



**Complete Casting Announced for Village Theatre’s Mainstage
Production of the Laugh-Out-Loud Comedy
THE BOOK CLUB PLAY**

**By Karen Zacarías
Directed by Arlene Martínez-Vázquez & Jéhan Òsanyìn**

“[An] uproarious social comedy.” —chicagocritic.com

ISSAQUAH, WA (February 10, 2021) – Located in both Issaquah and Everett, WA, professional regional theatre company Village Theatre today announced casting for the second production in its 2022 Welcome Back season, ***The Book Club Play***, from one of the most produced playwrights in the world **Karen Zacarías** (*Just Like Us; Legacy of Light; Native Gardens*). With direction by locals **Arlene Martínez-Vázquez** (*Intiman: Native Gardens*) and **Jéhan Òsanyìn** (Seattle Rep teaching artist), ***The Book Club Play*** will run in Issaquah from March 2-April 3 and in Everett from April 8-May 1; single and season tickets for either location can be purchased now through the Village Theatre Box Office at (425) 392-2202 or online at VillageTheatre.org.

The Book Club Play follows a group of people whose book club is the subject of a famous documentary filmmaker. The members of the club differ in perspective, race, sexual orientation, and viewpoint on the world so completely, that their colliding assumptions also create a ripe environment for the comedy. With novels that audience members of all ages will recognize, this is a comedy that everyone can love, and a booklover will adore.

Zacarías, a Latina playwright, is one of the most produced playwrights in the nation having written *Just Like Us, Native Gardens, Destiny of Desire*, and more. *The Book Club Play* has been called “A delightful, fresh comedy” by *Talkin’ Broadway* and Molly Smith, Artistic Director at Arena Stage said “*The Book Club Play* is a dangerous comedy about community, loving books, high and low culture, and the absolute terror of group dynamics.”

The cast of Village Theatre’s production of *The Book Club Play* is made up of six local actors including **Maya Burton** (Strawberry Theatre Workshop: *Our Country’s Good*), **Marquicia Dominguez** (Seattle Rep’s Public Works teaching artist), **Nik Doner** (Washington Ensemble Theatre: *Dance Nation* and *Dirty*), **Lauren Paris** (Village Theatre: “Welcome Home, Holiday Concert”), **Richard Nguyen Sloniker** (Village Theatre: *The Mousetrap*; Seattle Rep: *Dry Powder*), and **Arlando Smith** (ACT Theatre: *A Christmas Carol*).



VILLAGE THEATRE'S COVID SAFETY PLAN

Village Theatre joins area performing arts organizations in requiring masks and proof of full vaccination (2 weeks following final dose) against COVID-19 or a lab-based negative COVID test (PCR test within 72 hours, or antigen within 24 hours) for all attendees 5 years and older. This is in line with county and state mandates. Patrons should also provide proof of identity when attending performances in order to ensure a safe and successful return of the greater Seattle area arts scene. Patrons will be required to adhere to this policy in order to attend. For more information, [please visit Village Theatre online here >>](#)

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

Arlene Martínez-Vázquez | Director
Jéhan Òsanyìn | Director
Catherine Cornell | Scenic Designer
Thorn Michaels | Lighting Designer
Ranleigh Starling | Assistant Lighting Designer
Casey Price | Assistant Lighting Designer
Maggie Carrido Adams | Costume Designer
Iris Zacarias | Sound Designer
Yomy Lorenzo Figueroa | Video Designer
Kathryn Van Meter | Intimacy Director & Wellness Support
Gin Hammond | Dialect Coach
Brian Dang | Dramaturg

ABOUT ARLENE MARTÍNEZ-VÁZQUEZ (Director)

ARLENE MARTÍNEZ VÁZQUES is a bilingual storyteller and resource sharer based in Seattle since 2009. Her vision is to create spaces where everyone feels seen, safe, and able to do their best work. Each project is a new opportunity to craft worlds that invite empathy and understanding, and to have her vision expanded by the contributions of the artists in the room.

ABOUT JÉHAN ÒSANYÌN (Director)

JÉHAN ÒSANYÌN played Siobhan in Village Theatre's production of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*. They hold a degree in Theatre Arts from Point Park University's Conservatory of Performing Arts. They studied theatre in Japan, Hong Kong, Vietnam, India, Kenya, Tanzania, Kenya, South Africa, Brazil & Venezuela. Upcoming Projects: Associate Directing *Afterwords* at The 5th Avenue Theatre, Adapting *The Lower Depths* with the Seagull Project.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



ABOUT VILLAGE THEATRE

Based in Issaquah, WA, with operations in Everett, WA, Village Theatre is a leading producer of musical theatre in the Pacific Northwest. Producing entertaining, quality productions since 1979, Village Theatre has grown into one of the region's best-attended theatres. Through its Village Originals program, Village Theatre is nationally recognized for its contribution to the development of new musicals, having supported the creation of over 175 new works to date. Village Theatre also takes pride in nurturing tomorrow's audiences through its Youth Education programs, serving thousands of young people and their families annually.

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FOR EDITORS/PRODUCERS

WHAT:

THE BOOK CLUB PLAY

By Karen Zacarías

Directed by Arlene Martínez-Vázquez and Jéhan Òsanyìn

Laughter and literature collide when five friends of a cherished book club become the focus of a documentary film. *The Book Club Play* is a fast-paced smart comedy about books and the people who love them. With novels that audience members of all ages will recognize, this compact and hilarious production will keep you guessing what will happen next as the friends face the inescapable camera lens and shake up the group dynamic with plenty of twists and turns.

WHERE:

Village Theatre

Francis J. Gaudette Theatre
303 Front Street N, Issaquah

Everett Performing Arts Center (EPAC)
2710 Wetmore Avenue, Everett

WHEN:

March 2 - May 1, 2022

Issaquah - March 2-April 3, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Village Theatre

Mainstage + New Works + Youth Education

Everett - April 8-May 1, 2022

Select Wednesdays - 7:30 p.m.

Thursdays - 1:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Fridays - 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays - 1:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

Sundays* - 1:00 p.m.

*Select Sundays at 7:00 p.m.

TICKETS:

\$27-\$82 - ON SALE NOW

CONNECT WITH VILLAGE THEATRE

VillageTheatre.org

Facebook - [/VillageTheatre](#)

Instagram - [@village_theatre](#)

YouTube - [/villagetheatre1](#)

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO

For available photography and video, please visit [Village Theatre's online press room here >>](#)

(Password: village)

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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