

OFFICIAL SELECTION

# THE CELLO'S DIALOGUE

AN UN-آن THEATRE PRODUCTION

15<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
SEASON

FEBRUARY 11, 2022

7:30 PM

**GUERRILLA**  
CINCOGRYEDIN



## COMPANY HISTORY

**Guerilla Opera is one of Boston's most thrilling young companies creating brave new works.** Founded in 2007, the ensemble has accumulated a repertoire of 40 new works, which continues to grow, by the most exciting composers of our generation. In daring performances, they have garnered a national reputation for innovative contemporary opera, with The Boston Globe raving that "radical exploration remains the cornerstone of everything it does."

This artist-led ensemble wields a mission to commission and envision new experimental works that are custom-tailored to their artists; champion cutting-edge music; immerse audiences in profound experiences; be a model for creative authenticity and inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA); and inspire, influence and amplify emerging generations of artists.

Their vision is to generate a unique body of work that ferociously confronts the status quo, eschews antiquated and stereotypical traditions of the art form of opera, examines stories through culturally focused and contemporary lenses, and brings new music to new audiences.

Guerilla Opera is a BIPOC organization, Boston's only experimental chamber opera company, and one of only a few in the world with a mission to exclusively present only new works. The Boston Musical Intelligencer wrote that GO is "one of the most ambitious groups of Boston's lively new music scene".

Their works investigate and explore what is "operatic," which allows them to explore, bend and break traditional and stereotypical notions we inherit with euro-centric opera. Opera News writes: "Guerilla Opera redefines the opera experience."

### STAFF

**Aliana de la Guardia**  
*Artistic Director & Co-Founder*

**Sarah Schneider**  
*Artistic Projects and Production Manager*

**Keithlyn B Parkman**  
*Associate Producer*

**Alexis Peart**  
*Development & Marketing Coordinator*

**Maggi Chauby**  
*Artistic Associate*

**Julia Noulin-Mérat**  
*Artistic Advisor*

**Mike Williams**  
*Artistic Advisor & Co-Founder*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Nathan Troup**  
*President*

**Aliana de la Guardia**  
*Treasurer*

**Mike Williams**  
*Clerk*

**Dana Grider**  
*Director*

### BOARD OF ADVISORS

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# GUERRILLA

## UNDERGROUND

## WELCOME TO THE UNDERGROUND

A VIRTUAL SPEAKEASY EXPERIENCE & PERFORMANCE SERIES

A plethora of streaming performances are in The Guerilla Underground, including broadcasts of groundbreaking live productions, new works interpreted through cinematic mediums of film and animation, invigorating chamber music concerts, guest artists and more!

*Extended on-demand viewing available with ticket bundles.*

[LEARN MORE](#)

[BUY TICKETS](#)

## AFTER PARTY

Directly following each live performance, join us for a Zoom after party featuring Artist Q&A, games and giveaways!

Tickets for the After Party are included for VIP ticket holders. After party admission can additionally be purchased separately by clicking the button below:

[AFTER PARTY TICKETING](#)

**THE GUERILLA UNDERGROUND  
VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE SERIES**

**THE CELLO'S  
DIALOGUE**

AN UN-آن THEATRE PRODUCTION

DENIZ KHATERI.....Writer & Performer  
BAHAR ROYAEI.....Composer  
YEKTA KHAGHANI.....Director  
EDEN RAYZ.....Recorded Cello

BAHAR ROYAEI  
Sound Designer

DANIEL HESS  
Video

NEDA KAZEMIFAR  
Props and Shadow  
Puppet Design

AFSOON PAJOUFAR  
Set Designer

SEPAND SAEDI  
Colorist

CLIFTON INGRAM  
CATHERINE HAMMER  
Voice Overs

REZA BEHJAT  
Lighting Designer

*Special thanks to Samar Mirfendereski*

**GUERILLA**  
UNDERGROUND

**GUERILLA**  
OPERA

**THE GUERRILLA UNDERGROUND  
VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE SERIES**

**HONORABLE MENTIONS**

*Guerilla Opera thanks all entrants to the Underground Film Festival.  
This performance includes a compilation of our Honorable Mention  
recipients:*

**BURNING SYMPHONY**

PIYAWAT LOUILARPPRASERT  
AND THE FACE SHIELD

**UNTITLED AUNT**

**JEMIMA OPERA**

JASON BARABBA, COMPOSER  
JUNE CARRLY, LIBRETTIST

**I TAKE THE LONG**

**WAY THERE**

NOELLE MCMURTY AND COLLABORATORS

**THE WOMEN HAVE  
SOMETHING TO SAY**

NICOLE KENLEY-MILLER AND COLLABORATORS

# THE 2022 GUERRILLA UNDERGROUND SEASON

GUERRILLA OPERA'S

## RUMPELSTILTSKIN

MARTI EPSTEIN, MUSIC  
DENIZ KHATERI, ANIMATION

JAN  
14

7:30 PM

## THE CELLOS! DIALOGUE

UN-آن THEATRE ENSEMBLE

FEB  
11

7:30 PM

## THE COLONY

ANNA LINDEMANN, MUSIC & LIBRETTO  
EMMA KOMLOS-HROBSKY, LIBRETTO

MAR  
11

7:30 PM

GUERRILLA OPERA'S

## PAPILLON

KAIJA SAARIAHO, MUSIC  
DENIZ KHATERI, DIRECTOR

## SALT

DENIZ KHATERI, LIBRETTO & DIRECTOR  
BAHAR ROYAAE, MUSIC

APR  
8

7:30 PM

## QUAKING ASPEN

JASON ECKARDT  
FEAT. STEPHANIE LAMPREA

## INTERIM

SARAH GRACE GRAVES

## SHE WEARS BELLS

JO REYES BOITEL  
FEAT. TEATRO PALO ALTO

MAY  
13

7:30 PM

**HIGHLIGHTED AFTER-PARTY SPONSOR**

# **ALVA'S CANDLES AND SOAPS**



JOIN US AT THE AFTER PARTY DIRECTLY FOLLOWING TONIGHT'S  
LIVE STREAMING FOR A CHANCE TO WIN  
AN ALVA'S CANDLES AND SOAPS GIFT SET!

**[VISIT ALVA'S CANDLE AND SOAPS](#)**

**The Cello's Dialogue** is a multidisciplinary play that explores a form to accommodate physically challenged performers. It tells the story of a woman from the Middle East who has immigrated to America and suddenly finds herself struggling with an unexpected pregnancy. Musical experimentation, puppetry, projections, poetic language and action paint an expressionistic portrait of the woman's tortured psyche as she wrestles with her circumstance. Performers in distinct spaces exercise an assortment of artistic practices to highlight the intercontinental conflicts endemic to the piece, both timely and personal, targeting issues such as war, gender identity and conflict, and abortion.



*Official Selections of The Guerilla Underground 2022 season  
are sponsored by Pentucket Bank*

## LAND BLOOD ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Although Guerilla Opera is a nomadic troupe, we would like to acknowledge that the land we have performed on in Boston for many years, is the original homelands of the Mashpee Wampanoag, Aquinnah Wampanoag, Nipmuc, Pawtucket, and Massachusetts tribal nations. Our work in Haverhill, MA is on the traditional lands and waterways of the Abenaki, Pennacook, and Wabanaki Peoples past and present. We acknowledge the truth of violence to these Peoples perpetrated in the name of this country. We acknowledge the truth of the enslavement of African people and the violence perpetrated to them in the name of this country.

The land we each stand on, wherever we are, holds deep history. It holds success, pain, connection, partnership, life, death, love, abuse, growth, genocide, discovery, community, and violence. The history of the space that we occupy has meant different things to different people who have occupied that same space throughout its history. By acknowledging the land and all that it holds, we will learn and care more deeply about the places we occupy and the people who are our neighbors.





## THE CELLO'S DIALOGUE

### MEET THE COMPANY

**Un-آن** is a New York based experimental theatre company founded by Iranian female artists. The Farsi word آن (/ʌn/) almost means moment and aura..

Carrying the roots of poetry in the soil they brought from their country, Un-آن Theatre group is seeking traces of poetry to plant in their works of theatre in their new home. On this path, they focus on works in which the value is in the incomprehensible; the audience experiences an embodiment of a non-linear space-time. Thus the joy of the theater will be in the moment (Un-آن) in which the audience is empowered to infer the meaning within the momentum. Un-آن members are interested in a kaleidoscopic network of inter-transforming elements including sound, object, puppetry, shadows, video art in their works to create a particular non-conforming language.

### MEET THE ARTISTS

**Deniz Khateri** , an award winning artist for her web series Diasporan, is an actor, director and playwright who has worked with theatre companies of Tehran, Boston and New York. She holds an MA in Theatre from Hunter College. ([www.denizkhateri.com](http://www.denizkhateri.com))

**Yekta Khaghani**, whose play has been selected by Eugene O'Neil theatre center, is an Iranian playwright, actor and director. She graduated from Tehran University of Art in dramatic literature. ([www.yektakhaghani.com](http://www.yektakhaghani.com))

**Bahar Royae** is an award winning PhD candidate in music composition at City University of New York. She has been making sound designs for various plays and films in the us.



## THE CELLO'S DIALOGUE

### A NOTE FROM THE CREATOR

The music for Cellos' Dialogue was inspired by the script written by Deniz Khateri. The script features a multilayered narrative in which an artist in diaspora who is pregnant, meets "the others". Others exist in the mind's space, in fantasies, and in anxieties. This symbolic space with its metaphorical words, in turn, gave me a lot of creative flexibility.

Our partnership with Deniz and Yekta was fruitful in every way. We had formed a shared experimental language in which we embraced all metaphors in the text and in our thoughts.

While working on the music, I was sympathizing with the woman and wondered: Who are the cellos? Why is the persona so fixated on Bach? What intricacies and nuances does the instrument reveal to communicate with her? Is the persona, in fact, pregnant with her art?

- Bahar Roayee  
*Composer*



## INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING GUERRILLA OPERA?

Our donors are representatives of a vital community who support creators of new works and who love the process of bringing vivid and intimate new operas to life. Make a gift today to make a huge impact!

[MAKE A DONATION](#)

## BECOME A PATREON MEMBER

Join our Patreon for access to exclusive Guerilla Opera content, early access to our online tickets and events, and more! Your monthly contribution is vital to the continuation of Guerilla Opera.

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PER MONTH

WHAT YOU GET:

- Insider posts | video updates

### RADICAL

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PER MONTH

WHAT YOU GET:

- Insider posts | video updates
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**\$15**  
PER MONTH

WHAT YOU GET:

- Insider posts | video updates
- Early Access to Online Ticketed Events
- Discounted Admission to Ticketed Events

[JOIN OUR PATREON](#)

**GUERRILLA  
OPERA**

## **CONTACT US**

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## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

[guerillaopera.org](http://guerillaopera.org)

