

POLAROID STORIES

By Naomi Iizuka

Directed by Lavina Jadhvani

Thu–Sat @ 7:30 PM

SEPT 30 – OCT 2 & OCT 7–9

Sun @ 2:00 PM

OCT 3 & OCT 10

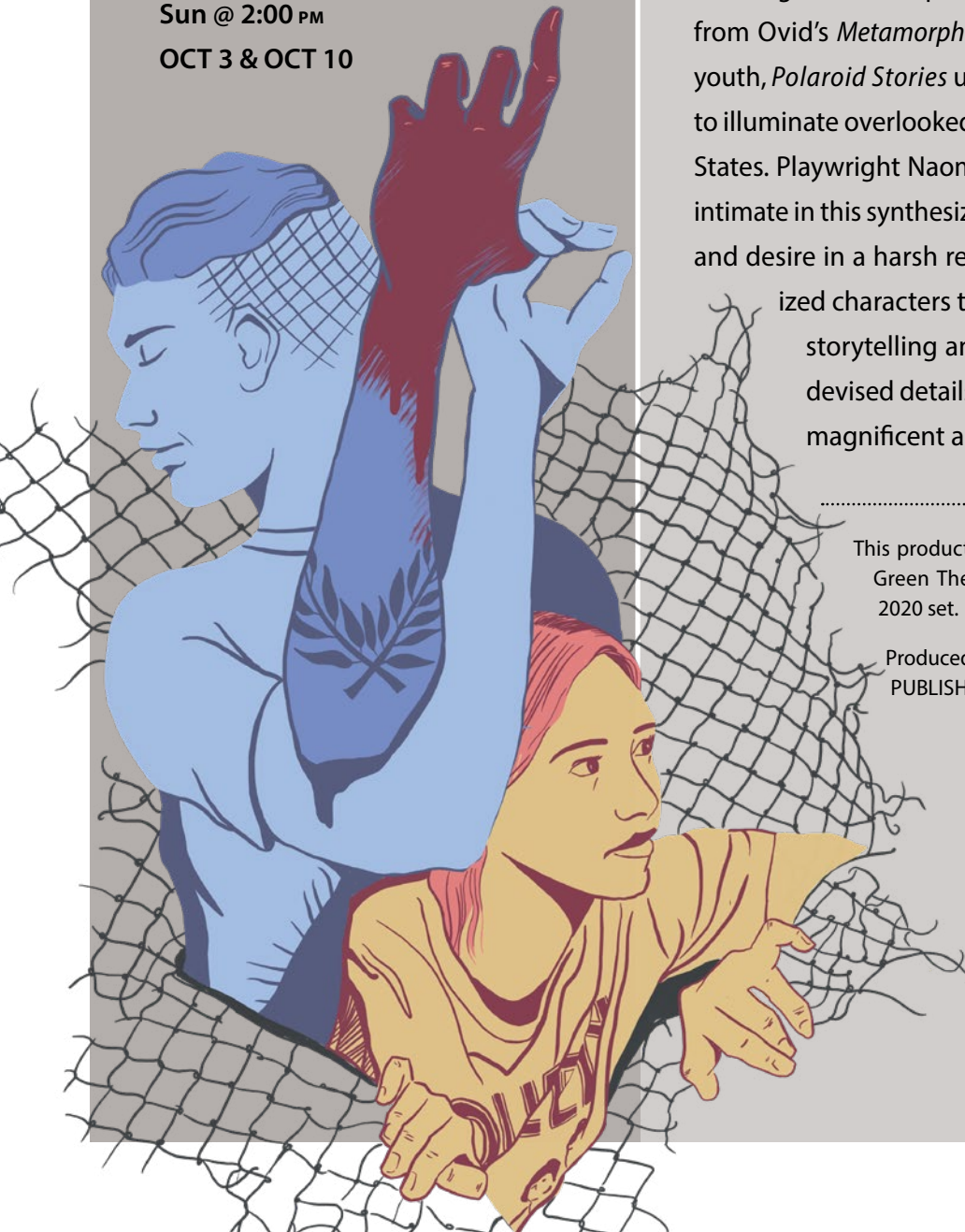
THEMES

21st Century Poverty and Violence // Identity and Connection //
Love and Loss // Power and Immortality // Myth and Truth

In telling our stories, perhaps we all can become gods. Drawn from Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and interviews with homeless youth, *Polaroid Stories* uses the prestige of Greek mythology to illuminate overlooked voices in the contemporary United States. Playwright Naomi Iizuka navigates the epic and the intimate in this synthesizing play about dreams, desperation, and desire in a harsh reality. The vulnerable and marginalized characters transcend violence and loss through storytelling and song. As they share the true and devised details of their lives, the figures become as magnificent as the Greek gods themselves.

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This production is part of the Loyola University Chicago Green Theatre Initiative, making adaptive reuse of a 2020 set.

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois



POLAROID STORIES



QUOTES

“it’s like they want to tell you how it is, tell you how it’s gonna be, and they ain’t even lookin at you. it’s like they’re looking right through you like you a ghost or something”

“...I used to love this girl. And then she ran away. I followed her to hell and back, and everywhere I was, I saw a thousand girls she could’ve been. I held them close, and looked into their eyes. I said, are you the girl I’m looking for, are you the one, is she hiding in your skin? Baby, I know that’s you.”



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 lizuka understands myths as “human riddles we return to.” Through the playwright’s use of mythology, which questions, lies, and truths are revealed about each character?
- 2 In what ways does *Polaroid Stories* enhance or challenge your interpretation of the classical work it references?
- 3 Although it is an adaptation of Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*, does the play create a new mythology of its own?
- 4 An estimated 4.2 million young people experience homelessness each year in the United States. How does lizuka shape the audience’s understanding of poverty and other circumstances impacting the play’s characters and the interviewees who inspired it?

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TO PURCHASE individual tickets, visit our [website](#). If you wish to make a group order, please complete the following form: tinyurl.com/DFPAGroupSales

FOR MORE INFORMATION about ticket prices, safety protocol, and live streaming, please visit our website at <http://artsevents.luc.edu>.