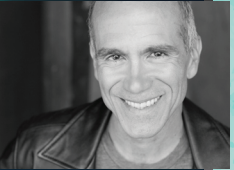


FEATURED SPEAKERS



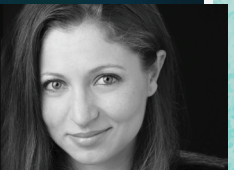
Michael Donald Edwards

is in his fifteenth season as Producing Artistic Director of Asolo Rep. He was previously the Associate Artistic Director of Syracuse Stage and served as Artistic Director of Shakespeare Santa Cruz. A Garland Award and Drama League Award-winning director, Mr. Edwards has directed at Cleveland Play House, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Geva Theatre, Syracuse Stage, San Jose Rep, Opera San Jose, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Old Globe in San Diego, Virginia Stage Company, the Virginia Opera, the State Theatre of South Australia, Opera Australia, Victoria State Opera, and the Metropolitan Opera. In previous seasons for Asolo Rep, Mr. Edwards has directed *The Crucible*; *Disgraced*; *Our Betters*; *The Grapes of Wrath*; *Clybourne Park*; *My Brilliant Divorce*; *Hamlet, Prince of Cuba*; *Las Meninas*; *La Bête*; *The Last Five Years*; *The Life of Galileo*; *Perfect Mendacity*; *The Winter's Tale*; *Equus*; *A Tale of Two Cities*; *Darwin in Malibu*; *Nobody Don't Like Yogi*; *Amadeus*; *The Smell of the Kill*.



Henry Godinez

is the Resident Artistic Associate at Goodman Theatre, where he has directed more than a dozen plays including the world premieres of Karen Zacarias' *Mariela In The Desert*, Luis Alfaro's *Straight As A Line*, Regina Taylor's *Millennium Mambo* (also at Signature Theatre as *Urban Zulu Mambo*), and *Feathers and Teeth* by Charise Castro Smith. Other recent Goodman productions include the Goodman/Dallas Theater Center co-production of *American Mariachi* by Jose Cruz Gonzalez, José Rivera's *Cloud Tectonics* and *Boleros for the Disenchanted* (also world premiere at Yale Repertory), Luis Valdez's *Zoot Suit*, *The Sins of Sor Juana* by Karen Zacarias, *The Cook* by Eduardo Machado, *Electricidad* by Luis Alfaro and six seasons of *A Christmas Carol*. As director of the Goodman's Latino Theatre Festival, Godinez curated six festivals which featured international companies, as well as artists from throughout the U.S. Godinez fostered and performed in Goodman's co-production of *Pedro Paramo* with Teatro Buendia of Cuba, and the international collaboration of *Quixote: On the Conquest of Self* between Writers Theatre and Mexico City's Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes. Other Chicago directing includes the world premiere of Cheryl West's *Last Stop on Market Street* (co-commission for The Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis and Chicago Children's Theatre), *Water by the Spoonful* by Quiara Alegria Hudes at Court Theatre, Paula Vogel's *A Civil War Christmas* at Northlight Theatre, Nilo Cruz's *Two Sisters and a Piano* for Teatro Vista, and *Anna in the Tropics* (Victory Gardens Theater/Teatro Vista). Godinez is the co-founder and former artistic director of Teatro Vista. Other directing credits include The Eugene O'Neill Playwrights Conference, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Portland Center Stage and Kansas City Repertory Theatre. Born in Havana, Cuba, Godinez is a professor at Northwestern University and serves on the board of directors of the Illinois Arts Council Agency. He is the proud recipient of the TCG Alan Schneider Directing Award, the Actors Equity Spirit Award, and the August Wilson Award.



Celine Rosenthal

is an NYU Tisch alum, Tony®-nominated producer (*Leap of Faith*, *Seminar*) and a New Georges Jammer. She is the recipient of directing fellowships at Manhattan Theatre Club and Asolo Rep, as well as an SDCF Observership. Her work has been seen at the Tristan Bates Theatre in London, NYMF, New York City Center, MMAC, 54 Below, 59E59, Abingdon Theatre, and in the Broadway's Future Songbook Series at Lincoln Center. Recent projects include *Chicago* at Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis; *A Doll's House* at The Studio Theatre; *Drowning in Cairo* at The National Queer Theater; the FSU/Asolo Conservatory production of *Motherf***er with the Hat*; and last season's Asolo Rep Educational Touring production of *The Tempest*. www.celinerosenthal.nyc



KJ Sanchez

is founder/ CEO of American Records. As a playwright, KJ's been produced at (select list) Berkeley Rep, Playmakers Rep, Asolo Rep, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Two River Theater Company, Baltimore's Center Stage, Frontera Rep, Round House, Cornerstone Theater Company and Off-Broadway at Urban Stages and HERE Arts. Her plays are published by Playscripts. KJ has directed (select list) in NY: *ReEntry* at Urban Stages and *Unity 1918* by Kevin Kerr at the Gene Frankel Theater; The world premiere of Kristoffer Diaz's *The Upstairs Concierge* at The Goodman in Chicago and *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* at Actors Theatre of Louisville; *Venus in Fur*, Laura Eason's *Sex With Strangers* and Martin Zimmerman's *Seven Spots on the Sun* (LCT Award, Best Direction) at Cincinnati Playhouse; *Harvey*, *Noises Off* and *The Diary of Anne Frank* at Milwaukee Rep; and two plays by Quiara Hudes: *Water by the Spoonful* at Studio Theatre (DC) and *26 Miles* at Round House Theatre. She is the director, co-author and producer of *ReEntry*, which has been performed at theaters across the country as well as over 50 military bases and hospitals in the US and abroad. As an actor KJ performed across the country including the Brooklyn Academy of Music and internationally including the Toga-Mura Festival in Japan and the IberoAmericano Festival in Bogota, Columbia. KJ is a Fox Fellow, Douglass Wallop Fellow, and a recipient of the 2014 Rella Lossy Playwright Award. She is an Associate Artist with Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park and The Civilians as well as a New York Theatre Workshop Usual Suspect. This fall KJ will be an Associate Professor at UT Austin and head of the MFA Directing program.



James Monaghan

(Dramaturg) is thrilled to call Asolo Rep his artistic home. Prior to becoming the resident dramaturg at Asolo Rep last season, he wrote about theatrical design as the Tow Foundation Fellow in the Roundabout Theatre Company Archives, created a one-on-one theatrical experience entitled *[antidote]* for the National Theatre of Croatia in Rijeka, served as the dramaturg for *Leaving Eden*, which won Best Musical at the 2019 New York Musical Festival, and worked in the literary department of the Play Company in New York. Before completing his MFA in dramaturgy at Columbia University, James worked as an educator and director in his hometown of Houston, Texas. BFA, New York University.