



THE HUNCHBACK OF SEVILLE

Charise Castro Smith

09.24.26 - 10.04.26



PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Department of Theatre and Dance

Made Possible by the Generosity
of Tomm Tomlinson

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE CHAIR



Every year, these stages are a laboratory where our students explore the deep complexities of the human condition, put into practice the skills and theory they learn in the classroom and refine the technical expertise required for the professional industry. This season, our student artists, faculty and staff plunge headfirst into four distinct worlds that challenge our perceptions, push our creative boundaries and demand that we look closer at the systems around us.

At first glance, the four theatre productions in our season might seem beautifully chaotic. We span centuries and styles: from the brutal, satirized courts of 16th-century Spain to the polite, rigid ballrooms of Regency England; through the whimsical, romantic streets of modern Paris, and finally into the chilling, digital isolation of a contemporary American suburb. Yet, as you join us on these journeys, you will find a powerful, shared theme running through all four productions: the fierce fight for individual agency in a highly structured world.

The misfits, rebels and dreamers who populate these stories are profoundly misunderstood by the societies they inhabit. Whether it is a brilliant woman navigating the oppressive colonial power structures of *The Hunchback of Seville*, quick-witted lovers breaking free from societal and financial traps in *Pride & Prejudice*, an isolated soul carving out joy in *Amélie* or teenagers fighting the conformity of a suburban life and an addictive digital landscape in *Neighborhood 3: Requisition of Doom*, these characters all share a common quest. They are rewriting their own narratives and desperately seeking authentic human connection.

For our students, this season offers an extraordinary training ground where they can explore across genres, from heightened period text and dark historical satire to magical realism, musical theater and multimedia sci-fi thrillers. For you, our audience, we hope these stories spark conversation, provoke thought and ultimately remind you of the power of live theater to dismantle barriers.

Thank you for stepping into the theater with us, for supporting the next generation of theater makers and for being a vital part of our community.

Enjoy the show!

Rich Dionne
Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance

September 24 - October 4, 2026 | Carole & Gordon Mallett Theatre
Yue-Kong Pao Hall of Visual and Performing Arts

The Hunchback of Seville

BY CHARISE CASTRO SMITH

DIRECTED BY
Jaime Collaco

COSTUME DESIGNER
Emily Eidt

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Sisi Clark

SCENIC DESIGNER
Sisi Clark

SOUND DESIGNER
Andy Powell

STAGE MANAGER
Syd Coe

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Natalie Kandra

Proud to partner with Cornerstone Integrated Liberal Arts

THE HUNCHBACK OF SEVILLE was developed at the Brown / Trinity Playwrights Repertory Theatre
2013 season under the artistic direction of Kenneth Prestininzi.

THE HUNCHBACK OF SEVILLE was originally produced in June 2014 by Washington Ensemble
Theatre.

THE HUNCHBACK OF SEVILLE is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC,
servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

At first glance, *The Hunchback of Seville* may seem like an unlikely place to look for answers to the world we live in today. Charise Castro Smith's wildly theatrical and irreverent play takes us back to Seville in 1504, to a world of monarchs, explorers, religious persecution, colonialism and enormous questions of power and identity. Yet, the more deeply we enter this strange and hilarious world, the more familiar it becomes.

This play asks us to look at history through a modern lens, not to rewrite the past, but to recognize the patterns that connect it to our present. Beneath the humor and theatricality are timeless human impulses: our desire to belong, our fear of those who are different from us, our hunger for power and our capacity to justify our actions when we believe we are on the "right" side.

We live in a time of extraordinary polarization and tribalism. We are increasingly encouraged to divide the world into us vs. them, reducing complicated human beings into labels, identities, beliefs or ideologies. *The Hunchback of Seville* challenges that impulse. Its characters are flawed, outrageous, sometimes horrifying and yet they are human. They want to be loved. They want to be seen. They want safety, belonging, recognition and purpose. Our differences matter. Our histories and identities matter. Yet if those differences become the only things we see in one another, we risk losing sight of something equally important — our common humanity.

I am deeply grateful to the students, teachers, cast and crew who have poured their talent, courage, time and imagination into bringing this story to life. I am grateful to my family for their love and support and to you, the audience, for being here and supporting the arts along the way. In a world constantly competing for our attention, it should not be taken for granted that we can pause, sit together in the dark and experience LIVE theater. That shared experience is a gift.

I invite you to enter this world with an open mind, a willingness to laugh and a willingness to be uncomfortable. Look beyond the differences. Question your assumptions. Listen for the humanity beneath the labels. Most importantly, see the human being standing on the other side of the divide or right next to you.

Perhaps the most radical thing we can do in a divided world is to recognize one another.

Thank you for being here.

Jaime Collaco, Director

CAST

Christopher Columbus	Rivers R. Blue
Deputy Governor of Hispaniola	Nick Stromberg
Maxima Terriblé Segunda	Kenya Gilyard
Infanta Juana	Carissa Laidley
HRH Queen Isabella	Kennedy Eads
Maid	Callie Devine
Espanta	Alaina Smith
Talib Furozh	Henry Ulrich
Abdul Haseeb	Ethan Betances
One	Chase Bultemeier
Two	Naunidha Singh Sawhney
U/S Christopher Columbus	Nick Stromberg
U/S Deputy Governor of Hispaniola	Jack Rudolph
U/S Infanta Juana, Maid, Espanta	Ellie Noh
U/S Maxima Terriblé Segunda, HRH Queen Isabella	Joey Brandenburg
U/S Talib Furozh	Chase Bultemeier
U/S Abdul Haseeb	Naunidha Singh Sawhney
U/S One	Ethan Betances
U/S Two	Henry Ulrich

RUNTIME: 75 minutes, no intermission

CONTENT WARNINGS: mature themes, mature language, theatrical intimacy, theatrical violence, use of prop weapons, flashing lights



Purdue University is a member in good standing of the University Resident Theatre Associate (U/RTA) which integrates educational and professional theatre throughout the nation.

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCER

Rich Dionne

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Lucy Yahr

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Laila Matuk

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER

Rob Johansen

INTIMACY

CHOREOGRAPHER

Maggie Hinckley

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS

Emma Beudot

Sara Kestenbaum

PRODUCTION

ASSISTANTS

Olivia Carlson

Krish Shah

ASSISTANT SCENIC DESIGNER

Eleanor Kephart

STAFF TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Vince Lobello

DECK CARPENTER

Ryan Borruso

SCENIC CHARGE ARTIST

Jake Wood

HEAD OF PROPERTIES

Eleanor Kephart

TECHNICAL DESIGNERS

Ethan Gray

Matthew Lenzmeier

SCENIC CONSTRUCTION CREW

Ethan Betances

Chase Bultemeier

Annabelle Butrum

SCENIC CONSTRUCTION CREW (CONT.)

Olivia Carlson

Eilam Deinard

Lucas Eversole

Mason Friedman

Remus Giarretta

Dylan Gourley

Van Hibbeln

Rory Horowitz

Natalie Kandra

Sara Kestenbaum

Leo Klisovic

Pranay Krishna

Angelina Lin

Mason Moyle

Julia Porras

Ankur Raghavan

Callie Server

Abby Slayton

Calloway Walsh

Joseph Waterman

Eunjae Yu

PAINT/ PROPERTIES ASSISTANTS

Maddie Browne

Lilly Maher

Natalie Makeef

Kyla Tsang

Jenelle Ward

ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER

Leah Eldridge

COSTUME SHOP MANAGER

Anthony Sirk

HEAD OF WARDROBE CREW

Payton Stachelski

WARDROBE CREW

Natalie Allen

Ryan Bannon

Emily Chen

CUTTER/DRAPER

Caitlin Spink

STITCHERS

Rivers R. Blue

Leah Eldridge

Charlie Plomin

Olivia L. Thomas

Olivia R. Thomas

ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER

Andrew Lullo

PRODUCTION ELECTRICIANS

Elias Braun

Sydney Studer

LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR

Cameron Campbell

LIGHTING CREW

Luca Beltrandi

Yi-Kuan Cheng

Danny Davis

Chloe Fields

Taylor Holland

Percy Jann

Julia Keane

Aimee Linebarger

Aiden Lingley

Isaiah Marx

Simon Rasansky

Ava Robinson

Kirthana Senthil

Henry Ulrich

SOUND CONSULTANT

Jacob Clouse

PRODUCTION SOUND ENGINEER

Felipe Saavedra

Cardona

ASSISTANT PRODUCTION SOUND ENGINEER

Paiton Webber

QLAB OPERATOR

August Noll

SPECIAL THANKS

Mika Gordon



This production is entered in the **American College Theatre Festival (ACTF)**, a national educational network founded in 1969 to identify, promote, and celebrate college and university theatre production and training.

ACTF seeks to:

- Encourage, recognize, and celebrate the finest and most diverse work produced in university and college theatre programs;
- Provide opportunities for participants to develop their theatre skills and insight, and achieve professionalism;
- Improve the quality of college and university theatre in the United States; and
- Encourage colleges and universities to give distinguished productions of new plays, especially those written by students; the classics, revitalized or newly conceived; and experimental works.

Through ACTF participation, each production is eligible for a response by a regional ACTF representative. Selected students and faculty may also be invited to participate in regional and national ACTF programs, including scholarships, awards, professional development opportunities, and educational initiatives for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers, critics, and arts leadership.

Productions entered at the Participating level are eligible for invitation to a regional ACTF festival and may be considered for regional or national recognition for outstanding achievement in production, design, direction, and performance, in accordance with current program guidelines.

Each year, ACTF engages hundreds of productions and thousands of students nationwide. By entering this production, our theatre department joins a national community committed to artistic rigor, educational excellence, access, and professional development in collegiate theatre.

Additional support for the American College Theatre Festival is provided through national and regional partners committed to advancing excellence in collegiate theatre education.

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THANK YOU!