

A Noise Within Announces the Return of:

A Christmas Carol

Adapted for the stage by Geoff Elliott

Directed by Julia Rodriguez-Elliott and Geoff Elliott

With all-new music by Robert Oriol

Dec. 3 – 23, 2021

- AND -

***Latina Christmas Special:
An American Comedy of Latina Proportions***

Returning for a limited run Dec. 14 & 15, 2021

Pasadena, Calif. (December 3, 2021) – **A Noise Within (ANW)**, California’s acclaimed classic repertory theatre company, is proud to announce the return of Los Angeles’ longest-running production of Charles Dickens’ ***A Christmas Carol*** with an all-new music score by **Robert Oriol**. The production, named a **Critic’s Choice by the *LA Times***, runs from **Dec. 3 through Dec. 23, 2021** for its ninth holiday season at ANW. This locally grown, nationally produced *A Christmas Carol* adapted by ANW’s Co-Producing Artistic Director **Geoff Elliott** (he/him) is also being produced for the second year at Kansas City Repertory Theatre. Dickens’ time-honored tale of forgiveness has become an annual holiday tradition for A Noise Within.

This year, Resident Artist **Robert Oriol** (he/him) has composed an all-new music score to accompany the production. Oriol is an accomplished composer and sound designer who has received the 2019 LADCC Special Award Recipient for Distinguished Achievement in Theatrical Design.

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“It started that I was just going to do sound design because it was never fully completed.” Oriol said. “Before, the sound design felt like an afterthought with nothing supporting the action onstage for some scenes. There will be a lot more sound overall. It’s a different set of songs that you’ll get to know over the next few years.”

Co-Producing Artistic Directors **Geoff Elliott** (he/him) and **Julia Rodriguez-Elliott** (she/her) are thrilled to be able to return to this story of redemption after not being able to do the production last year during the Covid shut down.

“Finally returning to our acclaimed presentation of *A Christmas Carol* allows families to once again take a supremely theatrical journey and celebrate the transformative power of forgiveness during the holidays,” says Co-Producing Artistic Directors **Geoff Elliott** (he/him) and **Julia Rodriguez-Elliott** (she/her). “Ebenezer Scrooge’s rebirth from miserly curmudgeon to the epitome of love and generosity affirms our faith in the potent goodness of humanity during this beloved time of year.”

Los Angeles Times named A Noise Within’s production of *A Christmas Carol* a Critic’s Choice. “GO! Magic as soon as the lights come up!” says **LA Weekly**. “Beautifully appointed ... a timeless holiday staple,” says **Backstage**, “Fresh and whimsical ... dazzling” says **Onstage Los Angeles**, and “A lush retelling” says **Glendale News-Press**.

After a sold-out show in December 2019, Noise Now’s ***Latina Christmas Special: An American Comedy of Latina Proportions*** will return on **Dec. 14 & 15 at 7:30 p.m.** This Off-Broadway hit is a timely comedy about those of us who ride the edge between the culture of our immigrant parents and the culture of our home, America. Every ethnicity can relate to the feeling that their parents and families are a little “weird” (that’s a nice word) during the holidays when compared to the traditional American Christmases fed to us on TV. Three comedian friends: Sandra Valls (Showtime’s *Latin Divas of Comedy*), Maria Russell (Lt. Liz Salazar on TruTV’s *Tacoma FD*), and Diana Yanez (Margaret Cho’s *Sensuous Woman*) show us with their personal tales that every family has its own hilarious peculiarities, everyone wants to belong, and everyone, regardless of their background, has a hard time at some point in their life.

Single ticket prices start at \$25 for *A Christmas Carol* and at \$19 for *Latina Christmas Special*. Tickets are available at anoisewithin.org, by phone at 626-356-3121, and at the box office located at 3352 East Foothill Blvd in Pasadena, Calif.

A Christmas Carol Cast and Creative Team

The cast includes

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Ebenezer Scrooge: Geoff Elliott*

Narrator: Frederick Stuart*

Ghost of Christmas Past/Ensemble: Deborah Strang*

Ghost of Christmas Present/Ensemble: Alan Blumenfeld*

Marley/Ensemble: Jeremy Rabb*

Mr. Cratchit/Ensemble: Kasey Mahaffy*

Mrs. Cratchit/Ensemble: Emily Kosloski*

Fred/Ensemble: Rafael Goldstein*

Fred's Wife/Ensemble: Sydney A. Mason*

Belle/Ensemble: Roshni Shukla*

Martha Cratchit/Ensemble: Gioya Tuma-Waku

Peter Cratchit/Ensemble: Darius De La Cruz

Cratchit Child/Ensemble: Stella Bullock

Cratchit Child/Ensemble: Amalia "Molly" Morris

Cratchit Child/Ensemble: Kwayi Grimstad Ndjamen

Cratchit Child/Ensemble: Clara Duffy

Tiny Tim/Ensemble: Aarush Mehta

Youngest Scrooge: Freddy Duffy

Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come/Ensemble: José Donado

Ensemble: Andrea Somera

Ghost of Christmas Present / Marley / Ensemble u/s: Bert Emmett*

Tiny Tim u/s: Clara Duffy

Directed by **Geoff Elliott** and **Julia Rodriguez-Elliott**. Original Scenic Concept by **Jeanine A. Ringer**; Original Costume Design by **Angela Balogh Calin**†; Lighting Design is **Ken Booth**; Original Music Score & Sound Design is **Robert Oriol**; **Music Direction** is Jennifer Lin; **Wig / Make-Up Design** is Angela Santori; **Stage Manager** is Rita Cofield*; **Assistant Stage Manager** is Edward Khris Fernandez*; **Props Master** is Amy Sargent; **Dialect Coach** is Andrea Odinov; **Covid Safety Manager** is Troy Stafford Whiteley; and **Scenic Painting** is Orlando de la Paz.

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

† Designer is represented by United Scenic Artists Local USA-829 of the IATSE.

Performances

Friday, Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. (Pay What You Choose)

Saturday, Dec. 4 at 2 p.m. (Early Bird)

Saturday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. (Early Bird)

Sunday, Dec. 5 at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 11 at 2 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 12 at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 18 at 2 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 19 at 2 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. (Sunday Rush)

Tuesday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 22 at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 22 at 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 23 at 2 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 23 at 7 p.m.

Ticket and Price Information

Buy Online: www.anoisewithin.org **Buy Via Phone:** 626-356-3121

Purchase at Box Office: 3352 E. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107

Regular Prices: Single tickets from \$25, Student Rush with ID an hour before performance \$20.

Groups (10 or more): Adults from \$25 to \$50 a ticket, up to 35% off; Students from \$18/tickets. Call 626-356-3121 for more information and ask for Subscriber Services Manager Deborah Strang.

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Sunday Rush: Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. – all tickets remaining are \$25, available online after 12 a.m. day of performance with the code SUNDAYRUSH or at the box office, cash or credit, after 2 p.m. day of performance.

Pay What You Choose: Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. – Pay What You Choose tickets will become available online starting at 12 a.m. on the day of each performance with the choice to pay \$5, \$10, or \$15 (handling fee not included).

ANW's Covid Protocols

The wellness of the patrons, staff, crew, and artists continues to be a top priority for A Noise Within. For over a year, the theatre has developed and refined extensive plans to keep everyone safe. These procedures include but are not limited to: staff and crew certifying as Covid compliance officers, initiating a deep clean of our HVAC system for optimal turnover of fresh air, routinely disinfecting high-touch areas, providing PPE, and following LA Department of Health guidelines.

Before being admitted into the theatre, all audience members must provide proof of full vaccination. All audience members 18 and older must show photo ID. As of December 1, children under 12 will be permitted with a negative Covid test result (PCR or antigen) obtained within the last 72 hours. Patrons 12 or older will continue to be required to show proof of full vaccination. Masks are required regardless of vaccination status and will be available onsite until such time that LA County stops requiring masks indoors. At that point, masks will continue to be strongly recommended. A Noise Within has required full vaccination for all staff, artists, and volunteers who work onsite. Social distanced seating is available upon request. More information is available at anoisewithin.org/covidsafety.

“We are engaging in ongoing conversations with crew, staff, and artists to ensure that we hear all voices and make everyone feel as safe as possible,” said Managing Director **Michael Bateman** (he/him).

ANW's 2021-2022, 30th Anniversary Season – THEY SHATTERED THE CHRYSALIS

“The world is in the midst of extraordinary change,” said **Geoff Elliott** and **Julia Rodriguez-Elliott**, “a year of Covid-19; a time of greater awareness of systemic racism, and of confronting violence against people of color; a more aggressive push for women’s and LGBTQ+ rights; and more. The world we once inhabited is shattering. Each of the productions in the **2021-22, 30th Anniversary Season** is a passionate examination of seismic shifts in reality and how special individuals summon extraordinary courage to meet these changes head-on.”

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A Noise Within's shattering new season began in the fall with Lisa Peterson and Denis O'Hare's rendition of ***An Iliad*** (**September 12 – October 3, 2021**) directed by **Julia Rodriguez-Elliott** (she/her). The Spring 2021 filmed production returned live to the stage with alternating performances from **Deborah Strang** (she/her) and **Geoff Elliott** (he/him). *An Iliad* was followed by another chapter of August Wilson's 10-play American Century Cycle, the blues opera ***Seven Guitars*** (**October 17 – November 14, 2021**). Bursting with musical lyricism and courage, Wilson's Pulitzer-nominated play richly captures the spirit and heritage of Black Americans in the 20th Century. *Seven Guitars* was directed by **Gregg T. Daniel** (he/him), director of *LA Times* Critic's Choice *Gem of the Ocean* at ANW in 2019 and a recipient of the 2016 NAACP Best Director award for the International City Theatre's production of *Fences*.

The Holiday Season brings back Charles Dickens' ***A Christmas Carol*** (**December 3 – 23, 2021**) directed by **Julia Rodriguez-Elliott** and **Geoff Elliott**. This timeless classic takes to the stage once more with an **all-new** musical score by Resident Artist Robert Oriol.

The new year will begin with William Shakespeare's bittersweet comedy ***All's Well That Ends Well*** (**February 6 – March 6, 2022**). Directed by **Nike Doukas** (she/her), the rarely seen classic celebrates a young woman as she breaks the man-made chrysalis to follow her heart. Next, Nilo Cruz's Pulitzer Prize-winning ***Anna in the Tropics*** (**March 20 – April 17, 2022**), intertwines ritual, tradition, and raw sensuality in the working community of a Cuban-American cigar factory in 1920s Tampa, Florida. *Anna in the Tropics* will be directed by **Jonathan Muñoz-Proulx** (he/him), Director of Cultural Programming at ANW.

Finally, A Noise Within will conclude its triumphant return to the live stage with Mary Zimmerman's ***Metamorphoses*** (**May 8 – June 5, 2022**) directed by **Julia Rodriguez-Elliott**. Mary Zimmerman (author of ANW's award-winning *Argonautika*) creates this Tony Award®-nominated masterpiece, based on the Myths of Ovid. Be mesmerized with tales of Midas, Orpheus, Aphrodite, and more in a whimsical and heartbreaking meditation on the joys and perils of being human.

Geoff Elliott and Julia Rodriguez-Elliott conclude, "Change can be joyful or heartbreaking. Change is inevitable. Change is necessary. Change is here! Join us as we celebrate protagonists who each **'Shattered the Chrysalis.'**"

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PRESS RELEASE

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About A Noise Within

A Noise Within has been called “an oasis for those who love classic stories” by *Los Angeles Times* and is a leading regional producer based in Pasadena, Calif. ANW’s award-winning resident company is committed to representing the entire community at their state-of-the-art, 324-seat performance space. In addition to producing world-class performances of classic theatre, the organization runs robust education programs with the goal of inspiring diverse audiences of all ages. ANW is striving to be a theatre that better represents our entire community, through ongoing anti-racism initiatives across the organization and by interpreting our mission to fully engage audiences through various creative forms and community and artist-centered work.

Producing Artistic Directors **Julia Rodriguez-Elliott** and **Geoff Elliott**, Managing Director **Michael Bateman**. www.anoisewithin.org

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