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***THE BROTHERS PARANORMAL* BY THAI-AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHT  
PRINCE GOMOLVILAS BRINGS SCARES, LAUGHTER, AND DRAMA  
TO OLNEY THEATRE CENTER FOR HALLOWEEN**

**First show of the new season in the Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab channels  
Asian horror films in a story about displacement, loss, and healing**

**OLNEY, MD — October 4, 2023 — *The Brothers Paranormal* by Prince Gomolvilas and co-directed by Hallie Gordon and Aria Velz** gets its regional premiere in Olney Theatre Center's Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab in a production that seeks to thrill audiences with its supernatural plot elements. Previews begin Saturday, September 30 with **press invited to attend Thursday, October 5 at 7:30 pm. Interested critics should email [sstraub@olneytheatre.org](mailto:sstraub@olneytheatre.org) to request press tickets along with their preferred performance date and time.**

**The production is scheduled to run through Sunday, October 29, 2023.** Tickets are \$50-\$79 and are available online at [olneytheatre.org/brothers](http://olneytheatre.org/brothers) or at 301-924-3400.

Playwright **Prince Gomolvilas** will participate in a discussion with Olney Theatre's artistic director Jason Loewith on Saturday, September 30 at 5:00 pm in the Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab. The event is archived on the Olney Theatre website at [olneytheatre.org/brothers](http://olneytheatre.org/brothers).

**Jason Loewith says**, "It's a pleasure to welcome Prince and his funny, scary, genre-exploding drama of family and dislocation to Olney. I think our audiences in the intimate space of the Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab are in for an emotional thrill ride. It's a production of firsts for us: an overdue first production here by a Thai-American playwright; the pair of new-to-us co-directors including Aria Velz and our newest member of the Olney artistic staff, Hallie Gordon, the senior associate artistic director. While this is Hallie's first time directing here, she comes to us with a formidable background and we're lucky to have her, not just on this show, but as a key part of our ecosystem. It's also the first time that I've chosen a show that's just perfect for the Halloween season, so most of all, I'm excited to lean into that, and see how audiences, new and returning, respond to the work."

## About the Play

It's 2007 somewhere in the American Midwest, and Thai-American brothers Max (**Tommy Bo**) and Visarut (**Eymard Cabling**) haven't had a single case for their paranormal investigation business since they opened. Finally, a customer arrives, Delia (**Lolita Marie**), a Black woman who has relocated to the area after losing her home in Hurricane Katrina. She's seen a female, perhaps Asian, maybe Thai-speaking ghost (played by **Justine "Icy" Moral**) haunting her house for reasons unknown. Max, who doesn't believe in ghosts, is most excited to sign her up for a deluxe investigation package. But when the brothers visit Delia and her husband Felix (**DeJeanette Horne**), strange things begin to happen. The play also features **Cindy Chang** as Tasanee, Max and Visarut's immigrant mother, and a link to the home left behind in Thailand. **Joey Ledonio** (Max and Visarut) and **Sally Imbriano** (Jai and Tasanee) serve as swings, and **Terresita Edwards** is the understudy for Delia.

Joining directors **Hallie Gordon** and **Aria Velz** are set designer **Misha Kachman**, costume designer **Jeanette Christensen**, lighting designer **Minjoo Kim**, sound designer **Sarah O'Halloran**, Illusions Consultant **Jim Steinmeyer**, Illusions Instructor **Robert Ramirez**, and production stage manager **Ben Walsh**.

## About the Playwright

**Prince Gomolvilas** (Playwright) is a Thai-American playwright whose plays include *Big Hunk o' Burnin' Love*, a groundbreaking comedy about a Thai-American family; *The Theory of Everything*, which won a PEN Center USA Literary Award for Drama; *Mysterious Skin*, a stage adaptation of the Scott Heim novel; and *The Brothers Paranormal*, a critically acclaimed ghost story that's been produced across the country and published by Dramatic Publishing. His work has also been performed in Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Singapore, and Thailand. His theatre-for-youth shows have been touring elementary, middle, and high schools for nearly 20 years. He is a former Assistant Professor of Writing at the University of Southern California, and he received an MFA in Playwriting from San Francisco State University. Visit [www.princegomolvilas.com](http://www.princegomolvilas.com) to watch his TEDx Talk and learn more.

## **DETAILS**

*The Brothers Paranormal*

By Prince Gomolvilas

Directed by Hallie Gordon and Aria Velz

Begins: Saturday, September 30, 2023

Official Opening: Thursday, October 5, 2023. Email [sstraub@olneytheatre.org](mailto:sstraub@olneytheatre.org) to reserve.

Runs until: Sunday, October 29, 2023

**Tickets begin at \$50.** Discounts available for groups, seniors, active military and students visit [olneytheatre.org/discounts](http://olneytheatre.org/discounts) for details.

Purchase via [olneytheatre.org/brothers](http://olneytheatre.org/brothers) or 301-924-3400

**Regular performances are Wednesday-Saturday at 7:30 pm;** matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 pm.

No Saturday matinee on September 30.

On Wednesday, October 4 there will be a matinee performance at 1:30 pm, however there are no Wednesday, 7:30 pm performances on October 4 or October 18.

**For the 2023-2024 Season, Olney Theatre Center will be offering programs for purchase rather than as a complimentary item at performances. For more information visit:**  
[olneytheatre.org/programs](http://olneytheatre.org/programs)

### **ACCESSIBILITY**

**Audio described performance on Wednesday, October 11 at 7:30 pm**

**Sign interpreted performance on Thursday, October 12 at 7:30 pm**

## **Special Events**

### **Behind the Scenes and Beyond the Stage**

#### **OPENING NIGHT CONVERSATION WITH PLAYWRIGHT PRINCE GOMOLVILAS**

Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab

Saturday, September 30, 5:00–6:00 p.m.

\$10 / Free for members also available online as a livestream on Facebook and YouTube

#### **“GHOSTS” STORY TIME AT THE OLNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Sunday, October 1, 1:00–2:00 p.m.

Olney Public Library (3500 Olney Laytonsville Rd, Olney, MD 20832)

No RSVP. Just show up!

As part of our celebration of The Brothers Paranormal, we're sponsoring a morning of stories at the Olney Public Library. This is a free family event appropriate for all ages, especially toddlers, preschoolers, and young children. Books to be read are chosen with the help of the Olney librarian.

#### **D.C. APA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL SCREENING**

In partnership with DC International Shorts Film Festival

Sunday, October 1, 4:30–5:30 p.m

Roberts Mainstage Theatre, Olney Theatre Center

\$10 / Free for members

If you enjoyed our screening of films from DCSAFF last April, then why not join us again for horror highlights from the D.C. Asian Pacific American Film Fest! D.C. Asian Pacific American Film Fest was established to be the beacon of creative output of Asian and Asia. Come for the Sunday matinee of The Brothers Paranormal, stay for more contemporary spooky tales.

#### **BROTHERS AND SISTERS PARANORMAL TRIVIA NIGHT**

Thursday, October 19, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Actors Hall, Olney Theatre Center

Entry fee: \$5

Put your horror movie knowledge to the test...if you dare. Jason Voorhees or Michael Myers? Chucky or Jigsaw? From Alfred Hitchcock to Jordan Peele, horror movie history is full of shocking twists and turns. Showcase your scary movie memory to win tickets to future shows at Olney Theatre Center. And that's not all: we have our own home team of Olney staff members who are strong contenders. You can sign up with your friends as a team or come on your own and join others (even the home team!). Drinks and snacks available for purchase.

Hosted by sibling horror movie buffs Irene and Reed Martinko!

## **GHOST STORIES WITH WELDON**

Sunday, October 29, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

1938 Original Theatre, Olney Theatre Center

Free with RSVP

In Director of Sales Weldon Brown's thirty years at Olney Theatre, he has seen a lot, including things of the spooky variety. He's worked here the longest and knows where the skeletons are buried, ha! Attendees are encouraged to dress up in costume for this Halloweekend event!

## **ABOUT OLNEY THEATRE CENTER**

### **Mission**

Olney Theatre Center for the Arts produces and curates theatrical performance for the diverse audiences in our community, and educates, learns from, supports and inspires a more inclusive generation of theater-makers.

### **Vision**

We strive to become an arts and culture powerhouse, redefining the American regional theater movement by cultivating and sharing the creativity of our community.

### **History**

Founded in 1938 as a summer playhouse, Olney Theatre Center (OTC) now produces year-round world and American premieres of plays and musicals, and reimaginings of familiar titles; presents the work of leading companies; tours nationally and locally; teaches students of all ages; and mentors the next generation of theatremakers. For more than 8 decades, OTC has brought impactful theater performance and education to our community, helping to grow the vibrancy and vitality of our home in central Maryland. Over the years, some of the biggest names in theater and film have appeared on our stages, including Tallulah Bankhead, Helen Hayes, Jessica Tandy, Hume Cronyn, Bob Fosse, Phillip Bosco, Eve Arden, Eva Gabor, Burl Ives, Jose Ferrer, Carol Channing, Olivia d'Havilland, Tony Randall, Paulette Goddard, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Jane Seymour, Anne Revere, Frances Sternhagen, Arthur Treacher, James Broderick, Olympia Dukakis, Sir Ian McKellen, Marica Gay Harden, John Colicos, Uzo Aduba, Alan Cumming, Cheyenne Jackson, Robin de Jesus, Wilson Jermaine Heredia, among many, many others. Olney Theatre is now the cultural anchor of a rapidly changing region and serves one of the most diverse, best educated, and wealthiest counties in the country. Situated on the unceded land of the Picataway-Conoy people, the Olney area was once a rural farming community with a unique Quaker heritage. Now the area is occupied by every kind of family that makes up 21st Century America, along

with major corporations, shopping districts, civic associations, non profit organizations and a diverse collection of houses of worship. Montgomery County's 1 million residents play a dynamic role in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, and is a driving force behind the region's creative economy.

As of September 2021, Olney Theatre Center employed 40 full time staff, 20 part-time positions, 26 early career apprentices and players, and more than 400 professional artists. The Theatre intends to continue expanding to better meet the needs of our community.

For more information, please visit [olneytheatre.org](http://olneytheatre.org).

Follow Olney Theatre Center on Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok @olneytheatre and on Facebook at facebook.com/olneytheatre.

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