#### For immediate release



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# San Francisco Playhouse announces casting for Water by the Spoonful

By Quiara Alegría Hudes Directed by Denise Blasor

On stage March 16 – April 23, 2022
Press Opening <u>Wednesday, March 23 at 7:00 P.M.</u>

Note: This production will **not** be available as a video stream.

SAN FRANCISCO (February 15, 2022) — San Francisco Playhouse (Artistic Director **Bill English**; Producing Director **Susi Damilano**) announced casting for *Water by the Spoonful*, the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama winner by **Quiara Alegría Hudes** (*In the Heights*). The play will run on the San Francisco Playhouse Mainstage from March 16 through April 23, 2022. Denise Blasor will direct.

"Quiara Alegría Hudes's masterful Pulitzer Prize winner speaks even more profoundly to our world today," said Bill English, Artistic Director. "Separated from friends and loved ones by the pandemic, we, like the characters in *Water by the Spoonful*, celebrate our human resourcefulness, which will overcome any distance to build connection and hope."

Somewhere in Philadelphia, Elliot has returned from Iraq and is working at Subway while trying to jump-start his acting career. Scattered throughout the world in chat rooms, recovering addicts keep each other alive, hour by hour, day by day. In this surging drama by **Quiara Alegría Hudes** (*In the Heights*), the boundaries of family and community are stretched across continents and cyberspace as birth families splinter and online families collide. Winner of the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, *Water by the Spoonful* is a heartfelt meditation on lives on the brink of redemption.

Water by the Spoonful is the second play in Hudes's Elliot Trilogy, which also includes Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue and The Happiest Song Plays Last.

The cast features Xander DeAngeles\*, Ben Euphrat\*, Dorian Lockett\*, Lara Maria\*, Lisa Ramirez\*, Salim Razawi, and Sango Tajima.

### **About the Playwright**

**Quiara Alegría Hudes** is the author of a trilogy of plays including *Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue* (2006), *Water by the Spoonful* (2011), and *The Happiest Song Plays Last* (2012). *Elliot, a Soldier's Fugue* premiered

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Off-off Broadway by Page 73 Productions and was a finalist for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. *Water by the Spoonful* premiered at Hartford Stage Company and won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. *The Happiest Song Plays Last* will premiere at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago in April, 2013. Hudes wrote the book for the Broadway musical *In the Heights*, which received the 2008 Tony Award for Best Musical, a Tony nomination for Best Book of a Musical, and was a 2009 Pulitzer Prize finalist. Other works include the plays *26 Miles* and *Yemaya's Belly* and the children's musical *Barrio Grrrl!* Hudes grew up in West Philadelphia where she studied music with Don Rappaport, Dolly Kranzapolski, and Linda Hudes. She was later mentored by playwright Paula Vogel at Brown University. Hudes is an alumna of New Dramatists and sits on the board of Philadelphia Young Playwrights, which produced her first play in the tenth grade. She now lives in New York with her husband and daughter. www.quiara.com

### **About San Francisco Playhouse**

Founded by Bill English and Susi Damilano in 2003, San Francisco Playhouse has been described by the New York Times as "a company that stages some of the most consistently high-quality work around" and deemed "ever adventurous" by the Bay Area News Group. Located in the heart of the Union Square Theater District, San Francisco Playhouse is the city's premier Off-Broadway company, an intimate alternative to the larger more traditional Union Square theater fare. San Francisco Playhouse provides audiences the opportunity to experience professional theater with top-notch actors and world-class design in a setting where they are close to the action. The company has received multiple awards for overall productions, acting, and design, including the SF Weekly Best Theatre Award and the Bay Guardian's Best Off-Broadway Theatre Award, as well as three consecutive Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards for Best Entire Production in the Bay Area (2016-2018). KQED/NPR recently described the company: "San Francisco Playhouse is one of the few theaters in the Bay Area that has a mission that actually shows up on stage. Artistic director Bill English's commitment to empathy as a guiding philosophical and aesthetic force is admirable and by living that mission, fascinating things happen onstage." San Francisco Playhouse is committed to providing a creative home and inspiring environment where actors, directors, writers, designers, and theater lovers converge to create and experience dramatic works that celebrate the human spirit.

\*Actors appear courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the U.S.

### FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

THE PLAY: Water by the Spoonful

By **Quiara Alegría Hudes**Directed by **Denise Blasor** 

#### SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE

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THE CAST: Xander DeAngeles\* as Elliot Ortiz

Ben Euphrat\* as Fountainhead

Dorian Lockett\* as Chutes&Ladders

Lara Maria\* as Yazmin Ortiz

Lisa Ramirez\* as Odessa Ortiz

Salim Razawi as Prof Aman/Ghost/Policeman

Sango Tajima as Orangutan

WHEN: In-person performances: March 16 – April 23, 2022

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 P.M., Fridays at 8:00 P.M.,

Saturdays at 3:00 and 8:00 P.M., Sundays at 2:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** San Francisco Playhouse

450 Post St., San Francisco CA 94102

TICKETS: Tickets (\$30 - \$100) are now available. For tickets or more information, the

public may contact the San Francisco Playhouse box office at 415-677-9596, or

online at <a href="https://www.sfplayhouse.org/sfph/2021-2022-season/water-by-the-">https://www.sfplayhouse.org/sfph/2021-2022-season/water-by-the-</a>

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