



**For immediate release:**

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**TEXAS THEATRE AND DANCE**

**PRESENTS**

**THE MUSICAL HIT**

**THE WILD PARTY**

**NOVEMBER 20-DECEMBER 5, 2015**

**AT THE OSCAR G. BROCKETT THEATRE**

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance presents *The Wild Party*, November 20-December 5, 2015 at the Oscar G. Brockett Theatre.

*What we are is all we are after midnight dies.*

Set in Manhattan in the Roaring Twenties, vaudeville performer Queenie and her volatile partner, Burrs, host an evening of excess for their guests; a collection of the unruly and undone. The jazz and gin-soaked party rages to a mounting sense of threat as artifice and illusion are stripped away. When midnight debauchery leads to tragedy at dawn, this dark and decadent musical reminds us that no party lasts forever.

Created by Michael John LaChuisa and George C. Wolfe, *The Wild Party* premiered at the Virginia Theatre (now named the August Wilson Theatre) on Broadway in April 2000. The musical received three Drama Desk Award nominations and seven Tony Award nominations, including Best Musical. It is based on Joseph Moncure March's 1928 narrative poem of the same name.

"We all have a mask to wear. We wear them for a thousand reasons. Maybe it's because we don't feel we have enough to offer on our own. Maybe it's to hide what is deep down inside us; or maybe it's to give us permission to the thing we really want to do," shares

director Cara Phipps. “The characters of *The Wild Party* are shrouded in façades. LaChuisa’s musical asks us: What happens when that mask comes down?”

A master of fine arts candidate at The University of Texas at Austin, Phipps directing work focuses on new play development and production. She recently worked as a directing intern at Actors Theatre of Louisville where she directed two newly-devised shows, three solo performance pieces and the ten-minute play *Grace* by Eric John Meyer. Assisting credits at Actors Theatre include *The Grown-Up* (directed by Ken Rus Schmoll) for the Humana Festival of New American Plays, *The Pirates of Penzance* (directed by Sean Graney), *The Mountaintop* (directed by Giovanna Sardelli) and *Noises Off* (directed by Meredith McDonough). A Bay Area native, Phipps has developed new work with several companies including The Transient Theater, The 06 Ensemble and City Lights Theater Company. She received one of the 2012 FringeNYC Overall Excellence Awards in Directing for her work on the world premiere of Candice Bengé’s *The Egg Play* (New York International Fringe Festival).

*The Wild Party* features an all-star cast of University of Texas at Austin students, including: Emma Center as Queenie, Christopher Montalvo as Burrs, Connor Barr as Jackie, Maddrey Blackwood as Miss Madelaine, Caroline Kinnamore as Sally, Trey Curtis as Eddie Mackrel, Devin Medley as Mae, Emily McIntyre as Nadine, Cosme Flores Jr. as Phil D’Armano, Nyles Washington as Oscar D’Armano, Toni Baker as Dolores Montoya, J. Dylan Gibson as Gold, Tucker Martin as Goldberg, Max Torrez as Black and Tori Robertson as Kate.

Music and Lyrics by Michael John LaChuisa  
Book by Michael John LaChuisa and George C. Wolfe  
Based on the poem by Joseph Moncure March

Direction by Cara Phipps • Lighting Design by Andrew Carson • Orchestration by Bruce Coughlin • Choreography by Natasha Davison • Sound Design by Billy Henry • Costume Design by E.L. Hohn • Scenic Design by Bruno-Pierre Houle • Music Direction by Lyn Koenning • Projection Design by Jared LeClaire • Dramaturgy by Gabrielle Randle • Stage Management by Joseph Heike

For more information on *The Wild Party*, please visit [JoinTheDrama.org](http://JoinTheDrama.org)

## **CALENDAR LISTING**

**November 20-December 5, 2015 – The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance presents *The Wild Party* at Oscar G. Brockett Theatre** (300 E. 23rd St.), located in the F. Loren Winship Drama Building. A map of the campus: [utexas.edu/finearts/tad/season-tickets/map-directions-parking](http://utexas.edu/finearts/tad/season-tickets/map-directions-parking)

Performance times are November 20, 21, December 1-5 at 7:30 p.m. and November 21, 22, December 5 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets (\$23-26 adult, \$18-21 UT faculty and staff, \$15-17 student) are now on sale at authorized ticket outlets, which include the Bass Concert Hall Box Office, most H-E-B stores and all Texas Box Office outlets, online [JoinTheDrama.org](http://JoinTheDrama.org), or by calling (512) 477-6060 or (800) 982-BEVO. Season subscribers save up to 30% on individual tickets!

## **ABOUT TEXAS THEATRE AND DANCE**

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance is a world-class educational environment that serves as the ultimate creative incubator for the next generation of artists, thinkers and leaders in theatre and performance.

## **ALSO THIS SEASON**

Dance Repertory Theatre presents

### ***Fall For Dance***

B. Iden Payne Theatre

November 12-15, 2015

### ***Tomás and the Library Lady***

Presented in co-production with ZACH Theatre

By José Cruz González

Based on the Book by Pat Mora

ZACH Theatre's Whisenhunt Stage

January 22-February 20, 2016

### ***Twelfth Night***

By William Shakespeare

Oscar G. Brockett Theatre

February 26-March 6, 2016

Dance Repertory Theatre presents

### ***Bodies & Souls***

B. Iden Payne Theatre

April 8-17, 2016

### ***UTNT (UT New Theatre)***

Presenting new plays by Lydia Blaisdell, Joanna Garner, Gia Marotta and Tegan McLeod

Curated by Steven Dietz

Oscar G. Brockett Theatre

April 14-26, 2016

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