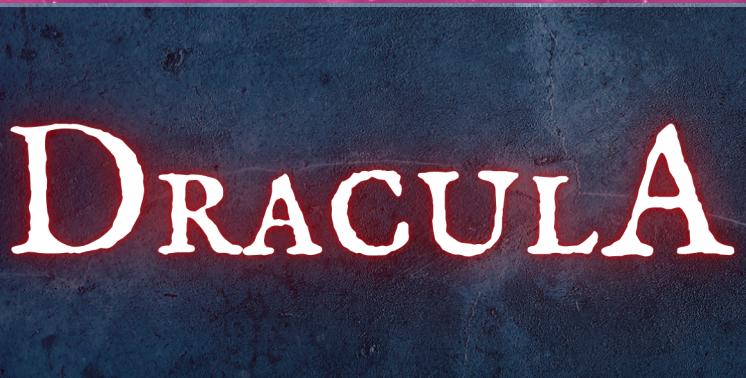
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