



Media Release

Lunchbox Theatre teams up with Chromatic Theatre to present a new Filipino-Canadian love story, *Kisapmata*. Tickets are on sale now.

CALGARY, AB – January 12, 2024 — Lunchbox Theatre is proud to present the world premiere of *Kisapmata*, a unique queer love story by Calgary playwright **Bianca Miranda** at Lunchbox, with direction by Gina Puntil, co-produced by [Chromatic Theatre](#) and presented as part of [One Yellow Rabbit's](#) 38th Annual [High Performance Rodeo](#).

[Kisapmata](#) has been in development since 2021, when it was part of the Chromatic Theatre IBPOC Playwrights Unit, and it was featured in both the Stage One Festival of New Canadian Work and Stage Two Festival at Lunchbox Theatre in 2022. Playwright Bianca Miranda has also recently premiered *The F Word*, co-written and performed with Keshia Cheesman, in a Downstage Production at Alberta Theatre Projects, which was nominated for "Outstanding New Play" at the Betty Mitchell Awards.

Says Lunchbox Theatre Artistic Director Bronwyn Steinberg "it was 'love at first read' for all of us when Chromatic first presented this piece. I knew right away that I loved Bianca's writing and that I'd love to see *Kisapmata* at Lunchbox. We were delighted to support Bianca's process developing the play at Stage One and Stage Two. And now, we couldn't ask for better partners than Chromatic to join us to finally premiere this story in a full production!"

Kodie Rollan, Artistic Director of Chromatic Theatre adds "as an immigrant from the Philippines myself, it was really exciting for this piece to be the first show I program as the new Artistic Director for Chromatic Theatre. We feel that this piece is an embodiment of a bunch of different love letters - it's a love letter to oneself, one's identity, romantic partner, but also a love letter to the culture! We are truly honoured and humbled to partner with Lunchbox Theatre to produce this beautiful show!"

Both theatre companies are delighted to welcome Filipino audiences to the theatre with this story. Steinberg also points out that "of course a story about Filipino characters in Canada is also an absolutely Canadian story! I think audience members from all communities can relate to these characters' experiences."

This heartfelt love story is not to be missed! *Kisapmata* will run from **January 30 - February 18** in the Studio Theatre at Vertigo. We suggest this show for ages 12+.

Tickets are on sale now, range in price from \$25-\$35 per performance, and can be purchased at LunchboxTheatre.com

Synopsis:

The Tagalog word “kisapmata” means “blink of an eye.” It’s also the title of a punk banger by Filipino band, Rivermaya. Inspired by this song, this new Canadian play tells the love story of two Filipino women—one living here in Canada and the other, born and raised in the Philippines. Through intimate vignettes, we see the longing, the diving in, and eventually, the letting go.

Brown Out Show

Brown stories for a brown audience!

We're so excited to invite the Filipino/a/x community to the Brown Out Night for the premiere of Bianca Miranda's *Kisapmata*! Brown Out Night is a performance specifically for celebrating and welcoming the Filipino community. *Kisapmata* is a story rich with Filipino culture, language, and traditions. Join us on **Saturday, February 3 at 4pm** for the Brown Out Performance of *Kisapmata*, followed by a private reception!

This production's Brown Out Night is an afternoon performance and reception celebrating the Filipino/a/x community, lives, and love stories. We are specifically inviting those who identify as being part of the Filipino community and other racialized (Black, Indigenous, People of Colour) communities to make up our audience for this show.

About the Playwright

Born and raised in the Philippines, **Bianca Miranda** is a fat, queer, Filipino performer and playwright, thankful to be living and working in Treaty 7. She is also the Associate Producer at Downstage, ‘theatre that creates conversation’. As a theatre-maker and playwright, their works most often start from a personal place and examine the intersections of her identities. She is the co-creator and performer of *The F Word* (World Premiere by Downstage, presented by Alberta Theatre Projects). Bianca believes in the transformative power of theatre & storytelling and is eternally grateful to the people who have supported and contributed to the journey of writing and dreaming up this play. All the love to their family, friends, and relations back home in the Philippines.

KISAPMATA – January 30 - February 18, 2024

By **Bianca Miranda**

Directed by Gina Puntill

Cast:

Michelle Diaz | A

Isabella Pedersen | B

Note: All reviewers need to book complimentary tickets for the 1st week of the run. No exceptions.

About Lunchbox Theatre

Lunchbox Theatre presents an enriching and engaging theatre experience with an emphasis on accessibility for audiences and artists. We create and produce one-act plays primarily at noon, focusing on entertaining new Canadian works that examine and explore socially relevant issues. The theatre seeks to provide rewarding and memorable experiences to its audiences, casts, and supporters by delving into a variety of works that reflect our audience and their particular world, as well as works that will offer fresh experiences and new understandings. Lunchbox is a hub for artistic development—for artists as well as plays, with emerging artists working alongside established professionals.

About Chromatic Theatre

Chromatic Theatre is a theatre company that develops and supports the work of, as well as create spaces for, racialized artists in Moh'kins'tsis (Calgary). Our mandate is to develop and support diverse voices that contribute to an artistic landscape reflecting the spectrum of diversity we see across the country, to create opportunities for diverse artists and marginalized community groups through the arts, build bridges that span the societal issues and mechanisms that divide us based on cultural identity, engage non-traditional theatre going communities through cultural representation in the arts, promote a broader appreciation for diversity, and employ diverse artists and pay them professionally and equitably whenever possible; to strengthen our community of professional artists.

For ticket and season pass information, please visit [**lunchboxtheatre.com**](http://lunchboxtheatre.com)
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For interview requests or more information, please contact:

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