

The central image is a promotional poster for the play "Sucker Punch". It depicts three men in a boxing ring. The man in the center is a Black man with a beard, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. To his left is another Black man, also looking forward. To his right is a white man with short hair, looking slightly to the side. They are all shirtless and muscular. The man on the left has boxing gloves on his hands. The man on the right has a blue bag slung over his shoulder. The background is dark with bright spotlights illuminating the scene, creating a dramatic atmosphere. The word "SUCKER" is written in large, bold, yellow, distressed letters at the top of the image.

SUCKER

PUNCH

by ROY WILLIAMS



SUCKER PUNCH

by **ROY WILLIAMS**

Directed by **MICHAEL A. SHEPPERD**

Featuring

ANTHONY CLOYD RICK K. JACKSON MARA KLEIN*
GREGOR MANNS* ROB NAGLE* BRANDON RUITER*
WILLIAM CHRISTOPHER STEPHENS

Director **Michael A. Shepperd**

Stage Manager **Lindsay Castillo-Dilyou**

Lighting Design **Matt Richter**

Adam Earle

Costume Design **Georgette Arison**

Prop Design **Sammi Smith**

Sound Design **John Nobori**

Boxing Trainers **Charles Nwokolo**

Emeka Nwokolo

Fight Choreographer **Jen Albert**

Venue Manager **Elizabeth Wilson**

Dialect Coach **Abigail Marks**

Production Photographer **John Klopping**

Press Representative **Ken Werther Publicity**

** Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of
Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States*

CAST

Squid **William Christopher Stephens**

Troy **Anthony Cloyd**

Leon **Rick K. Jackson**

Becky **Mara Klein**

Ray **Gregor Manns**

Charlie **Rob Nagle**

Tommy **Brandon Ruiter**

Alternates never substitute for players unless
a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance.

Please turn off your cell phone.
Photography and audio/video recording are prohibited.

The total running time is approximately 2 hours,
with one 10-minute intermission.

SPECIAL THANKS

Elizabeth Wilson	John Nobori
Benoît Guerin	Ashley Steed
Christopher Monger	Betsy Zajko
Emily Goodall	Emeka Lion
Allison Dillard	Tiger Boxing Gym
Susan Hallman	Hutch Foster

Kasier Permanente Educational Theatre
Sebastian and Maxwell Pearl Foster-Shepperd
Kenny KG-Leather Harnesses and Accessories

Sucker Punch was first produced at the Royal Court Theatre Downstairs on 19th June 2010,
directed by Sacha Wares. Copyright agent: Dalzell and Beresford LTD.



ANTHONY CLOYD (*Troy*) Anthony is simply joyous to make his stage debut at Coeurage Theatre Company! He's an LA based actor and an LA native looking to make you smile, laugh, and form a great friendship along the way. His recent credits include *The Lion King*, *Spring Awakening*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Love's Labour's Lost*. A graduate of the Claire

Trevor School of the Arts at UC Irvine and Santa Monica College, he thanks his teachers, mentors, family and friends for their relentless love and support. www.AnthonyCloyd.com.



RICK K. JACKSON (*Leon*) Rick is a Philadelphia native who grew up in Newark, Delaware. After playing collegiate football he shifted his focus to the arts and began auditioning for theatre at Delaware State University. After graduating from the University with a degree in TV and film in 2016, he moved to Los Angeles in pursuit of a career in TV

and film. Rick has written and directed comedy sketches and has performed his own standup. Rick is a saxophonist and an avid weight lifter. He is the son of Eric and Cathy Jackson and is the youngest of 4 siblings.



MARA KLEIN (*Becky*) Mara is excited to make her debut with Coeurage Theatre Company. Recent theatre includes: *The Judas Kiss* (Boston Court Pasadena), *Cino Nights* (Rising Phoenix Rep), *What Happened When* and the world premiere of *Blueberry Toast* (Echo Theater Company), Marina in *Pericles* (Porters of Hellsgate), and *Unbound* (IAMA). TV:

“Young Valerie” in *Casual* (Hulu), *Startup* (Crackle), *Young & Hungry* (Freeform), *Fresh off the Boat* and *Suburgatory* (ABC). She holds a BFA in drama from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London. More at: www.AboutMara.com, @mararklein.



GREGOR MANNNS (*Ray*) This New York theatre actor had appeared on several stages before moving to Los Angeles. His film debut, *Love The Hard Way*, was opposite Adrien Brody, and television roles on *Sex and The City*, *100 Centre Street*, and *Hope & Faith*. He moved to California and quickly found himself on hit shows like *Boston Legal*, *Grey's*

Anatomy, *How I Met Your Mother*, *ER*, *My Name Is Earl*, *The Night Shift*, *Will & Grace*, and more. His studio film debut was in *Moneyball*, opposite Brad Pitt. But his greatest accomplishment to date is MannsMade production's romantic comedy pilot presentation entitled, *Destined To Be*.



ROB NAGLE (*Charlie*) Recent theatre includes: *Julius Weezer* (Troubadour Theater Company), *The Judas Kiss* (Boston Court Pasadena), *The Little Foxes* (Antaeus Theatre Company), as well as Pasadena Playhouse, Road Theatre Company, New World Stages, Skylight Theatre Company, South Coast Repertory, Denver Center for the Performing Arts,

Rogue Machine Theatre, Portland Center Stage, Mark Taper Forum. Film includes: *The 11th Green*, *To Hell and Gone*, *Safety*, *Bad Samaritan*, *First Love*, *Mother's Day*, *Fishing Naked*, *Boost*, *New Year's Eve*. Television includes: *NCIS: Los Angeles*, *Superior Donuts*, *Modern Family*, *The Librarians*, *Grey's Anatomy*. Education: Northwestern University. Spouse: Heather Allyn. Pug: Houston. robnagle.com, @nagdoggie.



BRANDON RUITER (*Tommy*) Brandon returns to the Coeurage Theatre stage having performed in *Failure: A Love Story* (Coeurage Theatre 2015 & Block Party with Center Theatre Group 2017). Recent LA Theatre: *Light's Out: Nat "King" Cole* (Geffen Playhouse Theatre), *Sex With Strangers* (Geffen Playhouse Theatre), *A Picture of Dorian Gray*

(A Noise Within), *Macbeth* (The Vagrancy Ensemble). Film/TV: *Gilmore Girls* (Netflix), *Into the Storm* (WB), *Crisis* (NBC), *Good Trouble* (Freeform). He is a company member with The House Theatre of Chicago and is also an illustrator and artist. www.BrandonRuitter.com



WILLIAM CHRISTOPHER STEPHENS (*Squid*) is an Ohio native and graduate of AMDA in NYC. He's appeared in hit films & TV shows such as Marvel Studios' *The Avengers* and the upcoming final season of Showtime's *The Affair*. His voice can be heard featured in various video games and most recently as the voice of Jax in *Mortal Kombat 11*. He is excited to

be making his return to stage and having the opportunity to perform with such a talented cast. Special thanks to Coeurage Theatre Company, his parents, Tiger's Gym, and his friends Amir & Owen for their support.

MICHAEL A. SHEPPERD (*Director*) Michael is the Artistic Director of Los Angeles' award-winning Celebration Theatre. Recent Directing credits include: *The Boy From Oz* (Ovation Award, LADCC Award, Best Director), *Rotterdam* (LADCC Award Best Production, Stage Raw award for Best Production (win) and Best Director, nom). *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* (Director of the Year, Scenie Award, BWW nom, Best Director) *The View Upstairs* (BWW award, Best Director) *Too Heavy for Your Pocket*, *The Next Fairy Tale*, [title of show], *A Gay Christmas Carol*, and *Rent*. Acting roles include *Fences* (Troy; Ovation, LADCC Nominations), *BootyCandy* (LADCC nom, Ovation, Stage Raw Win), *The Color Purple* (Mister; Ovation award), *Steel* (Ovation Award), *Master Harold and the Boys* (NAACP theatre award nom), *Intimate Apparel* (NAACP Theatre Award), *Choir Boy* (NAACP nom), *Shout Sister Shout*, and *The Seafarer*.

LINDSAY CASTILLO-DILYOU (*Stage Manager*) Lindsay is a New Mexican off the Eastern Navajo Nation reservation tribe. She recently moved to L.A and is making her debut with Coeurage Theatre Company. The latest theatre productions she has stage managed are *A Christmas Carol* and *Little Women: The Musical* in the winter of 2018/2019 in Pagosa Springs, CO. She received a B.A in Marketing and Theatre at Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO. She would like to give all her many vibes to her familia because without their love and support, she'd still be back in New Mexico.

MATT RICHTER and ADAM EARLE (*Lighting Design*) Have designed together throughout Los Angeles. Recent credits include *Hit The Wall*, *Search For Signs....Revisited* (both for the LA LGBT Center), *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* and *Jekyll and Hyde*. They're thrilled to be making their Coeourage debut.

GEORGETTE ARISON (*Costume Design*) *Sucker Punch* is Georgette's first costume debut at Coeourage Theatre. She is excited to work with the cast and crew. Georgette recently completed the Costume Design Certificate program at Los Angeles City College. She also specializes in wearable art design.

SAMMI SMITH (*Prop Design*) is a founding member of Coeourage and has worked as an actor, text coach, stage manager, and prop designer. She has designed and assisted with props for several Coeourage productions, including *Vendetta Chrome* and *Nicky*.

JOHN NOBORI (*Sound Design*) is a California-based sound designer and composer. His work has been heard in plays produced by such organizations as Cornerstone Theater Company, The Getty Villa, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Other recent credits include Center Theatre Group's production of *Elliot: a Soldier's Fugue* and South Coast Repertory's production of *Orange*. He has been nominated for several awards for excellence in sound design, including an Ovation Award for his work on *The Golden Dragon* at Boston Court Pasadena. B.A. University of California, Irvine.

CHARLES NWOKOLO and EMEKA NWOKOLO (*Boxing Trainers*) Charles, aka Young Dick Tiger, opened Tiger Boxing Gym in 2006. He represented Nigeria in the 1984 Olympics and went on to turn pro with a record of 31 wins. His son, Emeka, a star soccer player in Nigeria, came to the U.S. in 2017 and learned boxing to help his dad train people. Emeka is also a budding filmmaker, actor and artist.

JEN ALBERT (*Fight Choreographer*) Jen gets to work with Shep! What could be more fun? Jen's recent fight credits include: School of Night's Klingon Tamburlaine, Hercules Insane, The Final Girl, The Faggot King and Punch and Judy (LADCC award for Fight Choreography) Roots, Marian or the True Tale of Robin Hood, Year of the Rooster (Theatre of NOTE), Romeo and Juliet, Normal (The Vagrancy). Jen is an original company member of Babes with Blades and a faculty member at Art of Acting Conservatory, where she teaches Stage Combat.

ELIZABETH WILSON (*Venue Manager*) Elizabeth, Tiger's wife, is a classical violinist/violist, who regularly plays with the L.A. Phil and L.A. Master Chorale, as well as studio sessions and chamber music. Last spring, Elizabeth performed a chamber music concert inside the boxing ring. She also helps Tiger to manage the gym as well as his fighters.

ABIGAIL MARKS (*Dialect Coach*) Abigail is currently playing Diana in *Diana of Dobson's* at Antaeus Theatre, where her work in *Cloud 9* and *Top Girls* garnered Ovation and Stage Raw Nominations, LADCC, Backstage, and Sage Awards. Selected Theatre: South Coast Repertory, Pasadena Playhouse, The Shakespeare Theatre, Studio Theatre, A Noise Within, LA Theatre Works, The Inkwell, and Coeurage!! Selected Film/TV: *Bordertown* (Netflix), *Glee* (Fox), *The Dream* (Lulu Wang, Bruce Dern), and *People at a Party* (BBC). Commercial campaigns: Barclay's Bank, "We Card" (Tony Scott) Dialects: Antaeus, A Noise Within, PRT, Odyssey, Skylight, Westridge School, GWU, and UCLA. Abigail coaches privately and teaches Masterclasses. MFA: The Academy for Classical Acting at the Shakespeare Theatre. BA: The George Washington University. abigailmarks.com

KEN WERTHER PUBLICITY (*Press Representative*) has been a staple in the Los Angeles performing arts community since 1982 for his work in public relations, producing, and directing. Producer: *All Your Hard Work*, *The Good Boy*, the Queer Classics productions of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*. Assistant director: *Stop the World, I Want to Get Off* (Musical Theatre Guild), *The Women of Brewster Place* (Celebration Theatre), and *The Woodsman* (Coeurage Theatre Company). For a complete listing of PR activities, visit www.kenwerther.com.

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Mission Statement

Coeurage Theatre Company exists to make impassioned theatre accessible for all audiences through **Pay What You Want** admission and fresh, challenging productions.

The Coeurage Pay What You Want Policy

While *pay what you can* is based on patrons' *ability* to pay, **Pay What You Want** is based on their *desire*. It is a value placement as well as an economic decision, designed to eliminate cost as a barrier to attending theatre. Each patron decides what a theatre experience is worth to him or her. After experiencing our work, some decide it was worth more than they had initially paid. For that reason, the box office is kept open during intermissions and after performances.

Thank you!

Coeurage Theatre Company's **Pay What You Want** policy has been in effect since our inception, fueled by our belief that theatre in Los Angeles should be accessible to all. This is achieved in no small part through the generosity and support of patrons like you!

Donations are gladly accepted both at www.coeurage.org/donate and at our box office. Coeurage is a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and all donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for your help in keeping Los Angeles theatre thriving!



www.coeurage.org

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