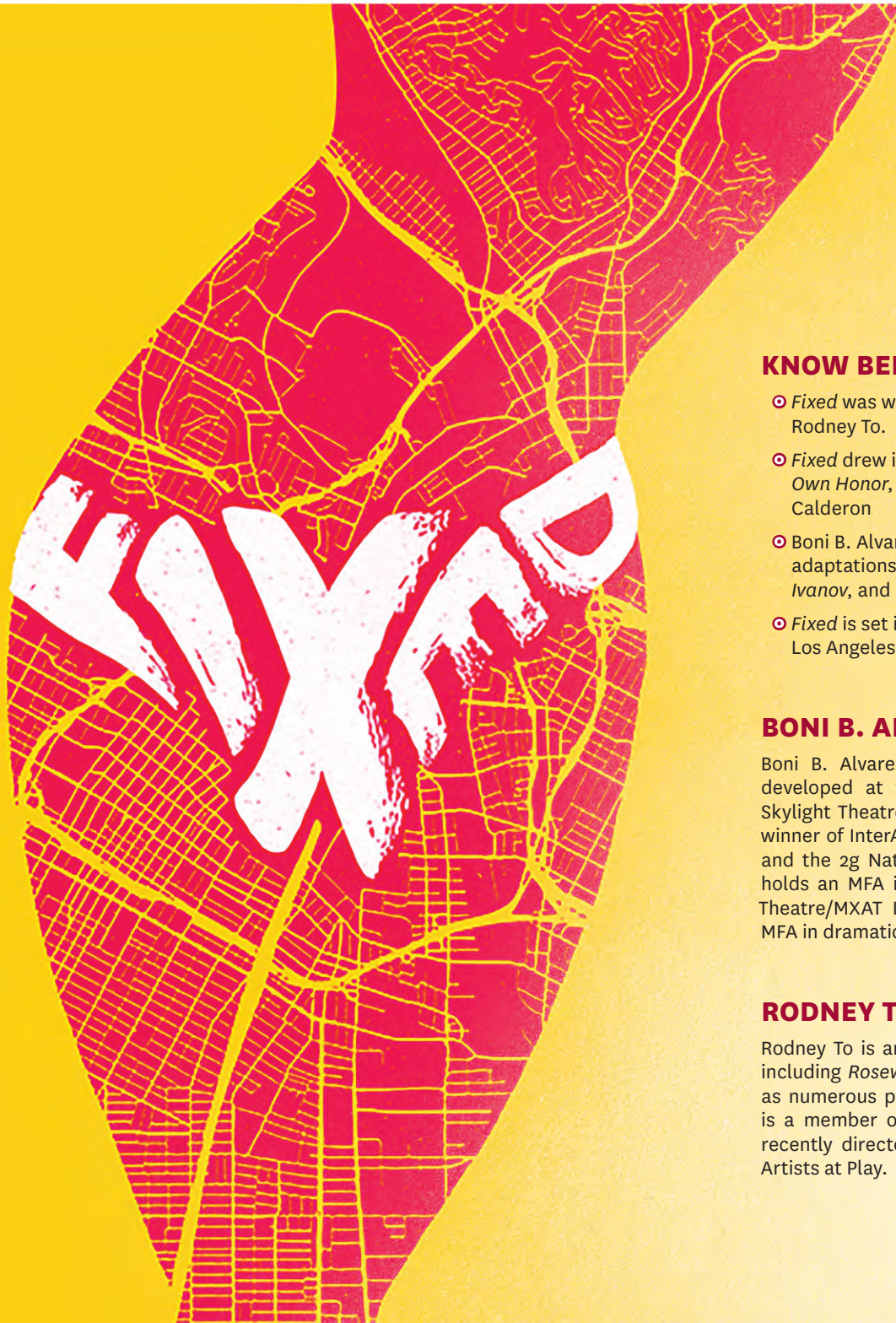


Echo Theater Company

Fixed by Boni B. Alvarez

Sunday, September 24, 2017
Atwater Village Theatre, Glendale



KNOW BEFORE THE SHOW

- ◉ *Fixed* was written by Boni B. Alvarez and directed by Rodney To.
- ◉ *Fixed* drew inspiration from *The Physician of His Own Honor*, a 17th-century Spanish play by Pedro Calderon
- ◉ Boni B. Alvarez has written other modern adaptations, including *Nicky*, based on Chekhov's *Ivanov*, and *Marabella*, based on *Medea*
- ◉ *Fixed* is set in the Historic Filipinotown district of Los Angeles

BONI B. ALVAREZ (PLAYWRIGHT)

Boni B. Alvarez's plays have been produced and/or developed at theatres including Playwrights' Arena, Skylight Theatre, and Los Angeles Theatre Center. The winner of InterAct Theatre's 20/20 Development Award and the 2g National Ten-Minute Play Contest, Alvarez holds an MFA in acting from the American Repertory Theatre/MXAT Institute at Harvard University and an MFA in dramatic writing from USC.

RODNEY TO (DIRECTOR)

Rodney To is an actor who has appeared in TV shows including *Rosewood* and *Parks and Recreation*, as well as numerous plays in theatres all across America. He is a member of the Echo Theater Company, and has recently directed readings for East West Players and Artists at Play.

ECHO THEATER COMPANY

The Echo Theater Company supports playwrights and new theatrical works. The company has presented 60 Los Angeles premieres, including 48 world premieres. Echo productions introduced Los Angeles to Sarah Ruhl, David Lindsay-Abaire, Adam Rapp, and many others. The Echo created The Ojai Playwrights Conference as well as ActOut, an educational outreach program for at-risk youth.

LITERARY ADAPTATION

Fixed was created in 2014 for a Playwrights' Arena reading series called *Golden Tongues*, which presented modern adaptations of literary works from the golden age of Spanish theatre. *Fixed* is a modern-day take on Pedro Calderon's 17th-century play *The Physician of His Own Honor*, but rather than being a clear adaptation, *Fixed* goes fairly far afield of its source.

Literary adaptation can refer to both adapting a book into another form, such as a film or play, or adapting a literary work in the same genre for a new purpose, such as to set it in a modern context or to rewrite the characters as members of a different social group or community. Adaptations can function on many levels, among them illuminating different aspects of the original, drawing attention to themes that run throughout human histories and cultures, and giving historical context to contemporary issues.

HISTORIC FILIPINOTOWN

Historic Filipinotown is a district within the city of L.A., located in the southwest part of Echo Park. It was separated from the northern part of Echo Park in the 1950s, when the 101 Freeway was constructed. The district marked the first official geographic designation honoring Filipinos in any city outside the Philippines.

There are several other Filipino communities in L.A., but this one got the designation Historic Filipinotown because it was one of the few areas where Filipinos settled in the early twentieth century and contains important community organizations, such as the Filipino Christian Church; the Gintong Kasaysayan, Gintong Pamana Mural (the nation's largest Filipino American mural); residential buildings such as Manila Terrace; and social-service centers.

Filipino Americans began purchasing homes and establishing businesses in the area in the 1940s. Today, while the district still has a sizable Filipino American population, the majority of residents in Historic Filipinotown are Mexican and Central American.

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

- ☉ Director Rodney To says Boni B. Alvarez's work has "such specific rhythms and pacing." Did you notice anything unique about the rhythms and pacing of the play?
- ☉ In adapting a 17th-century work, Alvarez was challenged to find a modern context in which social mores and sexual shame would have stakes as high as those faced by Calderon's characters. What do you think of the choices the playwright made? What do they say about norms around sexuality today?
- ☉ How do family, society, rules, and laws affect the construction of individual identity?
- ☉ What do you consider "honorable"?

TO LEARN MORE, EXPLORE THESE RESOURCES:

- ☉ Attend other Echo Theater Company productions: echotheatercompany.com
- ☉ Explore Historic Filipinotown: historicfilipinotown.org



Boni B. Alvarez (Playwright)



Gintong Pamana Mural



Rodney To (Director)

DISCOVER MORE AT THE USC LIBRARIES

MICHAEL C. OLIVEIRA of the USC Libraries has selected the following resources to help you learn more about the play, its source material, and L.A.'s Historic Filipinotown. You can check out the books from Doheny Memorial Library. The articles and databases are all electronic resources, which you can access through the search bar on the USC Libraries homepage at libraries.usc.edu.

BOOKS

- Calderón De La Barca, Pedro, and McGrady, Donald. *El Médico De Su Honra*. 1st ed. Juan De La Cuesta Hispanic Monographs. Series Ediciones Críticas ; No. 40. Newark, Del.: Juan De La Cuesta, 2007.
DOHENY MEMORIAL LIBRARY: PQ6284.M4 2007
- Cascardi, Anthony J. "El médico de su honra." In *The Limits of Illusion: A Critical Study of Calderón* (pp. 68–81). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1984.
DOHENY MEMORIAL LIBRARY: PQ6317.I44 C37 1984
- Katz, Leon. *Classical Monologues from Aeschylus to Bernard Shaw*. New York: Applause Theatre & Cinema Books, 2002.
DOHENY MEMORIAL LIBRARY: PN2080.C58 2002
- Mujica, & Mujica, Barbara Louise. *Texto y espectáculo : Selected proceedings of the Symposium on Spanish Golden Age Theater: March 11, 12, 13, 1987, the University of Texas at El Paso*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1989.
DOHENY MEMORIAL LIBRARY: PQ6105.S96 1987
- Bonnivier, Gubatan, Guibatan, Gerald G., and Villanueva, Gregory. *Filipinotown: Voices from Los Angeles*. Los Angeles: CreateSpace, 2014.
DOHENY MEMORIAL LIBRARY: F869.L89 F43 2014

ARTICLES

- Touchard, Pierre-Aimé, and Richard Howard. "Calderón or Dramatic Action: Apropos of "The Surgeon of His Own Honor"." *The Tulane Drama Review* 4, no. 2 (1959): 108–09.
- Cindy I-Fen Cheng. "Identities and Places: On Writing the History of Filipinotown, Los Angeles." *Journal of Asian American Studies* 12, no. 1 (2009): 1–33.
- Favre, J. (2009). RUBY, TRAGICALLY ROTUND. *Back Stage*, 50(39), 63.

DATABASES

- Archives of Sexuality & Gender: LGBTQ History and Culture Since 1940
- LGBT Thought and Culture
- Performing Arts Periodicals Database
- The Texas Collection of Comedias Sueltas and Spanish Theater Database

