

# PILLSBURY HOUSE THEATRE

mainstage

breaking ice

chicago avenue project

For immediate release July 31, 2009

For more information contact:

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*Quick Info:* Pillsbury House Theatre presents **King of Shadows**. In this reimagining of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a social worker takes in a homeless teen that believes he is being pursued by supernatural forces. October 2 - November 1, 2009.

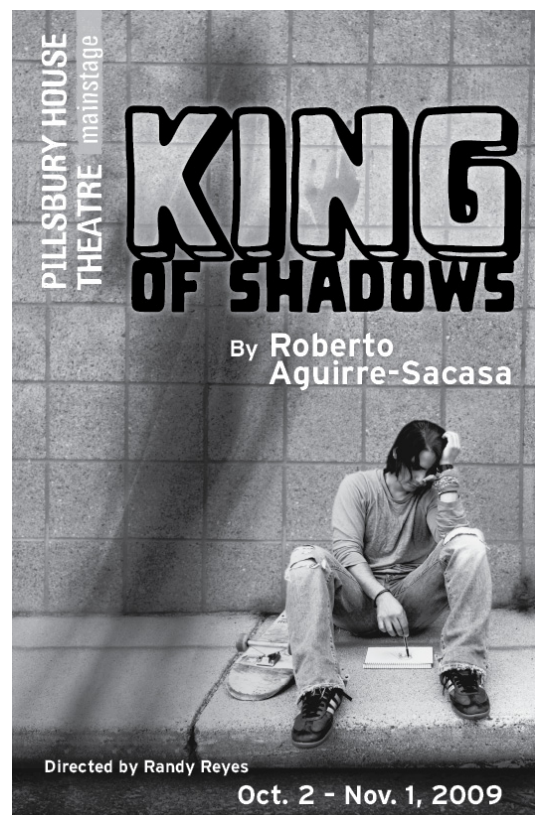
## PILLSBURY HOUSE THEATRE CONFRONTS THE DEMONS OF HOMELESS YOUTH

Minneapolis, MN – **Pillsbury House Theatre** presents the area premiere of the fantastical thriller **King of Shadows** by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa. **King of Shadows** will be directed by Randy Reyes and features newcomer Qadir Khan along with Twin Cities' actors Josh Foldy, Catherine Johnson Justice, and Taj Ruler. Performances run **October 2 through November 1, 2009** on the Pillsbury House Theatre Mainstage at 3501 Chicago Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Tickets go on sale Tuesday, September 8th at 8:00 am and can be purchased at [www.pillsburyhousetheatre.org](http://www.pillsburyhousetheatre.org) or by calling 612-825-0459.

*"Intriguing thriller... blending elements of Shakespeare and Stephen King" –NY Times*

**King of Shadows** tells the story of 15 year old Nihar; a homeless runaway selling sex to survive, and who claims he's being pursued by supernatural demons. He befriends and forms a powerful bond with a young social worker Jessica and her teenage sister Sarah. However, Jessica's boyfriend Eric, a skeptical cop, believes that Nihar may not be what he claims. The famous fog of San Francisco sets the stage for this fantastical thriller. Who to trust? What to believe? Where are the boundaries?

"In reading the script," states director **Randy Reyes**, "I was drawn to the tensions between reality and fantasy, social and economic status, cultural identity, sibling rivalry, man and woman, and even West Coast vs. East Coast. There are very realistic scenes that seamlessly morph



into another realm, to the point where the audience should start to question what is real and what is not. **King of Shadows** is an event where the audience and the actors go on a journey of shared imagination where fantasy and reality coexist.”

*“King of Shadows-will remain with you for days afterward” –Backstage*

**Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa** was commissioned by California Shakespeare Theatre to create and develop a new play that reimagined Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* through the eyes of marginalized gay youth, setting the action in the urban jungle of San Francisco. Throughout the process, **Aguirre-Sacasa** worked with several organizations that worked with the homeless and met current and former homeless GLBT youth. **King of Shadows** draws from these experiences along with his own personal experiences.



**Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa** is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama and is a prolific award winning playwright (*The Mystery Plays, Say You Love Satan, Based on a Totally True Story*), highly sought after comic book author (*Nightcrawler, Sensational Spider-Man, Fantastic Four, Steven King’s The Stand*) and a writer for the HBO series *Big Love*. He was nominated for a GLAAD Media Award in 2006 for his play *Golden Age* and received the 2006 Harvey Award for Best New Talent for the Marvel Comic *Marvel Knights 4*.

**King of Shadows** was first produced in 2008 by Working Theatre at the Theatre for the New City in New York, NY.

*“King of Shadows wonderfully walks the line of fantasy and reality” –NYTheatre.com*

### **King of Shadows**

Written by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa  
Directed by Randy Reyes

#### *Cast:*

Nihar: Qadir Khan  
Jessica: Catherine Johnson Justice  
Eric: Josh Foldy  
Sarah: Taj Ruler

#### *Designers:*

Lighting: Mike Wangen  
Set Design: Ron Albert  
Costume Design: Clare Brauch

## PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

<b>Wednesday</b> Pay What You Can	<b>Thursday</b> \$13 - \$18	<b>Friday</b> \$15 - \$20	<b>Saturday</b> \$15 - \$20	<b>Sunday</b> \$10 - \$15
		October 2 7:30 pm Opening Night	October 3 7:30 pm	October 4 3:00 pm
October 7 7:30 pm WATH/PSD	October 8 7:30 pm	October 9 7:30 pm	October 10 7:30 pm	October 11 3:00 pm
October 14 7:30 pm WATH	October 15 7:30 pm	October 16 7:30 pm	October 17 7:30 pm PSD/ASL	October 18 3:00 pm
October 21 7:30 pm WATH/PSD	October 22 7:30 pm	October 23 7:30 pm	October 24 7:30 pm	October 25 3:00 pm PSD/AD
October 28 7:30 pm WATH	October 29 7:30 pm	October 30 7:30 pm	October 31 7:30 pm	November 1 3:00 pm
WATH = Wednesdays at the House (Pay-What-You-Can) PSD = Post Show Discussion AD = Audio Described ASL = Sign Language Interpreted				

Tickets can be purchased online at [www.pillsburyhousetheatre.org](http://www.pillsburyhousetheatre.org) or by calling 612-825-0459.

Pillsbury House Theatre is located at 3501 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN, 55407

The mission of Pillsbury House Theatre is to create challenging theatre to inspire choice, change and connection.

For media information including images, arranging interviews, and actor bios, please contact Neal Spinler, Director of Marketing, at 612.787.3622 or [spinlern@pillsburyhousetheatre.org](mailto:spinlern@pillsburyhousetheatre.org).

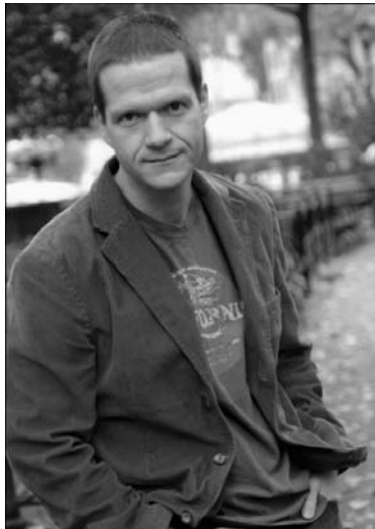
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Qadir Khan



Catherine Johnson Justice



Josh Foldy



Taj Ruler