

CPT & TPC present A Xmas Cuento Remix



Celebrate the magic of the holidays with Teatro Público de Cleveland!

¡Este no es el cuento navideño de la abuela! / This ain't your grandma's Christmas story! Teatro Público de Cleveland (TPC) blows the roof off with this Latino culture and modern music-infused take on Dickens' classic Christmas tale, *A Christmas Carol*, performed in English and Spanish.

This December, TPC will present their first-ever musical, *Maya Malan-Gonzalez's* rocking, heartwarming, fun-for-the-whole-family *A Xmas Cuento Remix*, with composition and arrangements by Emiliano Valdez and Daniel Valdez!

Bursting with remixed spins on classic holiday tunes in both English and Spanish, a live 4-piece band, and energy-packed choreography and dance breaks by Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez, *A Xmas Cuento Remix* is as rollicking and joyous as it is touching.

"We can't wait to share this vibrant production with Cleveland; *A Xmas Cuento Remix* provides a fresh perspective on time-honored holiday traditions, combining strong female leads, modern music, and holiday cheer."

-Teatro Público de Cleveland Leadership Committee

Teatro Público de Cleveland & Cleveland Public Theatre present



A Xmas Cuento Remix

By Maya Malan-Gonzalez

Composition & Arrangements by Emiliano Valdez & Daniel Valdez

Directed by Holly Holsinger



December 5 - 21

7:00pm (Thu/Fri/Sat) and 3:00pm (Sun), CPT's James Levin Theatre. Previews December 5.

Opening Night is December 6.

*The performance on Saturday 12/21 is at 3:00pm.

Tickets: \$15 - 35

[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS](#)

Matinees are "Family Days" with \$10 tickets for youth under 18.

A National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere with Milagro Theatre and 16th Street Theater



National New Play Network
Rolling World Premiere

The Cast:

Tania Benites, Angel Luis Centeno, Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga, Brett DiCello, Valerie A. Mathis, Christina Patterson, Gil Peña, Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva, Andrew Aaron Valdez+, Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez, Selena Awesome Vicario, Hillary Wheelock

The Creative Production Team:

Raymond Bobgan – **Producer**

Faye Hargate – **Line Producer**

Maria DiDonato – **Music Director**

Lilly Corona Moreno – **Dramaturg & Assistant Director**

Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez – **Choreographer**

Jesse Reagan Herson – **Stage Manager**

Sylka Edmondson – **Assistant Stage Manager**

Aaron Benson+ – **Scenic Designer**

Inda Blatch-Geib – **Costume Designer**

Richard Ingraham – **Sound Designer**

Tim Parks – **Sound Operator**

Jeremy Paul – **Lighting Designer**

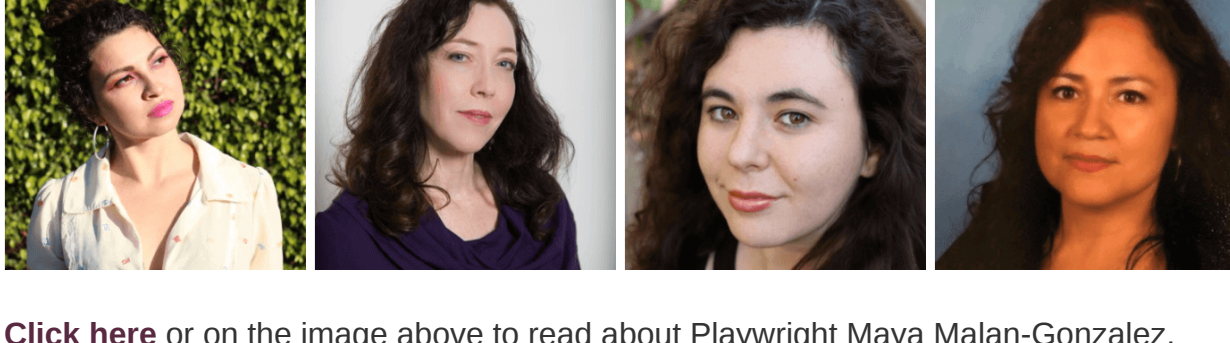
Musicians: Maria DiDonato (Piano), Tim Miller (Percussion), Joseph Rangel (Guitar), Kevin Thompson (Bass)

+2019/2020 Premiere Fellow.

"[*A Xmas Cuento Remix* reminds us] that we, as individuals, can be proponents of change. We can make a difference in our community, and within the people around us. It's easy to shut ourselves off, but we have the ability, if we work together, to really create a sweeter world."

-Maya Malan-Gonzalez, *A Xmas Cuento Remix* Playwright

Meet the Lead Artists of A Xmas Cuento Remix



[Click here](#) or on the image above to read about Playwright Maya Malan-Gonzalez, Director Holly Holsinger, Music Director Maria DiDonato, and Dramaturg & Assistant Director Lilly Corona Moreno.

Pictured (from left): Maya Malan-Gonzalez, photo by Alexandra Media; Holly Holsinger, photo by Terry Goodman; Maria DiDonato, photo by Mashed Potato Photography; Lilly Corona Moreno, photo by Studio South Photography.



"I want to hear [Christmas songs] with *that* bass."

The music of *A Xmas Cuento Remix*

"Going back to my roots and Latino culture, so much of our teatro is about interacting with the audience, and the community coming together and having a shared experience. I love Christmas, so I want to hear Christmas songs, but I want to hear them with *that* bass. I want to hear some rapping. I want my "Deck the Halls" to be both in Spanish and English. In the Latino community we have these songs that everybody knows, like "*Mi Burrito Sabanero*." How can we take that song and put it in the show? -*Maya Malan-Gonzalez, Playwright*

"It's about the different flavors in the music. We've got tons of different styles. We've got an old-school, 80's Emcee type song that's the opening number, there's a modern pop style with our rendition of "Jingle Bells." You get those old traditional Mexican songs in "*Los Peces En El Río*," "*Noche De Paz*"... There's just so much variation in the music that I really do think there is something for everybody." -
Daniel Valdez, Co-Composer & Co-Arranger

[Click here](#) to hear "Mi Burrito Sabanero," "Los Peces En El Río," and "Noche De Paz", as well as several other songs remixed in *A Xmas Cuento Remix* (USA Today).



"What are all of the beautiful things that really transcend past culture? What are these things that we all hold dear to the holidays? Family. Food. Traditions. Whether our tradition is making tamales or making your Christmas ham, we all have these certain things we hold dear."

-Maya Malan-Gonzalez

Reflections from Dramaturg & Assistant Director Lilly Corona Moreno

"I was excited the family in *A Xmas Cuento Remix* was a family of my culture, of my cultural background. I'm familiar with the original story and I love how it was adapted by Maya. I was very familiar with the family's interactions, with their everyday life... I'm just excited to be part of a production where I can show what my culture is.

There is a line in the play that one of the goddesses (*Ixchel*, the spirit of Christmas past) mentions. It's in Mayan: 'In lak'ech.' It means, as she says in the script, 'Tú eres mi otro yo. (You are my other me.) If I do harm to you, I do harm to myself. If I love and respect you, I love and respect myself.' It's a tiny line, but I think it's so important to the play."



-Lilly Corona Moreno

Pictured: The Mayan goddess Ixchel. Image courtesy of blog.ixchen.tours.

"*A Xmas Cuento Remix* is going to be a huge hit nationally—I think a lot of theatres will be producing it. It's exciting to lay some of that groundwork here."

-Holly Holsinger, *A Xmas Cuento Remix* Director

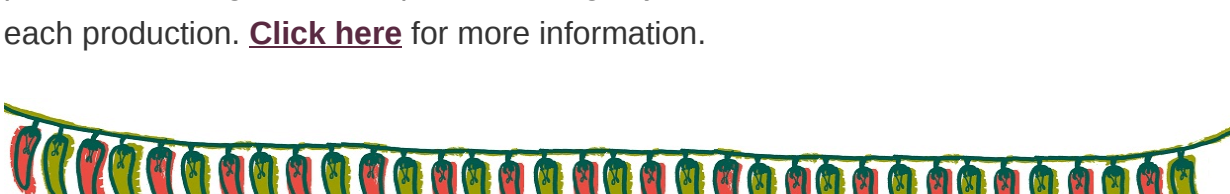
Premiering around the nation: the Rolling World Premiere of A Xmas Cuento Remix

In partnership with the National New Play Network (NNPN), *A Xmas Cuento Remix* is produced at Cleveland Public Theatre as part of a NNPN Rolling World Premiere. Other partnering theatres are Milagro Theatre (Portland) and 16th Street Theater (Chicago).



National New Play Network
Rolling World Premiere

NNPN is an alliance of professional theatres that collaborate in innovative ways to develop, produce, and extend the life of new plays. NNPN's Rolling World Premiere Program supports three or more theatres that choose to mount the same new play within a 12-month period, allowing the playwright to develop a new work with multiple creative teams in multiple communities. The playwright is part of the process, working on the script and making adjustments based on what is learned from each production. [Click here](#) for more information.



Creators of A Xmas Cuento Remix in Cleveland!

We were so fortunate to have Playwright Maya Malan-Gonzalez and Co-Composer & Co-Arranger Daniel Valdez join us during the early phases of the rehearsal process! Here are a few behind-the-scenes moments from their visits.



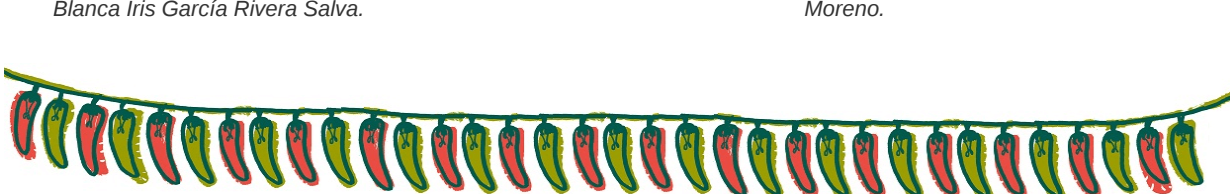
Clockwise from top left: Director Holly Holsinger, cast members Gil Peña, Brett DiCello, Valerie A. Mathis, Andrew Aaron Valdez+, Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga, Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva, cast member & Choreographer Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez, Dramaturg & Assistant Director Lilly Corona Moreno, Playwright Maya Malan-Gonzalez, cast members Hillary Wheelock, Tania Benites, Christina Patterson, Angel Luis Centeno, Selena Awesome Vicario. Photo courtesy of Maya Malan-Gonzalez. +2019/2020 Premiere Fellow.



Maya Malan-Gonzalez in front of the West Side Market. Photo courtesy of Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva.



From left: Lilly Corona Moreno, TPC ensemble member Alexander Corona, Daniel Valdez at A Christmas Story House. Photo courtesy of Lilly Corona Moreno.



Show & Ticket info:

All mainstage performances take place at [Cleveland Public Theatre](#), 6415 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44102.

A Xmas Cuento Remix performances are December 5 - 21 in CPT's James Levin Theatre at 7:00pm (Thu/Fri/Sat) and 3:00pm (Sun). Previews December 5. Opening Night is December 6.

*The performance on Saturday, 12/21 is at 3:00pm.

General admission tickets are \$15 - 35. Preview, Thursdays, & Sundays \$15. Fridays & Saturdays \$35. The Saturday 12/21 performance at 3:00pm is \$15. Matinees are "Family Days" with \$10 tickets for youth under 18. Students and seniors get \$5 off (evening weekend shows only).

The James Levin Theatre is ADA compliant featuring a patron elevator and an all gender, wheelchair accessible restroom.

For tickets and show information, call the CPT Box Office at 216-631-2727 x501 or visit [CPT's website](#).

FREE BEER FRIDAY is every Friday at CPT. Audience members are invited to engage with artists and fellow audience members after the show and enjoy a drink (or two) on CPT!



Want to see the 2019/2020 season at-a-glance? Visit [CPT's website](#) for up-to-date information on all of our upcoming productions!

STAY CONNECTED!



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