

IN THE TIME OF THE BUTTERFLIES

By Caridad Svich

Based on the novel by *Julia Alvarez*

Directed by *Carla Mirabal Rodríguez*

April 13th at 8pm

April 14th at 8pm

April 15th at 2pm

April 15th at 8pm

www.newtontheatrecompany.com



In the Time of the Butterflies
A play by Caridad Svich
based on the novel by Julia Alvarez

This play was originally commissioned by Repertorio Espanol/Spanish Repertory Theatre in New York City. Rene Buch, Artistic Director. The author's Spanish-language version of this text premiered at Repertorio Espanol in February 2011 under Jose Zayas' direction.

“IN THE TIME OF THE BUTTERFLIES” is produced by special arrangement with the Playwright and Elaine Devlin Literary, Inc., 1115 Broadway, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10010 and with permission from Susan Bergholz Literary Services 17 West 10th Street, #5, New York, NY 10011

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that Newton, Massachusetts is on the traditional homelands of the Massachusett Indigenous Peoples.

The name Massachusetts comes from the Massachusett language term for "At the Great Hill," referring to the Blue Hills overlooking Boston Harbor from the south.

The Indigenous Nations that belong to this land are known as, the Aquinnah Wampanoag, Mashpee Wampanoag, Ponkapoag, Stockbridge Munsee Mohican Nation and Nimuc.

We respect & recognize it is a privilege to be living on these lands as guests. We acknowledge the trauma experienced over centuries to the indigenous peoples who live on these lands and continue to face injustice. We honor with gratitude those peoples who have stewarded this land. We also acknowledge that these lands are sacred to generations yet to be born.

Cast, in order of appearance

DJ/Rafael Trujillo/Virgilio Morales/Enrique Mirabal/Rufino De La Cruz.....Matt Goldstein
Minerva Mirabal.....	Yaritsa Sanchez
Patria Mirabal.....	Jessibel Falcón
Younger Dedé Mirabal/American Woman.....	Krystal Hernandez*
Maria Teresa “Mate” Mirabal.....	Amber-Nicole Rodriguez
Older Dedé Mirabal.....	Elisa Guzmán-Hosta

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

*There will be no intermission.
Please silence all cell phones before the show.*

In the Time of the Butterflies Creative Team

Director.....	Carla Mirabal Rodríguez
Stage Manager.....	Abby Strayer
Sound Designer.....	Ben Harris
Lighting Designer.....	Ken Fang
Assistant Lighting Designer.....	Joel Lawitts
Artistic Director.....	Melissa Bernstein
Creative Producer.....	Rosalind Bevan
Technical Director.....	Bernie Bernstein
Graphic Designer.....	Marissa Wandrey

Special thanks to Newton North and Newton South High School

Director's Note

I learned about the Mirabal sisters very early in my life, whenever anyone heard my last name they would say “¿Cómo las hermanas Mirabal?”, meaning the famous sisters who helped to end General Trujillo's dictatorship in the Dominican Republic. My answer has always been yes and no— yes, it is the same name, and no there is no relation (that I know of!) But because of this, I grew up acutely aware of their heroism and have always been inspired by them.

Although *In the Time of the Butterflies* is a fictional work, it is very much inspired by the sisters' actual lives. The political climate during that moment in history doesn't feel far from the world we are living in now, particularly the anti-blackness and racism perpetuated throughout Trujillo's regime, which to this day reverberates in the tension between the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

So much of this play resonates sharply— the slow encroachment of a fascist government, the “it can't happen here” mentality, and human rights being stripped away from people everywhere. I think of the protests in Iran, I think of the Supreme Court overturning *Roe v. Wade*, I think of the ultra far-right politicians that have been elected worldwide in a massive anti-immigrant sentiment. And I knew I wanted to do this play to provide a small window into the “why” that has led us to this moment.

It's important to me to spotlight the involvement of the US government in Latin American politics. The USA backed the instituting of many of the worst authoritative regimes of the 20th century in Latin America, all under the banner of “fighting Communism”. These dictators ordered massive killings, kidnappings, and denied their citizens basic human rights. As you'll hear from the American Woman, this painful history has very much contributed to the waves of immigrants that have journeyed from Latin America to the USA looking for a better life. As you'll hear from Older Dedé, it impacts the way the USA is seen in these countries as well.

This play is all about humanity, it's about “the small things in life.” Patria, Minerva, and María Teresa were ordinary people— they were not the only revolutionaries rising up against Trujillo's tyrannical rule, or the last. Their deaths were shocking and inspired outrage, partly because of the status and wealth of their family, but mainly due to their prominent role in the rebellion. “Las Mariposas” didn't set out to become martyrs. I hope this production provides a bit of insight into how I have come to see them— as a symbol of resilience and hope. I hope you'll be inspired by them too. I'm so thrilled to have had this opportunity to bring *In the Time of the Butterflies* to life, thank you for joining us!

Carla Mirabal Rodríguez

Who's Who

Jessibel Falcon (Patria Mirabal) is a native of Puerto Rico. She has been acting since age 5 and has a passion for acting. She's currently pursuing a Master's in Dramatic Arts and is also an animal lover.

Matt Goldstein (DJ/Rafael Trujillo/Virgilio Morales/Enrique Mirabal/Rufino De La Cruz) is deeply honored and humbled to be a part of this production. To work with such a talented cast, director, and production team is an experience he'll be forever grateful for. Recent stage credits include Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Applause Academy) along with Film/TV credit for the movie, *Spirited*. He would like to thank his family, Elise, and his wonderful support system for everything they do. Muevete, mi gente!!

Elisa Guzmán-Hosta (Older Dedé Mirabal) is very excited to be part of the amazing cast and crew in the production *In the Time of the Butterflies* by Caridad Svich as "Old Dedé" at the Newton Theatre Company. Her recent credits include *Revitalized* at Teatro Atipico and *Don't Eat the Mangos* at the Apollinaire Theater. She has also appeared in several short-film productions in Massachusetts and state-wide as well as staged readings. A native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, Elisa is fully bilingual and loves to participate in projects that provide representation to her community through diverse stories. Elisa studied a doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology in Puerto Rico and is currently working as a school psychologist in an urban district with a 68% of a Hispanic student population. In the future, Elisa wants to participate and promote youth acting programs in marginalized communities that include mental awareness and inclusiveness.

Who's Who

Krystal Hernandez* (Young Dedé Mirabal/American Woman) Voice Overs: *McKim* (Huntington Theatre Company) Regional Tour: *Quixote Nuevo* (Huntington Theatre Company, The Alley Theatre, Hartford Stage Company) Regional: *Stage Kiss* (Experimental Theater Indiana); *Wizard of Oz, Matilda* (Wheelock Family Theatre); *Miss You Like Hell, Wig Out* (Company One and A.R.T.); *Laughs In Spanish* (Boston Playwright's Theatre); *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* Tour (Moonbox Productions); *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Firehouse Center for the Arts); *Just Like Us* Staged Reading, *Romeo & Juliet: Shakespeare en el Verano* (Trinity Rep). Education: BFA Theatre Performance with minors in Dramatic Literature and Music, Salem State University. Productions include *The Drowsy Chaperone, The Seagull, Spring Awakening*. Website: krystalhernandezofficial.com

Amber-Nicole Rodriguez (Maria Teresa Mirabal) Amber (she/ella) is a multidisciplinary performer/creative/ educator based in Boston, MA. She is so excited for her Newton Theatre Company debut! She is honored to shine light on Mirabal sisters and hopes to continue uplifting and supporting the voices/experiences of marginalized communities. You can support her photography endeavors on Instagram - @projectanr.

Yaritsa Sanchez (Minerva Mirabal) Yaritsa (she/her) is a proud Latinx actress, experienced in stage and on-camera work. Most recently, Yaritsa played Doña Gati in *Re-Vitalized* by Joel Ulloa through Teatro Chelsea and Mikaela in *Un Verano En Egleston Square*, an audio play through the Huntington Theatre Company. When she's not acting, she's managing a youth arts program through the Apollinaire Theatre and building relationships with Boston Public Schools for Peer Health Exchange. For inquiries and collaborative projects, please email her at sanchez.yaritza10@gmail.com



Jessibel Falcón



Matt Goldstein



Elisa Guzmán-Hosta



Krystal Hernandez*



Amber-Nicole Rodriguez



Yaritsa Sanchez

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in as little as one hour

Powered by
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that’s what theatre is all about.”

— Chita Rivera



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