

The Cook Actor Biographies

Al Espinosa*

Carlos

Al Espinosa is happy to be making his Seattle Rep debut. His Broadway credits include *Getting Away With Murder* and *Sacrilege*. Off-Broadway he has appeared in *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, *Santa Cocepcion* at NYSF/Public Theatre, and *The Knee Desires the Dirt* at WP&P. In regional theatre he was seen recently as Juan Julian in Nilo Cruz's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Anna in the Tropics* at Pasadena Playhouse, Denver Theatre Company, and Arizona Theatre Company. He has also worked at Laguna Playhouse, Old Globe Theatre, PTC, Hartford Stage, Milwaukee Rep, Yale Rep, McCarter, Alliance, and Alley Theatres, among others. On TV and film, he will be seen in the upcoming Steven Soderburgh film *Guerilla*, starring Benicio Del Toro as Che Guevara, *Path to Paradise*, the miniseries "Fidel," "Numbers," "House"(recurring), "Navy: NCIS," "Century City," "Law & Order: SVU," "Third Watch," and "NYPD Blue," among others. Mr. Espinosa earned his M.F.A. from the Yale School of Drama.

Yetta Gottesman*

Adria/Lourdes

Ms. Gottesman's recent credits include *Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner* at Hartford Stage and *Aphrodisiac* at the Long Wharf Theatre. She has also worked at Arena Stage, Alliance Theatre, and the Coconut Grove Playhouse. In N.Y. she originated the roles of Loretta and Mary Magdalene in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* at The Public Theater (dir. Philip Seymour Hoffman), and appeared in *Touch* with the Women's Project. She also originated the role of Celeste in *Where's My Money?* written and directed by John Patrick Shanley at LAByrinth Theater Co. and Manhattan Theatre Club. Next spring she'll appear in Rebecca Cohen's *Penalties and Interest* at The Public. Film and TV: "Gossip Girl," *27 Dresses*, *Lucky You*, *A Guide to Recognizing Your Saints*, "Sex and the City," "Law & Order: Criminal Intent," and the upcoming: *Conversations We Never Had* (dir. by George Valencia). She is a member of LAByrinth Theater Company and The Actors Studio.

Zabryna Guevara*

Gladys

Zabryna Guevara is very excited to be revisiting Mr. Machado's *The Cook* at Seattle Rep. She originated the role in 2003 at INTAR Theatre in NYC and again in 2005 at Hartford Stage, where she earned a Connecticut Critics Circle nomination. Her Off-Broadway credits include *Sonia Flew* and *El Paso Blue* ('06 and '04, Summer Play Festival), *Santa Concepción* (The Public Theatre), *Tight Embrace*, *Now and Then* (INTAR), *Bulrusher* (Urban Stages), and *Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue* (Page 73 Productions). Regional work includes *Twelfth Night* (Actors Theatre of Louisville), *Sonia Flew*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Breath, Boom!* (The Huntington Theatre), *Noises Off* (Studio Arena), *1001* (Contemporary Amer. Thtr. Fest.), *Hamlet* (Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival), and *Dreamlandia* (Dallas Theatre Center). TV & Film: "3 Lbs," "Law & Order," "Law & Order: SVU" "The Sopranos," *The Jury*, *Everyone's Depressed*, and *Whispers* (HBO, Sundance Film Festival, Gordon Parks Film Festival Award).

A. K. Murtadha*

Julio

A. Khaliq Murtadha was in Shakespeare Festival/LA's recent productions of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Valentine) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Demetrius). Prior to that, he was in a staged reading of *Twelfth Night* for Simply Shakespeare raising money for SF/LA with a star-studded cast including Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson. Mr. Murtadha received his M.F.A. from University of California/San Diego, and has worked at theatres across the country including La Jolla Playhouse, Phoenix Theatre (Indianapolis), and the National Black Theatre Festival in Winston-Salem, where he shared the stage with Amiri Baraka and Ntozake Shange. He has worked extensively in contemporary (August Wilson's *Seven Guitars*, Toni Press-Coffman's *Touch*) and classical (*Othello*, *La Dispute*, *Oedipus the King*) theatre. He recently appeared on "Numb3rs" on CBS.

Jessica Pimentel*

Elena/Rosa

A native of Brooklyn, NY and daughter of immigrants from the Dominican Republic, Jessica Pimentel is a graduate of the High School for the Performing Arts (a.k.a. "Fame") and the American Academy of Dramatic Arts (NY) where she was a member of the professional acting company and earned a degree in theatre arts. Theatre credits: *Anna in the Tropics*, at American Stage and the Shakespeare Theatre's production of *A Very Old Man With Enormous Wings*, both by Nilo Cruz, and Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre production of *The Clean House*. She made her major motion picture debut in John Singleton's *Illegal Tender*, with other film credits in *Pride and Glory*, and *Jackson Avenue Hustle*. Her TV credits include "Law & Order," "Law & Order, SVU," and "Third Watch." Ms. Pimentel has traveled the U.S. and Japan as a classical violinist and hardcore punk musician. She is delighted to make her debut at Seattle Rep.

*Member Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.