

QUO VADIS
THEATRE COMPANY
PRESENTS...

THE HEROIC STORY
OF FR. MIGUEL PRO,
S. J.



# BY FRED MARTINEZ AND CATHAL GALLAGHER

PRODUCED
BY:
ELEANOR
CUENCO

DIRECTED
BY:
DENIS MARKS



# **Director's Notes**

Most of us know Mexico as a Catholic country, but many of us don't know how the Mexican government via the Constitution of Benito Juarez and the Revolutionary Constitution of 1910 sought to limit the influence of the Church in the politics and policies of the country. These restrictions reached their highest level under Presidente Plutarco Calles whose hatred for Catholicism led ultimately to the closing of churches, banishment of public worship and even prosecution for praying in the home. Priests and their parishioners were executed simply for practicing their faith. Into this environment came people like Padre Miguel Pro who would not, could not leave the faithful to languish without the sacraments that sustained them. His courage and the courage of people like him, was a testament to the sustaining power of faith, hope and charity. My wonderful cast, crew, and I are proud to present the most public story of one of those crusaders whose lives Quo Vadis Theatre Company is dedicated to presenting. Miguel Pro is in heaven and before he was martyred, he told his father to ask him for things when he got to heaven. All we can ask is that you share his story of devotion, faith and courage with others when you leave the theatre.

**Denis Marks—Director** 



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We are a diverse people who gather together to proclaim and live the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. From the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community, San Jose

"With the gratitude for the work of the Quo Vadis Theatre Company for continuing to bring Catholic themes in theatre production to the San Jose area."



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Contact

# Deirdre Gallagher

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# CREDO

Credo in unum Deum, Patrem omnipotentem, factorem caeli et terrae, visibilium omnium et invisibilium.

Et in unum Dominum Iesum Christum, Filium Dei \*\*unigenitum, ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula.

Deum de Deo, Lumen de Lumine, Deum verum de Deo vero, genitum non factum, consubstantialem Patri; per quem omnia facta sunt.

Qui propter nos homines et propter nostram salutem descendit de caelis. Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto ex Maria Virginae, et homo factus est.

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato, passus et sepultus est, et resurrexit tertia die, secundum Scripturas, et ascendit in caelum, sedet ad dexteram Patris.

Et iterum venturus est cum gloria, iudicare vivos et mortuos, cuius regni non erit finis.

Et in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum et vivificantem, qui ex Patre Filioque procedit.

Qui cum Patre et Filio simul adoratur et conglorificatur: qui locutus est per prophetas.

Et unam, sanctam, catholicam et apostolicam Ecclesiam.

Confiteor unum baptisma in remissionem peccatorum. Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum, et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.



# BY FRED MARTINEZ AND CATHAL GALLAGHER

PRODUCED BY: ELEANOR CUENCO

DIRECTED BY: DENIS MARKS

PERFORMANCES THURS-SAT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY MATINEES START AT 2:00 P.M.

# October 2012

SU	МО	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	<i>2</i> 5	26	<i>2</i> 7
28	29	<i>30</i>	31			



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# CREW AND STAFF

## **Denis Marks (Director)**

Denis Marks has been a board member of Quo Vadis since 2005 and currently is its dramaturge. His previous directorial effort was "*Malcolm and Teresa*." Denis collaborated in the writing and staging of "*Cha Joe*" last year.

Thanks to his wife Eleanor, the current producer, for her support.

#### **Eleanor Cuenco (Producer)**

Eleanor is proud and happy to be involved in the production of this show. She thanks the crew and cast for their support and confidence.

#### **Ellen Smith (Stage Manager)**

She has served as Stage Manager, Assistant Director and sound/light operator at various theatres in the South Bay. She is pleased to join this wonderful cast as Stage Manager.

## Fred Sharkey (Set Design)

Fred has been set designer, actor and almost everything else in between. He has appeared in several productions and set design for "Cha Joe."

#### **David Ferlato (Lighting Design)**



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# **Kevin Kennedy (Sound Design)**

A truly seasoned veteran of area theatre, Kevin co-founded and was Artistic Director of City Lights Theatre from 1985-1991, and Artistic Director / Co-founder of Alchemy Arts from 1992-1997. Kevin made two sparkling appearances in Quo Vadis productions, "Claude Newman" and as noted British journalist Malcolm Muggeridge in "Malcolm and Teresa."

# **Estelle Piper (Publicity)**

Estelle has been a wonderful asset with Quo Vadis. She directed QVTC's production of "Claude Newman," acted in "The Case of Humanity vs. Pontius Pilate" as Claudia Procula, and has been effective as a publicist. Some of her notable work has been on stage, as M'lynn in Northside Theatre's "Steel Magnolias," as Prospera in Shady Shakespeare's "The Tempest" and Duncan in "MacBeth" and as Eleanor of Aquitaine in Northside's "The Lion in Winter."



Bringing Theatre in a Different Light, The Light of Christ!

The Mission of the Quo Vadis Theatre Company

The Mission of the Quo Vadis Theatre Company is to <u>enlighten</u>, <u>edify</u>, <u>educate</u>, and <u>enrich</u> the viewing audience, and to provide Catholic playwrights, actors, and other theatre-oriented persons a friendly platform for their efforts of faith or belief. We firmly intend to bring high-quality drama without profanity, vulgarity, and excessive violence.

# QUO YADIS THEATRE COMPANY

P.O Box 9023
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# GIỜ MỖ CỬA:

Mon - Fri: 8 AM - 5 PM SAT: 9 AM - 3 PM



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Vanessa Thư-Vân Cao

#### **Eileen Hansen (Costumes)**

Eileen is thrilled to be designing costumes for Denis Marks again, having designed a season at City Lights Theatre Company, including "Joe Egg," "The Maids," and "The Ballad of Cock-eyed Charlie." She designed for Northside Theatre Company's "Wrong Turn at Lungfish", and "Fool for Love," Arclight Repertory Theatre's "Measure for Measure," "The Zahsman Murders," and The "Taming of the Shrew" (for which Arclight won a Metro "Outstanding Costumes for a Small Theatre" award in 2010). She costumed Jenny Hollingworth's production of "Betrayal," and Center for Spiritual Enlightenment's "Everyday Gifts of God." She thanks you, our audience, for helping local theatre thrive.

# G. C. Davis (Program, Flyers, Posters, and QVTC Webmaster)

G. C. has created the flyers, posters, programs and web site work for QVTC since the production of "*Claude Newman*." He has also collaborated on the writing of "*Cha Joe*," which was staged last year.

# **Katie Ballentine (Light Board Operator)**

#### **Chase Hammonds (Sound Operator)**

\*Red Shirts (Camisas Rojas) were a paramilitary organization that were used to suppress Catholics in state of Tabasco during the late 1920's and 1930's. They were founded by Tomás Garrido Canabal, Tabasco Governor during that era.

# AM 1260



# Catholic Radio

For he that will save his life, shall lose it: and he that shall lose his life for my sake, shall find it.

Matthew 16:25 Douay –Rheims New Testament

# **Special Note**

Quo Vadis Theatre Company does not receive public funding and relies solely on private donations and box office revenues.

# **Synopsis**

The courageous account of Blessed Miguel Pro, S.J., during the infamous 'revolutionary' period of the 1920s, which sought to wipe out religious faith and worship in Mexico.

# **Time and Place** 1926-1927

Mexico City, Mexico

# **About the Playwrights**

Playwright Cathal Gallagher was born in County Donegal, Ireland. Claude Newman is his eighth major drama. Productions of his previous works include for Quo Vadis: "A Question of Ethics," "I Heard the Bell Toll," (also produced by Boston's Fiat Productions, Ltd) "Plunkett," "A Fiddler in Granby Lane," and "The Pearl of York." For the Mostly Irish Theatre Company "A Woman For The Country and Anything to Declare," the latter being staged at the Listowel Writers Week in County Kerry, Ireland. His plays have been produced in Ireland, Canada, and the U.S. Mr. Gallagher is a founding member of Quo Vadis and currently serves as Treasurer.

Fred Martinez is the author of "Hidden Axis of Evil," which describes the decline of moral and ethical standards in the United States. He has been a journalist for Catholic periodicals such as "The Wanderer," "San Francisco Faith" and numerous other publications. He has appeared in numerous Catholic shows on radio and television. He has founded two centers for pregnant women in the South Bay area, the Juan Diego Society and Crisis Pregnancy Center. He also has produced and hosted the television program "Latino Love."

"¡Viva Cristo Rey" Is Fred's first play.

# PLAYERS

In Alphabetical Order (Continued)

# <u> Armando Romero (Fr. Miguel Pro)</u>

This is Armando Romero's first show with Quo Vadis, since relocating to the Bay Area. Armando has had experience as a commercial actor and was involved with different theatrical groups in Southern California.

# Emma Victoria Varesio (Ana Maria Pro)

Emma is originally from the Bay Area, and attends the Oratory of Our Mother of Perpetual Help Chapel in Santa Clara. This is her first time performing with Quo Vadis Theatre, and she is thrilled to be in a play about one of her favorite saints, Blessed Miguel Pro.

# Cielito Lindo

De las sierras morenas, Cielito Lindo, vienen bajando Un par de ojitos negros, Cielito Lindo, de contrabando

#### Chorus

Ay, ay, ay, ay canta y no llores Porque cantando se alegran, Cielito Lindo, los corazones

Una flecha en el aire, Cielito Lindo, tiró Cupido Él la tiró jugando, Cielito Lindo y a mí me ha herido.

#### Chorus

De tu casa a la mía, Cielito Lindo, solo hay un paso Ahora que estamos solos, Cielito lindo, dame un abrazo.

#### Chorus

# Special Announcement

The Canonization of Kateri Tekakwitha, the Lily of the Mohawks, Sunday, October 21. Live TV on EWTN 12:30 AM Pacific Standard Time.



In Alphabetical Order (Continued)

# Rebecca Ines (Martha Villareál)

This is Rebecca's third performance with Quo Vadis Theatre Company, as the lead in "Margaret of Castello," and as Mary Magdalene in "The Case of Humanity vs. Pontius Pilate." She is thrilled to play her first Mexican role. She thanks the cast for a refreshing experience, to family and friends for their support, and to God for seeing her through – beyond religion. She also expresses her love for Henry Bemis.

# **Joseph Kearns (Presidente Plutarco Calles)**

Joe just recently moved to the Bay Area from Phoenix. Originally from Chicago, he has been doing theatre since high school where he and the show's director met. In Chicago, he was a prominent industrial film and voice-over actor. Happy to be making his first stage appearance in CA.

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# **Ever Leon (Humberto Pro)**

Ever is excited to be part of this production with Quo Vadis. He's been performing in the Bay Area for the past six years and has done most of his work at City Lights Theater Company appearing in "Chicago," "Rent," The Who's "Tommy", and "Hair". Other credits include "The Government Inspector," "West Side Story", "Kiss Me Kate," and "A Clockwork Orange." He recently did two stage readings with San Jose Rep's Emerging Artists Lab this past month. He studied acting at the American Conservatory Theater through Studio A.C.T. and the Summer Training Congress. In addition, he studies vocal performance with Brian Thorsett and tap/jazz at Ariel Dance Studio. Ever is a graduate from Santa Clara University and is a full-time math teacher at St. Martin of Tours in San Jose. Visit www.everleon.com for more information.

# **Geoffrey Mutch (Alan Taylor)**

Although Geoffrey is a San Jose native, "¡Viva Cristo Rey!" is his stage debut here as well as his first play in seven years. "He is so thankful to share such an important and well written play with such a talented and thoughtful cast and director. One of Geoffrey's more interesting credits is that of playing several different "Bajorans", a very spiritual race of aliens, on "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" over the course of six seasons. He wishes to thank his parents, Dale and June for their enthusiastic support of his acting career and his wife, Karla for her encouragement and love.

# **Dan O'Connell (Detective Quintana)**

This is Dan O'Connell's sixth show with Quo Vadis Theatre Company in roles which include King Charles II in "*Plunkett*" and Rev. Alec Vidler in "*Malcolm and Teresa.*" Dan has been acting since high school and loves the challenge of creating a character on stage. He is a past Quo Vadis President and currently a board member. In real life Dan works in the San Francisco Bay Area in commercial finance.

# ACT 1

Scene 1	Podium and Pulpit
	Calles' Office
Scene 2	
Scene 3	Calles' Office
Scene 4	
	•
Scene 5	
Scene 6	

# **ACT II**

Scene 1	Jail Cell
	Pro Home
	Cruz's Office
	Calles' Office
Scene 2	Jail Cell
	Press Office
Scene 3	Jail Cell
	Pro Home
	Jail Cell
	Jail Office
Scene 4	Jail Cell
	Courtyard
•••••	City Street

# **CHARACTERS**

Fr. Miguel Pro, S.J	Armando Romero
Ana María ProFr. Miguel's Sister	Emma Victoria Varesio
Humberto ProFr. Miguel's Brother	Ever Leon
Roberto ProFr. Miguel's Youngest Brother	Shane Cota
Martha Villareál	Rebecca Ines
Fr. Carlos Mayer, S.J	Steven Corelis
Maria Valdez	Alicia Barela
Alan TaylorBritish Journalist	Geoffrey Mutch
Penitent/Prisoner	G. C. Davis
Plutarco Calles	Joseph Kearns
Rojo/Señor Zorro	Ernesto Garcia
General Roberto Cruz	Chris Carter
Officer Quintana  Detective of Mexico City Police Force	



In Alphabetical Order

# Alicia Barela (Señora Maria Valdez)

She is delighted to return to the Quo Vadis stage reprising her role of Señora Valdez from the 2006 production of "¡Viva Cristo Rey!" Alicia was very active in community theater in Connecticut in the '60's and '70's both on the stage and behind the scenes. She then took a 25 year break from theater to pursue a career in medicine. Now that she has retired and is an empty-nester, she hopes to return to the stage more regularly. ¡Qué viva!

# **Chris Carter (General Cruz)**



Christopher P. Carter has been acting for 14 years. He has appeared in such plays as "The Government Inspector," "Romeo and Juliet," "Wintertime," and "A Christmas Carol." He displayed his versatility by playing four different roles in Quo Vadis' production of "Cha Joe." He hopes you all enjoy the show.

# **Steve Corelis (Father Carlos Mayer)**

Steve is a semi-retired elementary school teacher who is thrilled to be performing for the third time with Quo Vadis, appearing as Sandro Macreti in "Margaret of Castello," and as High Priest Caiaphas in "The Case of Humanity vs. Pontius Pilate." He lives in San Jose and spends most of his time bragging about his seven grandchildren and gardening. Oh, the cast on his arm...Let's just say his next bike will have three wheels.

# **Shane Cota (Roberto Pro)**

Shane Cota was born and raised in San Jose. Named after the classic 1950's Western film of the same name, which sparked his interest in acting, in turn pursuing this interest by becoming part of The American Conservatory Theatre's young conservatory. His love for acting is a passion that he is now pursuing at full force.

# G.C. Davis (Penitent/Prisoner)

Mr. Davis has appeared in six of Quo Vadis' Productions, "The Pearl of York," "Fiddler in Granby Lane," "Plunkett," "A Question of Ethics," "The Case of Humanity vs. Pontius Pilate," and "Margaret of Castello." He is also a co-author of our last production, "Cha Joe." He dedicates his performance to his Aunt Patricia Robinson.

# Ernesto García (Rojo)

Ernesto is happy and thankful to play his first villain. Acting since 14, he debuted in "Help! I am Trapped in High School!" He was able to enroll in Foothill College's two-year conservatory program. Highlights include playing the Knave of Hearts in "Alice in Wonderland." He hopes to continue at CSULA or San Jose State. He thanks his mother, Raquel for her support.