



A **FREE** VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE

THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE  
AND DANCE PRESENTS

**MARCH 4-6**  
**7 P.M. PST**

Devised by **Geoff Sobelle**  
and the acting company

# FOOD

Contains adult language and themes  
including cannibalism, dismemberment and  
self-mutilation.

**UC DAVIS**  
COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE

## **CHAIR'S WELCOME**

Making theatre during the pandemic has been one of the most inventive and resourceful ventures that our creative teams and students have faced.

The challenges of each actor/performer essentially becoming their own production team is enormous. From finding a space large enough to rehearse in, to making sure that their internet systems are strong enough to lining up their own props, these individuals have mastered a new set of skills outside of just being responsible for their own performance.

*FOOD* is a unique collaboration that has been devised by Geoff Sobelle, Granada Artist-in-Residence, and the acting company. Collectively the company invites the audience into their kitchens where they have prepared a singular feast of gargantuan proportion. Created specifically on Zoom, the performance is the result of a hive-mind meditation on the fuel that keeps the modern human animal moving through the chaos we call “everyday life.”

We are deeply grateful to Sobelle for his commitment not only to the production but to teaching a course during the winter quarter as he juggled a three-hour time difference.

The *FOOD* creative team includes graduate students Danielle Levin, assistant director, and Barnaby O’Rorke, original composition, and in the cast Verónica Díaz-Muñíz, Ann Marie Dragich and Joseph Fletcher. The company features undergraduate students Amanda Romero, Julia Silvera, Ananya Yogi and Kaiden Zaldumbide in the cast and behind the scenes Arden Siadek, stage manager, and Maria Solis-Morales, assistant stage manager.

Thank you for supporting this performance. While we continue to reach out and connect to our global community, we look forward to seeing you in person at our events in the future.

**Larry Bogad**

UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance

**UC DAVIS**

**DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE  
AND DANCE**

Presents

# FOOD

Co-devised and Directed by **Geoff Sobelle**  
Granada Artist-in-Residence

Co-devised with **Veronica Diaz-Muniz, Ann Marie Dragich  
Joseph Fletcher, Amanda Romero, Julia Silvera  
Ananya Yogi, Kaiden Zaldumbide**

Original Composition  
**Barnaby O'Rorke**

Assistant Director  
**Danielle Levin**

Technical Coordinator  
**Patrick O'Reilly**

Video Editor  
**Megan Kimura**

Animation  
**Julian Crouch**

Production Supervisor  
**Joseph Fletcher**

Stage Manager  
**Arden Siadek**

Assistant Stage Managers  
**Maria Solis-Morales  
Ananya Yogi**

The production contains adult language and themes including cannibalism, dismemberment and self-mutilation.

**FOOD** is performed without intermission.

Dear audience,

Welcome to “FOOD,” and thank you so very much for joining us this evening.

Most evenings, over the past two months, this ensemble gathered on Zoom and improvised together. We began with the largest of subjects: “food.” Early on, we invited one another into our kitchens and prepared meals that were either from our families, or from our repertoire of “what we know how to cook best.” We explored what we are drawn to and why, what disgusts us, what we eat, and what eats us...

In a way, this point of departure and center of our exploration, food, became (as it often does) the thing that binds us, but also became secondary to so many other forces at play. Ultimately, this piece is largely about solitude; about being alone, together. Is there a better way to describe the endless “zoom” experience of this past year than “being alone together?”

This piece could only have been made in this pandemic moment - (as all shows are to their respective moments I suppose.) But there seems something particular in this present circumstance. I have been continually moved as this group of artists have tried against all odds to reach one another, to connect, to share this proverbial meal with each other and now with you - to try and find some common language and create theatre outside of the theater. To realize this work, the performers have learned to record themselves, edit film on the fly, broadcast live, mix sound and navigate the complexities of their laptops all while simultaneously improvising and dancing. Each member of the ensemble has had to become their own technical director and embrace the 1s and 0s keeping this thing together. It has been amazing to watch this group adapt - and so I also feel that the work is an ode to all of the invisible labor that has gone into making these incredible and varied programs that have made this creative work possible, and kept our eyes/ears open to one another throughout the pandemic.

Thank you, and ... enjoy!

Yours,  
Geoff Sobelle

## The Cast

**Veronica Diaz-Muniz**

**Ann Marie Dragich**

**Joseph Fletcher**

**Amanda Romero**

**Julia Silvera**

**Ananya Yogi**

**Kaiden Zaldumbide**

**Verónica Díaz-Muñiz** is a Chilean director, playwright, and theatre educator with a background in the area of movement research and documentary theatre. Her work engages with questions of gender and womanhood aiming to create alternative theatrical spaces where grim humor converges with politics.

**Ann Marie Dragich** has presented tap dance in various NYC shows including the Emerging Choreographer's Series, Flamenco Certamen USA and "Somthing's Afoot," and at venues such as Symphony Space and the Lincoln Center Performing Arts Library. She also steps and was featured in Rick Owens Spring 2014 Women's show.

**Joseph Fletcher** is a content creator, director, producer, and arts administrator. He holds a BFA in Theatre from University of Central Florida and is in the first year of his MFA in dramatics arts focused on civic Practice theatre. Founding member Artists Laboratory Theatre and Breaker/Fixer Productions. Currently, he manages the Veterans Memorial Theatre for the City of Davis.

**Amanda Romero** is a first year undergraduate student at UC Davis. She has been participating in theatre since she was young. It's been her absolute passion ever since childhood. Being a part of *FOOD* has been an amazing experience and she is thrilled for people to see this.

**Julia Silvera** is thrilled to be in her first department production! Julia grew up in a small town in Northern California, where her first performances were for her dogs, cats, sheep, and ponies. She is a second year at UC Davis, majoring in Theatre and Dance. Her favorite roles include Kira in *Xanadu* and Peggy in *Godspell*.

**Ananya Yogi** is a freshman and is ecstatic to be a part of *FOOD*. She has been in C3T and Studio 301 productions. Selected credits include Emily Webb in *Our Town*, Baker's Wife/ Rapunzel in *Into the Woods*, and music directing pieces for The Mad Ones Lab.

**Kaiden Zaldumbide** (he/they) is a Latinx genderqueer artist, actor and rising playwright. They are currently a third year student at UC Davis



**Megan Kimura** is in her fifth year as theatre and dance's facility supervisor and audio visual specialist. Prior to coming to UC Davis, Megan was the audio engineer at Delta College in Stockton. She has worked for ten years at California Musical Theatre's Music Circus as their sound associate, where she managed the maneuvering of multiple microphones and other related equipment during each of the summer shows. Megan is the proud mommy of Mathew and Jessica, her two boisterous and energetic children.

**Arden Siadek** is an undergraduate Theatre and Dance major at UC Davis. This is her second time stage managing a virtual production. Aside from theatre in quarantine, she loves crafting with yarn. At UC Davis, she's currently on the board of Theatre for Social Change, and is a *Catalyst* ensemble member.

**Maria Solis-Morales** is a first year undergraduate theatre and dance major at UC Davis. This is the first production she is working on as an assistant stage manager. She is excited to be a part of this production and many more to come in her future.

## **The Crew**

Production Supervisor  
Stage Manager  
Assistant Stage Managers

Props/Purchasing  
Costume Coordinator  
Marketing and Publicity  
Graphic Design  
Publicity Photographer  
Promotional Video

**Joseph Fletcher**  
**Arden Siadek**  
**Maria Solis-Morales**  
**Ananya Yogi**  
**Myke Kunkel, Susie Owens**  
**McKayla Butym**  
**Michael G. French**  
**Rudy Garibay**  
**Justin Han**  
**Laurance Kim**

## **Special Thanks**

**Nichole Canuso, Derrick Belcham, Mindy Cooper, Sophie Bortolussi, Julian Crouch, Vickey Finney, Asli Bulbul, Isabelle Bosquet-Morra, Steve Cuiffo, Lisa Mcginn**

The Department of Theatre and Dance would like to express our gratitude to the *FOOD* cast and creative team who have absorbed and used the various platforms and technologies that have given them the remarkable ability to gather and create in this otherwise remote era.

## **UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance Staff**

Production Manager

**Susie Owens**

Asst. Technical Director

**Myke Kunkel**

Facility Manager/Audio Specialist

**Megan Kimura**

Master Electrician

**Patrick O'Reilly**

Costume Shop Foreman

**McKayla Butym**

## **UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance Faculty**

**Larry Bogad**, Chair, Performance Studies

**Mindy Cooper**, Acting, Musical Theatre

**David Grenke**, Dance

**Lynette Hunter**, Performance Studies

**Margaret Laurena Kemp**, Acting

**Maggie Morgan**, Costume Design

**Jon D. Rossini**, Performance Studies

## **Lecturers**

**Stuart Carroll**, Ballet

**Mary Beth Cavanaugh**, Movement

**Pamila Z. Gray**, Lighting

**Michele Apríña Leavy**, Acting

**Steven Schmidt**, Instructor, Production Management

**Geoff Sobelle**, Granada Artist-in-Residence

## **Arts Administration**

**Karen Ostergard**, Chief Administrative Officer

**Barbara Olivier**, Undergraduate Program Coordinator

**Julie McGilvray**, Undergraduate Advisor

**Melany Miners**, Graduate Program Coordinator

**Michael G. French**, Arts Marketing Specialist

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