



Contact: Davidson & Choy Publicity | Tim Choy [t.choy@dcpublicity.com](mailto:t.choy@dcpublicity.com)  
Peter Goldman [p.goldman@dcpublicity.com](mailto:p.goldman@dcpublicity.com) | 213-500-8532

Rachyl Spacca (*She/Her*) Chief Marketing & Communications Officer:  
[rspacca@pasadenaplayhouse.org](mailto:rspacca@pasadenaplayhouse.org) / 626-792-8672 Ext. 301

**“An Electrifying Theatrical Experience”**

**– *The New York Times***

***The Season’s Most Award-Winning Off-Broadway Musical  
Drama League, Lucille Lortel, Outer Critics Circle,  
Drama Desk and Off Broadway Alliance Award Winner***

**Pasadena Playhouse,**

**By arrangement with**

**P3 Productions and Audible,**

**Presents**

***MEXODUS***

**Written By and Featuring Brian Quijada and Nygel D. Robinson**

**Directed by David Mendizábal**

**Choreographed by Tony Thomas**

**Tickets on sale now at [pasadenaplayhouse.org](http://pasadenaplayhouse.org)**

**Wednesday, July 8, 2026 to Sunday, August 2, 2026**

**Press Opening Sunday, July 12, 2026**

PASADENA, CA (June 11, 2026) – *Mexodus* – the season’s most award winning Off-Broadway musical and *New York Times* Critic’s Pick – created and performed by Brian Quijada and Nygel D. Robinson and directed by David Mendizábal with choreography by Tony Thomas – will conclude its award-winning and critically acclaimed run on June 14 in New York and travel directly to Pasadena Playhouse, the State Theater of California and recipient of the 2023 Regional Theatre Tony Award, to begin performances July 8 through August 2, 2026, with Press opening July 12.

The live-looping hip-hop musical *Mexodus* recently won four Lucille Lortel Awards including Outstanding Musical, four Outer Critics Circle Awards including Outstanding New Off-Broadway Musical, three Drama Desk Awards including Outstanding Music, one Off Broadway Alliance Award for Best Musical, and one Drama League Award for Outstanding Production of a Musical, the first Off-Broadway musical to win the award in 30 years.

The Pasadena Playhouse run follows the musical's critically acclaimed twice-extended run at Audible's Minetta Lane Theatre in New York in 2025 and current return Off-Broadway engagement at the Daryl Roth Theatre that will conclude on June 14. [Mexodus is now available as an Audible Original](#), featuring the entire musical recorded in immersive Dolby Atmos sound design and extending its reach to millions of listeners around the world.

Celebrated playwrights, actors, and musicians Quijada and Robinson tell a unique story of the Underground Railroad that led south, taking 4,000 to 10,000 enslaved people to seek freedom in Mexico. This groundbreaking musical amplifies the story of a freedom seeker and an unlikely ally as they forge a remarkable bond that transcends borders.

The creative team for **Mexodus** includes scenic design by Riw Rakkulchon (Off-Broadway's *Notes From Now*), costume design by David Mendizábal (Off-Broadway's *Side Show*), lighting design by Mextly Couzin (Broadway's *Job*), looping systems architecture and sound design by Mikhail Fiksel (2022 Tony Award winner for *Dana H.*), and Video/Projection Design by Johnny Moreno (Theater For A New Audience, La Jolla Playhouse, Soho Rep, among many others). The Production Stage Manager is Hope Villanueva, and the Assistant Stage Manager is Fior Tat. Casting by Claire Yenson, CSA.

*Mexodus* is presented with generous philanthropic support from Honorary Producers Tammi and Lenny Steren.

### **Acclaim for *Mexodus***

"An electrifying theatrical experience... Brian Quijada and Nygel Robinson rely on music made from loops, starting with plucks on the stand-up bass, strums on acoustic guitar and a run on piano keys ... crafting an entire sonic universe from scratch, they build the ark of a song and ride the waves — a dazzling showcase not just for what music can be, but also for the ecstasy of making it." – ***The New York Times Critic's Pick***

"A theatrical miracle... Quijada and Robinson interrogate under-taught history through powerful personal storytelling and hip-hop. Separately, these elements would be fascinating enough. Combine them, and the results are electrifying." – ***Mashable***

"[A] tour de force." – ***TheaterMania***

"It's not only exciting to watch, it's a theatrical high wire act." – ***Theatrely***

★★★★ "Brilliant and timely." – ***New York Stage Review***

"First, Brian Quijada and Nygel D. Robinson hit you with their charm. Then they hit you with their musical talents. Then they hit you with their story." – ***New York Theatre Guide***

"The next frontier in rigorously and freshly inventive theatrical storytelling." – ***Slant Magazine***

### **Want To Get Down with *Mexodus*?**

We're excited to introduce special seating in the **Get Down Section** during the run of *Mexodus*. Available exclusively through our partnership with **TodayTix**, you'll get the opportunity to get up close and really get down with the "electrifying theatrical experience" (*The New York Times*) coming soon to Pasadena Playhouse. Tickets in the **Get Down Section** allow you to experience the show from a unique vantage point, but please note that *Mexodus* is not an interactive musical, and you will not be asked to participate in the action. Learn more and get your tickets exclusively through [TodayTix](#).

### **About Pasadena Playhouse**

Pasadena Playhouse, the official State Theater of California and recipient of the 2023 Regional Theatre Tony Award, is one of the most prolific theaters in the country. The Playhouse has staged thousands of original productions since its founding in 1917, including premieres of works by Tennessee Williams, Eugene O'Neill, Suzan-Lori Parks, Gloria Calderón Kellett, and hundreds more. For decades, its pioneering School for Theater Arts was a training ground for actors and theatermakers who went on to make significant contributions to the entertainment industry. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Danny Feldman since 2016, Pasadena Playhouse's productions and community programs are centered on its founding idea of being a living force in its community, making theater for everyone.

### **Calendar Listing for *Mexodus***

By and Featuring Brian Quijada and Nygel D. Robinson

Directed by David Mendizábal

Choreographed by Tony Thomas

Venue: Pasadena Playhouse, 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Dates: Wednesday, July 8 to Sunday, August 2, 2026

Press Opening Sunday, July 12 at 5:00 p.m.

Tickets: Online -- [PasadenaPlayhouse.org](https://PasadenaPlayhouse.org)

Tickets start at \$40 (fees included)

By phone at 626-356-7529

In person -- Pasadena Playhouse Box Office, located at 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Performance Schedule: Wednesday and Friday evenings at 8:00 p.m.; Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.; Sundays at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 28 at 8:00 p.m., Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**BIOGRAPHIES FOR *Mexodus*:**

**Brian Quijada (Co-creator/Performer)** is a playwright, actor, and composer whose work includes *Where Did We Sit on the Bus?* (Victory Gardens, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Geva Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Denver Theatre Center, City Theatre Pittsburgh and many more), *Kid Prince and Pablo* (The Kennedy Center, LifeLine Theatre), and *Somewhere Over the Border* (Syracuse Stage, The People's Light, Teatro Audaz, Teatro Vista), which garnered three Jeff Awards including Best Musical in Chicago. As an actor, Brian has appeared in MCC's *Wolf Play*, The Public's *Oedipus El Rey*, Roundabout's *Bobbie Clearly* and Playwright's Realm's *My Mañana Comes*. TV credits include "Law and Order: SVU," "Search Party" and "Blue Bloods." Brian is a recipient of four Jeff Awards, two Helen Hayes Awards, a Lucille Lortel Award, and is a three-time Drama Desk nominee. He is a proud member of The Ensemble Studio Theatre and proud member of the Lucille Lortel-winning group, The Pack. IG: @mrbrianquijada

**Nygel D. Robinson (Co-creator/Performer)** is an artist based in Chicago, IL. Select theatres Nygel has worked at as a performer include Berkeley Rep, Baltimore Center Stage, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Mosaic Theatre, and Milwaukee Rep. As a writer and composer Nygel's credits include *Mexodus* (Berkeley Rep, Baltimore Center Stage, and Mosaic Theatre), an upcoming production of *Santa Claus is Coming to Town* at Baltimore Center Stage, *R&J: Fire on the Bayou* with Kevin Ramsey which was workshopped at Goodspeed Opera House and The Hartt School, and many more projects that Nygel plans on spamming the American theatre with. He's wildly excited and grateful to be working with Audible. He's especially thankful for his family and hometown of LaGrange, NC who made all of this possible. He is nothing without their love. Also, maybe follow Nygel on IG? @nygeld

**David Mendizábal (Director)** is a Helen Hayes Award-winning director, designer, and the Associate Artistic Director/Director of *In Dialogue* at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. They serve as one of the Producing Artistic Leaders of the Obie award-winning The Movement Theatre Company and is a founding collective member of the Obie award-winning Sol Project. Select directing credits include *Don't Eat the Mangos* (Huntington Theatre/Magic Theatre), *Mexodus* (Berkeley Rep/Baltimore Center Stage/Mosaic), *Mother Road* (Berkeley Rep), *the bandaged place* (Roundabout Underground/NYSAF), *Sanctuary City* (Berkeley Rep/Arena Stage), *Notes on Killing Seven Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Board Members* (Soho Rep), and *On the Grounds of Belonging* (Long Wharf). David is the recipient of a Princess Grace Award Honoraria. They are an alumnus of the Soho Rep Project Number One Residency, Ars Nova Vision Residency, Drama League Directors Project, Labyrinth Intensive Ensemble, Lincoln Center Theatre Directors Lab, artEquity, and TCG Leadership U. David is an alum of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts at Playwrights Horizons Theatre School. IG @its\_daveed | davidmendizabal.com

**Tony Thomas (Choreographer)** is an award-winning director, choreographer, and interior architect. His creative methodology places a strong emphasis on intricate movement, innovative staging, and the physical development of characters. Triple-Threat trained, Tony's expressive

style and pedagogy delivers innovation to acting, singing, and dance; enforcing focus, fluidity, and precision. He holds an extensive portfolio, including multiple nominations for the prestigious Helen Hayes Award for productions such as *Word Becomes Flesh* at Theatre Alliance; *Fat Ham*, *The Colored Museum*, and *P.Y.G.* at Studio Theatre; as well as his recent award for Outstanding Choreography in a Play for *Metamorphoses* at the Folger Theatre. Other credits include Arena Stage, Mosaic Theatre of DC, Solas Nua New Irish Arts, Imagination Stage, Constellation Theatre, and many others. Tony Thomas Designs was developed in 2004; specializing in residential and commercial design. IG: @tonythomasii

**Trent Lawson (U/S Henry)** a UCLA graduate and Bay Area native, is thrilled to make his Off-Broadway debut, returning to *Mexodus* after its Berkeley Repertory Theatre run. Most recently, he performed for Disney Cruise Line and in Giveon's "I CAN TELL" music video. He thanks his friends and family in California, as well as his *Mexodus* family, for always pushing him toward greatness.

**Alan Mendez (U/S Carlos, Music Director)** is a New York City-based actor, musician, and music director. Off-Broadway: *Mexodus* (Audible's Minetta Lane Theatre), *Comedy of Errors* (The Public Theater) and *Socrates* (The Public Theater). Select regional: *Mexodus* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre), *Bandstand* (Playhouse on Park), *Natasha, Pierre,...* (Hangar Theatre), *Evita* (Fulton Theatre), *Once* (Mason Street Warehouse). Bandleader and pianist of the Shubert Alley Cats. @alan.r.mendez @shubertalleycats

### **About P3 Productions**

**P3 Productions** is an award-winning producing team led by Ben Holtzman, Sammy Lopez, and Fiona Howe Rudin, dedicated to uplifting new voices and communities. Recent Broadway productions include *Call Me Izzy*, *Job*, and *How to Dance in Ohio*. Upcoming: *Wanted* (formerly *Gun & Powder*), *Mexodus*, and *The Ninth Woman*. Recent Broadway and West End Co-Producing credits: *Sunset Blvd*, *The Last Five Years*, *Just For Us*, *A Strange Loop*, *Orlando*, and *Next to Normal* (West End). Learn more: [www.p3productions](http://www.p3productions) and follow @p3productions.nyc.

### **About Audible Theater**

**Audible Theater** makes outstanding performances and powerful storytelling available to live audiences in New York City and millions of people all over the world. Since founding in 2018, Audible Theater's dynamic mix of live and audio theater productions have been praised as "trailblazing" (*Variety*), "illuminating" (*Forbes*), and "an exemplary use of the medium" (*The Observer*).

Audible Theater productions have garnered more than 60 nominations and 14 wins across the theater awards landscape. More than 120 audio theater titles have released on Audible. Audible Theater has produced the multi-award-winning and seven-time Tony Award-nominated musical [Dead Outlaw](#), with music and lyrics by David Yazbek and Erik Della Penna, book by Itamar Moses, conceived by David Yazbek, and directed by David Cromer; Hannah Moscovitch's play

[Sexual Misconduct of the Middle Classes](#) starring Ella Beatty and Hugh Jackman; [Sorry for Your Loss](#) written by and starring Michael Cruz Kayne; [Laura Benanti: Nobody Cares](#) written by and starring Laura Benanti; [Alex Newell and the Gospel of a Diva](#) written by and starring Alex Newell; [Nostalgia: A Love Letter to NYC](#) written by and starring Eva Noblezada; [Girls & Boys](#) starring Carey Mulligan; [Harry Clarke](#) starring Billy Crudup; and many others at Audible's Minetta Lane Theatre in New York City. Audible Theater has also produced audio adaptations of acclaimed plays including Colman Domingo's [Wild with Happy](#) starring Domingo, Oprah Winfrey, Sharon Washington, Alex Newell, and Tyler James Williams; David Henry Hwang's [Yellow Face](#) starring Daniel Dae Kim and Jason Biggs; David Auburn's [Summer, 1976](#) starring Laura Linney and Jessica Hecht; and many more.

In May 2018, Audible announced that the Minetta Lane Theatre in Greenwich Village would serve as its creative home for live performances in New York, with Audible members receiving exclusive access to discounted tickets and related audio content. Since then, Audible has hosted and produced a wide variety of live performances at the Minetta Lane including dramatic plays, comedic shows, original musical performances, and more.

Since June 2017, Audible has commissioned 50 playwrights to receive support from its \$5 million [Emerging Playwrights Fund](#) dedicated to developing innovative English-language works from around the globe. The initiative enables the creation of original plays driven by language and voice, keeping with Audible's core commitment to elevate listening experiences through powerful performances and extraordinary vocal storytelling. Emerging Playwrights commissions have included [Evil Eye](#) by Madhuri Shekar, [The Half-Life of Marie Curie](#) by Lauren Gunderson, [Good Enemy](#) by Yilong Liu, and more.

### **About Audible, Inc.**

Audible, Inc., an Amazon.com, Inc. subsidiary (NASDAQ:AMZN), is the leading creator and provider of premium audio storytelling, offering global audiences a powerful way to enhance and enrich their lives through extraordinary content. Audible's catalog includes more than 1,000,000 audio titles, including Audible Originals as well as audiobooks and podcasts from leading studios, print, audio and magazine publishers and world-renowned entertainers.