Portland Center Stage at THE ARMORY MEDIA CONTACT: Claudie Fisher 503-445-3765, claudief@pcs.org

# MEDIA RELEASE

Love in the Time of Piñatas Goes Virtual with a

Staged Reading on October 24, 2020, at 7:30 p.m., PT

"The whimsy and sparkle and shine are always sly and smart." -San Francisco Chronicle



This dazzling staged reading comes with extra sprinkles. Do-nut miss it!

**October 1, 2020** — **PORTLAND, OR.** The hilarious and deliciously biting play *Love in the Time of Piñatas* will be presented as a virtual staged reading on October 24, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. as part of the PCS Remix: Play Reading series. Written and starring Baruch Porras Hernandez, and directed by Richard A. Mosqueda, the live event will be followed by the release of a recording that will be available for a limited time. Tickets for the live event are on sale now and tickets for the recording will be released following the event.

"I am super excited that Portland Center Stage has decided to host my magical piñata party! You are all invited! Grab a donut and a party hat so you can celebrate the queer immigrant spirit with me!" said Porras Hernandez of his PCS virtual debut.

# LOVE IN THE TIME OF PIÑATAS

This play brings love, piñatas, and donuts to the fight against injustice, hatred, and oppression in all its flavors (but especially the orange-tinged variety). Porras Hernandez shares stories of his journey as a Queer Latino boy growing up in Toluca, Mexico, and immigrating to California. Using poetry, stand-up comedy, and sweaty go-go dance vibes, the play serves up everything from Rainbow Brite realness to Frida Kahlo glitter magic along the way.

*Love in the Time of Piñatas* received its first fully staged production at Epic Party Theatre in San Francisco in 2019, where it played to sold-out crowds. The *San Francisco Chronicle* raved that the show sparkles, noting its "erotic donuts, wild poetry, hot pants, and sharp insights." *Theatre Eddys* said "Porras Hernandez brings a bubbling, bombastic personality bigger than life and a story about his life that is probing and pointed, baring and ballsy, humorous and heartfelt."

To celebrate this virtual reading, <u>San Francisco's Dynamo Donut</u> will bring back the Baruchador Donut, which was inspired by the play. Featuring a candied-orange base and blackberry champagne glaze, the donut will be available for local delivery October 22-24 for San Francisco fans who are dying to relive the glory of sinking their teeth into this satiating donut and play.

## **BARUCH PORRAS HERNANDEZ**

Baruch Porras Hernandez is a writer, performer, organizer, professional MC/Host, curator, stand up comedian, and the author of the chapbooks "I Miss You, Delicate" and "Lovers of the

Deep Fried Circle" both with Sibling Rivalry Press. He had the honor of touring with the legendary Sister Spit Queer poetry tour in 2019, is a two-time winner of Literary Death Match, a regular host of literary shows for KQED, and was named a Writer to Watch in 2016 by 7×7 Magazine. His poetry can be found with Write Bloody Publishing, The Tusk, Foglifter, Assaracus, and many more. He has been an artist in residence at The Ground Floor at Berkeley Rep, a Lambda Literary Fellow in Poetry and Playwriting. Learn more at baruchporrashernandez.wordpress.com.

#### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for the live event are on sale now. Pay What You Will pricing starts at \$5. Suggested higher tiers range from \$10 to \$30 but audiences can select any price point that feels right to them. Tickets can be purchased at **pcs.org** or by calling the box office at 503.445.3700. Please note that this show contains adult content and partial nudity. More information is available at **pcs.org/love-in-the-time-of-pinatas-staged-reading**.

#### PCS REMIX: PLAY READINGS

The <u>PCS Remix: Play Readings</u> series provides the opportunity to perch on the cutting edge of theater as we create week-long workshops of new and classic plays, followed by public scene readings that include conversations with the artists. Held either virtually, or in person, each play reading will provide an opportunity to engage with raw, remarkable scripts that just might reach PCS stages in the years to come.

### PORTLAND CENTER STAGE

**Portland Center Stage** is among the top 20 regional theaters in the country. Established in 1988 as a branch of Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the company became independent in 1994. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Marissa Wolf and Managing Director Cynthia Fuhrman, the company produces a mix of classic, contemporary, and world premiere productions, along with a variety of high quality education and community programs. As part of its dedication to new play development, the company has produced 28 world premieres, many of which were developed at its new works festival, JAW. Portland Center Stage's home is at The Armory, a historic building originally constructed in 1891. After a major renovation, The Armory opened in 2006 as the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue in the country, to achieve a LEED Platinum rating.

Portland Center Stage is committed to identifying and interrupting instances of racism and all forms of oppression, through the principles of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA). Learn more at <u>pcs.org/idea</u>.

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