

For immediate release: February 14, 2024

Media Contact: Aidan Morishita-Miki

aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com

A cinematic theatre thriller, **WHITE MUSCLE DADDY** makes its world premiere at Buddies, March 20-31

Tickets & info: <https://buddiesinbadtimes.com/show/white-muscle-daddy/>

Pencil Kit Production and **Buddies in Bad Times Theatre** team up to present the world premiere of a gritty new play by **Raf Antonio** (*Rope Running Out, Salvador: A Latin-Canadian Fantasia*). A horror/thriller piece blending theatre and film—using projection art, live camera feed and shadow play—**WHITE MUSCLE DADDY** explores the pervasive effects of white supremacy on the politics of desire in queer communities. A QTBIPOC-led team deftly weaves a chilling yet campy tale of lust, power, and predators. Developed through the Buddies Residency Program, the psycho-sexual thriller *WHITE MUSCLE DADDY* is the final mainstage production in the company's historic 45th anniversary season.

“Horror can be a really malleable genre and also feels rarely performed in live theatre,” says playwright and co-director Raf Antonio. *“We’ve taken its tropes and mashed them into a hybrid of cinema and theatre. Our goal is to subvert expectations of the genre itself, of what theatre can be, and of what film can be, creating an experience that will leave audiences chuckling, a little spooked, a little provoked, and maybe even a little bit horny.”*

Co-directed by Antonio and **Tricia Hagariles** (*Lola’s Wake* [film], *Boiband the Boyband*), *WHITE MUSCLE DADDY* is brought to life by an ensemble cast featuring **Ray Jacildo**, **Jaime Lujan**, **Frankie Bayley**, **Chel Carmichael**, and **Shaquille Pottinger**.

This cinematic-theatre piece features a blend of live and pre-recorded footage, working with director of photography **Khanh Tudo** (Insomniac Film Festival) and projection designer **Nicole Eun-Ju Bell** (Ga Ting 家庭). The design team also features set designer **Echo Zhou** (*Between a Wok and a Hot Pot, The Chinese Lady, The Year of the Cello*), costume designer **Cat Calica** (stylist for Buddies’ 2022-23 season promo), lighting design **Alia Stephen**, and frequent Pearle Harbour-collaborator **Stella Conway** on Sound Design (*Agit-Pop!*)

MEDIA INFO

INTERVIEWS – Listed artists are available for interviews in English, with a list of artists available for interviews in French, Spanish, Mandarin, or Turkish available upon request. Contact aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com to arrange.

REVIEWS – Contact Aidan at 416-975-9130 x 40 or aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com for accreditation.

ON-LINE RESOURCE – The Buddies website includes a Media Centre that houses press releases, images and other pertinent information for easy download. www.buddiesinbadtimes.com/media

For immediate release: February 14, 2024

Media Contact: Aidan Morishita-Miki

aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com

PLEASE ADD TO YOUR LISTINGS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Pencil Kit Productions + Buddies in Bad Times Theatre production

WHITE MUSCLE DADDY

by Raf Antonio

Soon after Jeremy Río clocks in for his first graveyard shift at an exclusive LA gym, he meets Eugene, a fitness influencer who seems to have the life of Jeremy's dreams—one that's double stuffed with money, muscles, and parties galore. What begins as an envious crush quickly morphs into an insatiable hunger that threatens to tear Jeremy's life apart.

A cinematic theatre piece, *WHITE MUSCLE DADDY* uses projection art, live camera feed and shadow play to spin a chilling yarn about the politics of queer desire.

Tricia Hagoriles + Raf Antonio // directors

Raf Antonio // playwright + associate producer

Featuring **Ray Jacildo, Jaime Lujan, Frankie Bayley, Chel Carmichael, Shaquille Pottinger** and **Augusto Bitter**

Claren Grosz // producer

Taylor Young // stage manager

Patrick Lynn // assistant stage manager

Khanh Tudo // director of cinematography

Nicole Eun-Ju Bell // projection design

Connie Oreamuno // projection design assistant

Alia Stephen // lighting designer

Stella Conway // composer/sound designer

Echo Zhou // set designer

Sabrina Pye // associate set designer

Cat Calica // costume designer

Burcu Emeç // intimacy director

Louisa Zhu // fight director

Keshia Palm // dramaturgy

Kat Zoumboulakis // camera operator

Hayden Salter // camera TD

Performance information:

March 20 - 31, 2024

Preview: March 20; Opening Night: March 21

Runs: Wed-Sun 7:30pm

Tickets: Sliding scale (\$10 / \$25 / \$40 / \$70)

<https://buddiesinbadtimes.com/show/white-muscle-daddy/>

Lead Corporate Sponsor **BMO Bank of Montreal**

For immediate release: February 14, 2024

Media Contact: Aidan Morishita-Miki

aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com

-

Pencil Kit Productions is a Toronto based, ever-evolving theatre and events organism. We are dedicated to generating design-forward new work and building community with an emphasis on alternative, collaborative processes. We're interested in all things strange, delicious, novel, magic, experiential, sensorial and imagistic. We know that at its heart, theatre is a social art form. We aim to cultivate spaces where artists and audiences can have fun— from workshops to parties to performances.
pencilkitproductions.com

Established in 1979, **Buddies in Bad Times Theatre** is Toronto's leading destination for artistically rigorous, alternative theatre and a world leader in developing queer voices and stories for the stage. Over the course of its history, it has evolved into the largest facility-based queer theatre company in the world and has made an unparalleled contribution to the recognition and acceptance of queer lives in Canada.
buddiesinbadtimes.com