

SHADOWS OF THE REEF

Director-Playwright’s Notes

Lent. The village smells of the flagellants’ blood. In verse and wail, women torn between faith and survival chant the Passion and Death of the Saviour –a ritual brought upon a land by the sword and the cross of the Spanish conquistador. In the depths of the sea, children “crank” the reefs and seabed to drive the fish up to the ships of big-time fishers. The nets are thrown. The children get caught. Where is survival and salvation?

What is your face before you are born–this is the question I ask my actors–child of a barren land, condemned to be dispossessed from birth? From what womb do you come, from what waters, from what earth possessed by ruling families and powers for centuries, by corrupt officials who will sell the children to powerbrokers?

The memory of the drowned *muro-ami* child diver meets the memory of a woman who wants to be nailed to the Cross–both the only Begotten Son. And salvation is sought in the descent and ascent into hell: the child to the depths of the sea, the women to the hulls of trawlers to sell their bodies. Where is salvation then? For those who cling to the knife to survive, is it in the desire for the nails, flagellation, and expiation? And who is judging? How to judge these acts of self-immolation, when piety merges with sacrifice, sacrifice with blood, and blood with belief?

How to judge the ritual of Faith within when the country of one’s pain is so vast?

Anton Juan

Dramaturg’s Note

During early rehearsals of *Shadows*, I worried how an American audience would view prostitution, *muro-ami* child labor, and gory Lenten rituals in the Philippines. This production strikes a balance between dark realities and moments of light, while beautifully immersing us in Filipino culture through the soft lens of memory, thereby making the violence and sadness palatable and relatable. Pressing social issues like those explored here might be addressed through public-service announcements, but in this play, we get to know real people. As the women gossip and joke after pulling in fishing nets, we learn about their lives, and this light moment balances the previous dark pain of the prostitution dance. Dance in *Shadows* changes the tone by adding beauty and embodying emotion. It also reflects the performative nature of Filipino culture, most clearly seen in its expression of Catholicism through Lenten pageants. Filipinos embody Christ, Roman soldiers, and flagellants as they perform their faith, unlike Western Catholicism here at Notre Dame where we quietly listen to sermons. This play asks us to reflect on harsh realities like the child labor and prostitution that plague many cultures throughout the world, while, in the safety of the theatre, we experience Lupe’s journey of faith and redemption.

Emily Yates

Cast

Lupe	Olga Natividad
Gabriel	Dylan Angel M. Lainez
Padre Justo/Roman Soldier/Villager	Guillermo Alonso Fourzán *
Japanese Sailor/Villager/Jesus/Roman Soldier	Chip Payos
Lukas	Zach Anthony-Fernandez
Villager/Boatman/Pilate/Roman Soldier	William Pinkham *
Village Women/Seaweed/Prostitutes	Lucy Yuexin Du
	Patricia Fernandez de Castro Sámano
	Abigail Hebert *
	Yana Jones *
	Gabrielle Muzzarelli *
	Jasmine Young

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Artistic Staff

Director	Anton Juan
Producer	Kevin Dreyer
Costume Designer	Richard E. Donnelly
Scenic Designer	Marcus Stephens
Lighting Designer	Kevin Dreyer
Technical Director	C. Kenneth Cole
Sound Designer	Colleen McCartney *
Movement	Anton Juan
Rehearsal Master of Movement	Chip Payos
Costume Shop Manager	Lynn Holbrook
Stage Manager	Joseph (Tre) Haskins *
Assistant Director	Gabrielle Muzzarelli *
Assistant Technical Director	John Yost
Dramaturg	Emily Yates
Acting Coach	Siiri Scott

Production Staff

Assistant Stage Managers	Virginia Coyne
	Sara Gbadamosi *
Light Board Operator	Keegan Collins
Deck Hand	Dylan Parent
Wardrobe Run Crew	Veronica Feliz
	Karen Gilmore
	Beatrice Park

From the Archives

Best known to Notre Dame audiences for his exciting and innovative directing, Anton Juan has wowed past audiences with *The Laramie Project* (2005), *Salome* (2006, with guest artist Olga Natividad in the title role), *The Threepenny Opera* (2007), *The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus* (2008), *Guernica* (2009), and *Antígona Furiosa* (2012). Equally an internationally recognized and acclaimed playwright, with this production of *Shadows of the Reef* Professor Juan brings his powerful creativity as a playwright and director to the Notre Dame stage for the first time.

Mark C. Pilkinton

Scene Shop Assistants

Guillermo Alonso Fourzán *
Dasuni Baptist
Alexander Bogunki-Baran
Melissa Flynn *
Matthew Gervais *
Samantha Schubert *
Kimberly Springstead *
John Yost

Costume Shop Assistants

Kelly Francis
Karen Gilmore
Abigail Hebert *
Elizabeth Konicek
Beatrice Park
Samantha Schubert *
Elizabeth Sullivan
Brock Switzer *

Scenery, Props, and Lighting Crew

Travis Allen, Joshua Anderson, Micaela Arizmendi, Catherine Baker, Lauren Bohaboy, Ariel Braker, Blase Capelli, James Clark, Kevin Connolly, John Corr, Maura Cotter, Joseph Cresta, Bryan Daly, Emily Dauer, Stephen Despins, Thomas Di Pauli Von Treuheim, Kaitlyn Farrell, Melissa Flynn *, Matthew Gervais *, Mary-Esther Gourdin; Christopher Grant, Lelia Harig, Brendan Heaney, Samuel Herr, Patrick Hodan, Andrew Hyrcza, Ryan Janecek, Yana Jones *, Kathleen Kennedy, Alexander Kessler, Yeonsoo Kim, Mollie Limb, Zachary Lipp, Danielle Lukish, Ying Ying Mak, Colleen McCartney *, Mimi Michuda, Julian Murphy, Camille Neal, Gabriela Nuñez, Shannon O’Brien, Charles O’Leary, Joel Ostdiek *, Ryan Palmer, Jaclyn Paul, Carly Piccinich, William Pinkham *, Christopher Revord, Kyle Richardson, Andrew Ryan, Samanta Rosas, Kevin Sandner, Matthew Schade, Samantha Schubert *, Catherine Simonson, Nathan Smith, Megan Sorlie, Julia Steffen, Michelle Stickler, Kelsey Sullivan, Megan Tarpey, John Turner, Michael Vaclav, Elizabeth Weir, Kathryn Weiss, Timothy White, Quincee Wilson, Bryce Wood, Yalin Zhang

*Denotes FTT major

Department of Film, Television, and Theatre

Faculty

James Collins, Chair
Ted Barron
Christine Becker
C. Kenneth Cole
Donald Crafton
William Donaruma
Richard E. Donnelly
Kevin Dreyer
Anne García-Romero
Karen Heisler
Peter Holland
Scott Jackson

Anton Juan
Ted Mandell
Olivier Morel
Grant Mudge
Susan Ohmer
Mark Pilkinton
Yael Prizant
Siiri Scott
Gary Sieber
Jeffrey Spoonhower
Marcus Stephens
Pamela Robertson Wojcik

Emeriti

Reginald Bain
Jill Godmilow
Frederic Syburg

Staff

Lynn Holbrook
Jo Ann Norris
Stacey Stewart

Acknowledgments


Indiana University South Bend, Ernestine M. Raclin
School of the Arts Theatre Program
Saint Mary’s College Department of Communication Studies, Dance and Theatre
The Daniel and Marie Messina Endowment for Performing Arts
The Joseph A. McCabe Endowment for Excellence in Dramatic Arts
Carmen Lainez and Danny Lainez
Kay-Kay Fernandez and Ramon Fernandez

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JOHN GORDON

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SHADOWS OF THE REEF

Written and directed by Anton Juan

February 21–March 3, 2013

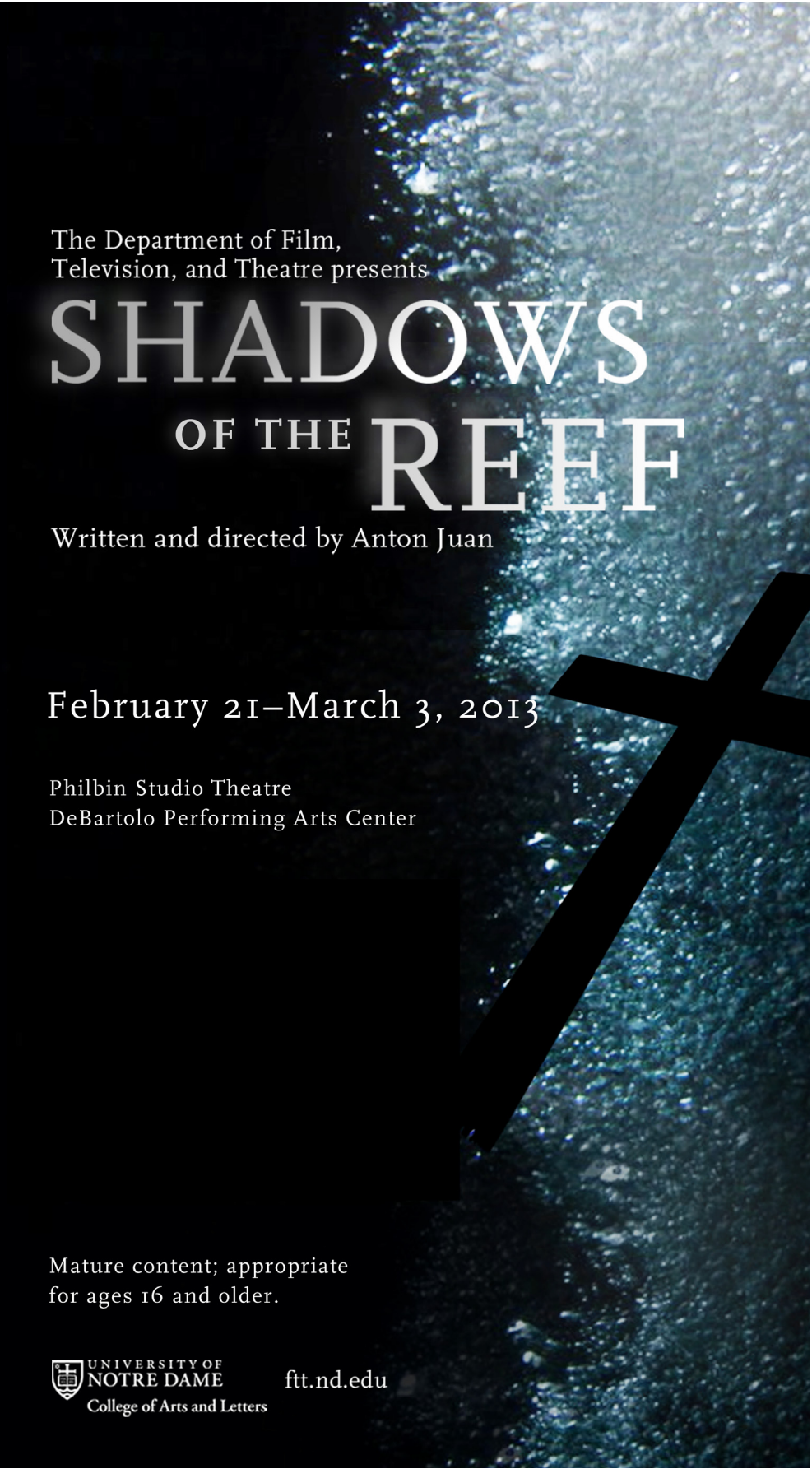
Philbin Studio Theatre
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Mature content; appropriate
for ages 16 and older.



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The background of the poster is a dark, underwater scene with blue and green light filtering through the water. A large, black, stylized cross or 'X' shape is superimposed on the right side of the image.