

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Seattle Rep's Upcoming 'Plays in Process' Goes Behind The Scenes of Local Playwright's Magical New Musical

LYDIA AND THE TROLL

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Justin Huertas
Directed and Co-Created by Ameenah Kaplan

June 3 at 7:30 p.m. - single tickets are on sale now at SeattleRep.org.

Seattle, WA (May 11, 2021) — Seattle Rep is excited to share the fourth installment in the five-part behind-the-scenes series Plays in Process will feature local playwright **Justin Huertas** (*Lizard Boy*) and his mystical new musical, *Lydia and the Troll*. Centering Pacific Northwest legend, *Lydia and the Troll* tells an origin story of the famous Fremont troll through story, music, and puppets, and this curated presentation will delve into the development of the magic that will bring this story to life on stage. This presentation will feature a performance by **Kirsten deLohr Helland** and musician, arranger, and music director **Steven Tran** in addition to commentary from director and co-creator **Ameenah Kaplan**, writer and composer **Justin Huertas**, and puppet creator **Guy Garrison**. Single tickets are on sale now at SeattleRep.org.

Anyone familiar with Justin Huertas' work will know that all his plays to-date have a touch of magic in them, so it was only natural that this Plays in Process presentation take audiences behind the curtain of some of that creativity. To animate the mythical characters and plots within *Lydia and the Troll*, creators engaged the expertise of master puppeteer Guy Garrison who has developed astounding shadow puppet experiences to tell this story. Throughout the Plays in Process presentation, audiences will see development of the unique use of shadow puppetry – the creative design process, how they are used within the story, and how the concept came to be – as well as enjoy a musical performance, behind-the-scenes song writing insight, and much more.

A single ticket to the Plays in Process *Lydia and the Troll* presentation is available now for the suggested price of \$20. Current presentations on sale include *Lydia and the Troll* on June 3 and *A Ritchie Valens Musical* on June 26. Reservations are required for these events and pay-what-you-choose options are available. Purchase your tickets today at SeattleRep.org.

ABOUT JUSTIN HUERTAS (Playwright)

Justin Huertas is a Seattle-based award-winning playwright, composer-lyricist, actor, and musician. His original musical *Lizard Boy* world-premiered at Seattle Rep, toured to Diversionary Theatre, presented at

NAMT's Festival of New Musicals, and returns to the stage this fall at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. Justin also wrote *The Last World Octopus Wrestling Champion* (co-composed with Steven Tran) for ArtsWest Playhouse & Gallery and *Lydia and the Troll* (co-created by Ameenah Kaplan) for Seattle Rep. He is composer-lyricist for *Howl's Moving Castle* (Book-It Repertory Theatre) and *The Lamplighter* (co-written with Kirsten "Kiki" deLohr Helland and Sara Porkalob). Justin is currently under commission at Seattle Rep, The 5th Avenue Theatre, ArtsWest Playhouse & Gallery, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

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