

UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance presents



Created, Directed and Designed by **David Adam Moore** and **Victoria (Vita) Tzykun** Granada Artists-in-Residence

REFUGE

an immersive theatrical installation ignited by the crisis in Ukraine

UC DAVIS
COLLEGE OF LETTERS
AND SCIENCE

MARCH 2, 3, 4, 5, 9 & 10
@ 6:30 and 8:30 P.M.
MAIN THEATRE, WRIGHT HALL

PLEASE NOTE: This is a walkthrough experience. Seating is not provided. The production contains strobe lighting effects, laser effects and gun shots. A disclaimer will not be available.

CHAIR'S WELCOME

Our mission at UC Davis Theatre and Dance is to help each other tell each other's stories. This production *REFUGE- an immersive theatrical installation*, embodies our mission. In this interdisciplinary department students learn to access dance, acting, music, and visual storytelling to create theatrical experiences such as *REFUGE*. This cast reflects our multi-cultural student body: together they are an expression of the global nature of this specific crisis in Ukraine.

Created, directed, designed and composed by Granada Artists-in-Residence, David Adam Moore and Victoria Tzykun, the performance takes patrons on a theatrical journey through various locations to experience the hardships and heartbreak of displacement as victims of war. The ensemble portray various characters who represent peoples seeking a sense of home and belonging while dealing with desperate circumstances.

We are deeply grateful for Moore and Tzykun for bringing this project to UC Davis and developing it with our students, faculty and staff. This truly interdisciplinary collaboration will challenge your perceptions of performance and presentation. We hope you will be equally moved and educated by experiencing the work. Profound congratulations to the cast and crew for their commitment to this worthy project. We also acknowledge the outstanding efforts of all the students and staff members who have pulled together to assemble this production.

Thank you for supporting this performance. We look forward to seeing you at future Department of Theatre and Dance events.

Margaret Laurena Kemp

Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance

UC DAVIS

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE
presents

REFUGE

An immersive theater installation

by **Victoria (Vita) Tzykun** and **David Adam Moore**
Granada Artists-in-Residence

Written and conceived by
Victoria (Vita) Tzykun and **David Adam Moore**

Stage Direction by
Victoria (Vita) Tzykun and **David Adam Moore**

Environment, Character, Video, and Sound Design by
Victoria (Vita) Tzykun and **David Adam Moore**

Lighting Design by
Jessica Kohn

Original Musical Score and Electroacoustic Sound Collages by
David Adam Moore

Movement by
Erika Tsimbrovsky

Musical Direction by
David Adam Moore and **Ananya Yogi**

Stage Manager
Corinne Balmain

Assistant Stage Managers
Erika 'EJ' Agata and **Maria Solis-Morales**

REFUGE is performed without intermission.

Warning: The production contains strobe lighting effects, haze effects, loud sounds and gun shots.

Directors Notes

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to the students, staff and faculty at UC Davis for their hard work and dedication to this project.

Vita Tzykun: *What triggered the need to create **REFUGE** is an intense feeling that it was my home that was being invaded on February 24th, 2022. Like many of us in the Ukrainian expat community, I was actively, deeply worried about my friends and family in the region whose lives were being endangered and uprooted. But this sense of connection to the **place** was an unexpected feeling, as my family left Odessa (Ukraine) in 1990, and since then, I have been thinking that I no longer have a “home”, and that I am a “citizen of the world” with no anchor. I felt most comfortable on the road all these years, and created a sense of home at various hotels and apartments throughout the world. “Home” was where I met with my family and friends, where my suitcase was, and where my job was at any given time. When I started seeing images of my childhood city being bombarded, everything in me turned upside down. It wasn’t rational – after all – I haven’t been there in over 30 years... but it was so visceral and real. I started thinking... what makes the FEELING OF HOME? Is home a process, rather than a place? What do we do in order to create a sense of belonging and comfort in places that are foreign to us? How do we find refuge in the personal items we cherish, the rituals we make, and the community we build? All of those questions are universal and apply to anyone who has ever experienced displacement. If we didn’t experience it personally, our ancestors did. That’s why it’s so important to dive into the root of these questions and grow compassion towards others who currently find themselves in a perilous situation. There is much more of THEM in US than we could ever imagine. The mission of this project is highlight the common ground we share as humans, no matter where we are from, in search for the elusive sense of belonging.*

David Adam Moore: *Working with a “live” situation as the core element of our storytelling demands great care and sensitivity from all of the creators involved. It also brings a deeper level of responsibility and engagement for student performers tasked with creating characters who embody the experiences of millions of refugees from many times and places throughout human history. Out of respect for the circumstances and experiences of those who are currently*

*ensnared in the Ukraine crisis, we've pointed the focus of this work not on the depiction of the current situation, but on a central question raised by the Russian invasion of Ukraine: **What is home?** This question is universally relevant, because each and every one of us is in some way connected to the refugee experience. From indigenous people of California who were displaced from their ancestral lands, to Africans violently taken from their homes and forced into slavery, to Ukrainians who are currently struggling to find shelter in other parts of the world, we all carry traces of previous homes within our bodies, our psyches, our stories, songs, cuisine, and culture. Home is a process of interconnection between all humans.*

REFUGE: A Theatrical Installation in Seven Movements:

1. SHRINES TO THE MUNDANE
2. BEDROOM
3. SHELTER
4. ONE WHO HAS SEEN IT ALL
5. VIGIL
6. TRACES OF LOSS
7. HOME

The Cast [in order of appearance]

INNOCENT
CARE (NURTURE)
MOTHER / ONE WHO HAS SEEN IT ALL
WARRIOR 1
WARRIOR 2
CLUB GIRL / THE DISRUPTOR
CARE (AFFECTION)
CARE (NEED)
ALBERTINA THE CLOWN
X (NEUROTRANSMITTER):
THE DISINFORMER

Erolina Kamburova
Terran Ryan Fielder
Danika Sudik
Chenyu 'Jack' Yang
Ryley Sakai
Xinyi 'Tracy' Cen
Karianynelis Navarro
Madelynn Evans
Gracyn Garret
Arden Siadek
David Adam Moore

Musicians

soprano soloist, percussion
soprano, percussion
soprano, percussion
mezzo soprano, percussion
alto soloist, percussion:

Erolina Kamburova
Ananya Yogi
Sydney Schock
Megan Abbanat
Manxi Wu

The Company

Megan Abbanat (she/her) is a third-year transfer student majoring in theater and dance. In addition to being a student she works as a teaching artist for youth drama productions. She has greatly enjoyed the opportunity to work on *REFUGE* as assistant director, and learn from the incredible team of artists working on this production.

Xinyi 'Tracy' Cen (she/her) is a second-year student double majoring in theatre and dance and statistics. This is her first time performing at UC Davis. She is so excited and appreciative to be one of the casts in the show. She looks forward to having a memorable performance.

Madelynn Evans (she/her) is a third-year theater and dance student who just transferred to UC Davis. She is excited to step on the stage for the first time at UC Davis as a part of this show. She is very grateful to have been able to work with such amazing people on such an amazing piece!

Terran Ryan Fielder (they/she) is a bicoastal actor who began their training at Manhattan Film Institute (MFI) and UCLA. Recent film credits include: MFI's *Sorry to Bother* and *Skater Boy*, Emmy Escalante's SAG production *Ellis*, and Reel Freedom Films' *Roots in My Garden*. She is a third-year theatre and dance and political science - public service double major and feels privileged to be making her stage debut in this affecting work.

Gracyn Garrett (she/her/hers), a biracial, third-year student, was born and raised in San Francisco. From a young age, she participated in theater and performing arts and worked as a ribbon dancer, fan dancer and stilt walker in the San Francisco Chinese New Year Parade. During the pandemic, she honed her skills in special effects makeup including in blood, gore, and horror. A skillful hip hop dancer, she won multiple awards at Sunset Academy of Dance. She has leading credits in many short films and attended Ruth Asawa's School of the Arts conservatory theater program, and studied playwriting, directing, Shakespeare as well as Afro-Haitian dance.

Erolina Kamburova (she/her) is a multidisciplinary performer trained at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre. Recent credits include Studio 301's *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove*, Catalyst Theatre's *Ranked*, a *New Musical*, and the world premiere of *Iron Shoes* at Shotgun Players. She is a fourth-year theatre and dance and design double major and is honored to be depicting this poignant experience.

Karianyelis Rivas Navarro is a theatre and dance major, also focusing in the cinema media arts. Aside from school, she runs her youtube channel: @Navatwins & @karianyelis.

Ryley Sakai (he/him) is a third-year economics and design double major. He's appeared in previous productions such as *The Ophelias*, and *Alone/Together*, as well as various short films in association with the Davis Filmmaking Society. He is thrilled to be a part of the *REFUGE* family, working on such an amazing show!

Sydney Schock (she/her) is a second-year student at UC Davis majoring in political science. This is her first show since coming to Davis and is very proud to be a part of this production. As a member of the music quartet, she feels as though she has learned so much and is both extremely happy and grateful to have gotten back into music, especially within a community as supportive as Davis's theater department.

Arden Siadek (she/her) is a fourth-year theatre and dance major. She has performed in Scotland, Germany, and across California. Previous credits in Davis include *Small Steps* with Catalyst and Bike City Theatre, and *AntigoneNOW* with UC Davis theatre and dance. She thanks her roommates and sister for seeing the show and bringing her joy!

Danika Sudik (she/her) lectures at UC Davis where she teaches directing, acting, acting for screen, and theatre and dance history. Her theatre-making practices center social, economic, and environmental sustainability. She is thrilled to be onstage for the first time since the pandemic as part of such a meaningful intergenerational, intercultural, and interdisciplinary theatrical immersion.

Manxi Wu (she/her) is a first-year undeclared. This is her first time participating in a theatrical production. She's very glad to be one of the musicians.

Chenyu Yang is a senior year theatre and dance/psychology double major. Acting has always been his passion and he loves exploring different ways to express emotions through movement. He is also a talented tap dancer and bass baritone, always seeking to expand his artistic horizons. He had the opportunity to work backstage on the production of *Peter and the Starcatcher*, which gave him a newfound appreciation for the behind-the-scenes work that goes into creating a memorable theatrical experience. He enjoys being with the theatre family and feel included with a community who shares the same

values as him. He is deeply committed to his craft and looking for new ways to grow and develop as an artist.

Ananya Yogi (she/her) is a third- year Cognitive Science major minoring in Theater & Dance. She is thrilled to be a performer in Refuge! Ananya would like to thank her family, friends, and wondrous voice teacher for their loving support.

The Creative Team

Victoria (Vita) Tzykun [tsee-'koon] (Creator/Designer) is a Ukrainian-Israeli-American director, designer, and multimedia artist. She has designed for companies such as the Norwegian Opera, The Bolshoi Theater, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Santa Fe Opera, LA Opera, and Houston Grand Opera, among others. A proponent of new works, Vita has designed over a dozen world premieres in major theaters around the globe. Her numerous film and tv credits include design and art direction for Lady Gaga, production design for several award-winning films, and commercials for leading brands such as PBS, DirectTV, and Qualcomm. Vita currently serves on the faculties of NYU Tisch School of the Arts and the National Theater Institute. She has given workshops and masterclasses at Weill Institute of Music at Carnegie Hall, San Diego State University, University of Missouri Kansas City, Montclair State University, and Mannes School of Music. She has served on the advisory boards of San Diego Opera's Opera Hack and Austin Opera's Innovation Council, in collaboration with other thought leaders and technologists from major corporations and cultural institutions to find new paths forward from the intersection of art and technology. Tzykun's work was given a solo exhibition at Opera America's National Opera Center in New York, and has been featured in exhibitions at the Entertainment Industry Expo in NYC, Habima National Theater in Tel-Aviv, and the World Stage Design Exhibition in Toronto. She has served as an advisor for the National Endowment for the Arts and was nominated for Designer of the Year by the International Opera Awards. Alongside performer/digital media artist David Adam Moore, Tzykun is a founding member of [GLMMR](#) - an NYC-based interdisciplinary art collective that fuses the worlds of fine art, audiovisual technology, and live performance. Her paintings have been exhibited at the Ceres Gallery in NYC and are held in private collections throughout the US, Europe, and Israel.

Internationally recognized for his work as an operatic performer, creative technologist, director, theatrical designer, composer, and educator, **David Adam Moore** performs leading baritone roles for institutions including the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro alla Scala, Royal

Opera House Covent Garden, Carnegie Hall, the Salzburg Festival, PBS, BBC, Arte TV, and Erato Records. His work as a stage director, designer, and multimedia artist has been presented by the Guggenheim Museum, Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Diego Opera, New Amsterdam Records, and National Sawdust. His projection design work has been featured in *Lighting and Sound America Magazine*, and his award-winning photography has been published by the *Frankfurter Allgemeine* and Boosey & Hawkes Music. A McNair Scholar and National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences grant recipient, Moore currently serves on the faculty of the National Theater Institute, where he teaches Transmedia Storytelling and Voice. He has given lectures and masterclasses at Oberlin Conservatory, Rice University, Mannes School of Music, San Diego State University, University of Texas, and Carnegie Hall's Weill School of Music. He has served on the advisory boards of San Diego Opera's Opera Hack and Austin Opera's Innovation Council, in collaboration with other thought leaders and technologists from major corporations and cultural institutions to find new paths forward from the intersection of art and technology. Working in partnership with the director and stage/film designer Vita Tzykun, he is a founding member of **GLMMR**—an NYC-based interdisciplinary art collective that works in a variety of artistic fields.

Jessica Kohn (Lighting Design) is an MFA graduate in Lighting Design of California State University at Long Beach, where she served as a lecturer in lighting design. She has been the resident lighting designer for Not Man Apart Theatre Ensemble in Los Angeles, and is a member of IATSE Local 50 in Sacramento. At UC Davis she was the lighting designer for *The Gambling Lady* and *Woyzeck*.

Erika Tsimbrovsky (Movement Director) is a choreographer, performer and interdisciplinary artist with over three decades of experience in creating innovative multimedia dance projects with exceptional artists-collaborators from different arts disciplines. She co-founded both the award winning EVM laboratory (Israel) and Avy K Productions (San Francisco) which brought international and local dancers/audiences together to explore dance forms of art installation and interactive multimedia immersive art experiences. Currently a Ph.D. candidate in Performance Studies at UC Davis, Tsimbrovsky holds an M.F.A. in Dance from Hollins University. Her artistic research intersects dance, performance art and communities focusing on dance installation, (r)evolutionary arts, somatic

feminisms, notions of otherness, and the generation of engaged local communities. More information: avyk.org

Corinne Balmain (Stage Manager) is a 2020 graduate from UC Davis with a degree in theater and dance focusing on technical theater and stage management. Outside of the odd UC Davis show, she can be found working for the Veterans Memorial Theater and their production coordinator and the lead technician for Sandcastle Theater. Some favorite credits she has worked on include *Flora the Red Menace*, *Popovich Comedy Pet Theater*, *Ranked*, *a New Musical*, {*LOVE/Logic*}, and *Sankofa*.

Erika “EJ” Agata (she/her) (Assistant Stage Manager) 19, is a second year theatre and dance/English double-major from Los Angeles. She has really enjoyed working on *REFUGE* with everyone and is extremely grateful to have been a part of this amazing process. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Maria Solis-Morales (Assistant Stage Manager) is a third year theatre and dance major at UC Davis. This will be her second show as an ASM, and she has enjoyed working on this production since the moment she joined. She would like to thank her friends and family that continue to support her in all she does.

Collaborating Advisors

Maria Froliak, *The New York Times*, Ukrainian journalist and video producer covering the invasion of Ukraine

Marichka Marczyk, Ukrainian musician, ethnomusicologist, and activist

Mark Marczyk, Ukrainian-Canadian musician and activist

Jack Saul, PhD: psychologist, author of *Collective Trauma*, *Collective Healing*



The Crew

Stage Manager

Assistant Stage Managers

Dramaturg

Assistant Scenic Designers

Assistant Costume Designer

Sound Design Assistant / Foley

Production Assistants/Deck

Light Board Operator

Sound Board Operator

Projections/Rail Assistant

Rail Person

Deck Carpenter

Properties

Deck Electrician

Dressers

Scenic Carpenters and Artisans

Costume Stitchers and Wardrobe Workers

Lighting and Sound Technicians

Corinne Balmain

Erika 'EJ' Agata

Maria Solis-Morales

Melinda Marks

Grace Yang, Jessy Yang

Angelina Mcclung

Kaden Zaldumbide

Eric Xuan, Lin Zhu

Naomi Wiekem

Lou Waggoner

Madeline Weissenberg

Bryan Robinson

Vin That Ton

Brenda Flores

Leeann Boot

Yumi Gao, Daxi Jiang

Jane Lee, V'Santi Tobey

Shali Circulado Bal

Hailey Bowland

Laurel Capps

Tessa Clifton DHS Intern

Sabrina M Edward

Jordyn Kosai

Shaina Morales

Maria Solis-Morales

Marron Captistrano

Zoe Eiseldt, Amy Hongkham

Caitlyn Johnston

Hannah Kim, Sheryl Lim

Alexis Nguyen, KT Nguyen,

Jareth Ryford

Seraphin Shine

Irena Song, Carol Teangh

Reilly Trainor

Stephanie Valdovinos

Coco Yeo

Celine Collazo, Lila Higley

Park Hyung-Seok

Karianyelis Navarro

Mario Sandoval

Arden Siadek

Naomi Wieken

Theatrical Intimacy Trainer
Marketing and Publicity
Promotional Graphic Design
Publicity Photographer
Production Photographers

Jennifer Grace
Michael G. French
Rudy Garibay
Katherine Hung
Katherine Hung, Jerry Tsai

UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance Staff

Production Manager
Asst. Technical Director
Facility Manager/Audio Specialist
Master Electrician
Costume Shop Manager
Cutter, Draper, Tailor
Scene Technician

Susie Owens
Myke Kunkel
Megan Kimura
Patrick O'Reilly
Rebecca A. Valentino
Loran Watkins
Catherine Kunkel

UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance Faculty

Larry Bogad, Chair, Performance Studies
Mindy Cooper, Acting, Musical Theatre
David Grenke, Dance
Margaret Laurena Kemp, Chair and Acting
Jon D. Rossini, Performance Studies

Lecturers

Stuart Carroll, Ballet
Mary Beth Cavanaugh, Movement
Pamila Z. Gray, Lighting
Michele Apriña Leavy, Acting
David Adam Moore, Granada Artist-in-Residence
Steven Schmidt, Instructor, Production Management
Victoria 'Vita' Tzykun, Granada Artist-in-Residence
Ian Wallace, Visual Design

Arts Administration

Karen Ostergard, Chief Administrative Officer
Barbara Olivier, Undergraduate Program Coordinator
Ileana Oseguera, Undergraduate Adviser
Huryoung Vongsachang, Undergraduate Program Coordinator
Rachelle Agundes, Graduate Program Coordinator
Michael G. French, Arts Marketing Specialist



Like the UC Davis Dept. of Theatre and Dance in social media. On Facebook search for **UC Davis Theatre and Dance** and on Instagram search for **ucdavisheardance**.

Huge Thanks

A theatrical piece as dramatic and cinematic as *REFUGE* requires the support of not only a small army of students, but a group of miraculous and generous colleagues in local theatre who have graciously shared the effects and theatre magic you see here tonight.

- We are indebted and humbled by the continued support of **Kathy Burleson**, Chair of the **Department of Theatre and Dance at American River College**, for her generous support of all the wireless electronic subtleties that add the necessary touch of realism that makes *REFUGE* come alive.
- To Producing Director **Scott Klier** and the staff of **Sacramento Music Circus**, we give thanks for the atmospheric effects and sound support that surround the audience tonight.
- Our friends at the **Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts** continue to work with us to improve our audience experience, this time by sharing with us a Meyer's sound system and amplifiers. We are true theatrical partners, as we supply them with students and they help us with contemporary equipment to train those students.
- And to lecturer/designer and Chair of **Folsom Lake College's Department of Theatre and Dance**, **Ian Wallace**, we have no words to express our delight with the use of the LED tubular units and projection apparatus that make the end of the show possible.


Theatre is a community that often must support itself. We are endlessly grateful for the support of our theatrical neighbors and academic colleagues.

Add to this herculean effort, the support of our department donors

- **Gardner Trimble** on behalf of his wife, the late **Jennifer Leavitt Trimble**
- The **Martinez Family** on behalf of their late son **Spenser Martinez Esq,**
- **Dr Janet Elsea**, the first female MFA graduate of the Department and our source of endless inspiration. Without all these dedicated theatre artists and Aggie supporters, none of the experience of *REFUGE* and so many other performances would be possible.

The College of Letters and Science provides the foundation of a liberal arts education at UC Davis, teaching virtually all 28,000 undergraduate students to think and learn broadly and deeply. The largest of the schools and colleges at UC Davis, we teach and conduct multidisciplinary research in over 50 fields of study in the humanities, arts, cultural studies, social sciences, and math and physical sciences. We are home to nearly half of all undergraduate students at UC Davis, and our faculty mentor more than 1,500 graduate students. The college is consistently recognized for its excellence in research, teaching and public service — the hallmarks of a leading land-grant university.

The Department of Theatre and Dance is housed in the College of Letters and Science.

A dark blue graphic with abstract watercolor splashes in shades of teal, light blue, and purple. The text is centered and reads:

Explore UC Davis Arts!
Sign up for the Arts Newsletter
arts.ucdavis.edu



The monthly Arts Newsletter is the source for insight into all the College of Letters and Science performances, exhibitions and events.



This UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance production has been made possible, in part, by a generous gift from Gardner Trimble in honor of his late wife, alumna Jennifer Leavitt Trimble (B.A. theatre and dance, '97). The Department is dedicating *REFUGE- an immersive theatrical installation* to her memory.

As a student, Jennifer Leavitt was an active force in the Department of Theatre and Dance working behind the scenes in costumes and wardrobe as well as stage management on various department productions ranging from

Shakespeare to original new works for the stage.

“Jenn was always very positive, happy, friendly, and accepting,” said former classmate and production colleague Christopher Childs. “You didn’t have to be best friends with her to still have a fun time with her in the trenches. Having Jenn backstage with you meant that you would still smile and laugh and have a good time even thru the hard parts. She was one of those who did what she did, not because she needed the acknowledgement, but because she loved what she did.”

With Mr. Trimble’s gift, the production staff for the Department of Theatre and Dance has been able to purchase a state of the art wireless backstage communication system, Freespeak Backstage Communications System by Clear-Com.

The UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance is deeply grateful to Gardner Trimble for his gift. In addition, the Department would like to acknowledge continued support from alumna Janet Elsea (M.A., theatre and dance, '66) and from the family of the late alumnus Spencer Martinez.

The Department would like to encourage patrons to make a gift to theatre and dance. Your support is vital to keeping our programs alive. Visit give.ucdavis.edu/DRAH for details and specific funding opportunities or contact Christine Trebes, senior director of development, at cmtebes@ucdavis.edu.

The Department of Theatre and Dance presents

OUTSIDE THE LINES

New Works by Graduate and Undergraduate Students

Curated by Professor David Grenke

March 16, 17 & 18

7 P.M.

Hickey Gym

Free but reservations required

Info: arts.ucdavis.edu/theatre-and-dance

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