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**PRESS RELEASE:**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FIGHTING SHADOWS: Richard Cabral’s One-Man Show  
Returns to The Rosenthal Theater at Inner-City Arts**

Los Angeles, Calif. (September 19, 2018) — The Rosenthal Theater at Inner-City Arts and Lineage Entertainment Group in association with Jamie Gertz is proud to present the second run of Emmy-nominated Richard Cabral’s *Fighting Shadows*, a passionate and poignant celebration of the power of human redemption and transformation against the shadows of gangs, prison, and violence. “This extraordinary and authentic drama” (Huffington Post, 2016) illustrates the possibilities of marginalized lives to reclaim spirit through poetry, music, and raw storytelling.

Produced by The Rosenthal Theater and directed by Off Broadway Obie Award winning artist Diane Rodriguez, *Fighting Shadows* follows Cabral’s early life as a notorious gang member in East Los Angeles through to his life-affirming transformation made possible by his will and the good work of Homeboy Industries and Father Greg Boyle.

“*Fighting Shadows* is about healing and connection,” said Richard Cabral. “Because of that, I’m so grateful that people have an appetite for *Fighting Shadows* and I’m happy I get to bring the show back to Inner-City Arts. Inner-City Arts is like family — the whole team takes care of me and shows me great love. Showing this production of *Fighting Shadows* to high schoolers and community organizations means a lot to me — it is a powerful thing when our communities, especially the youth of our communities, are healed through the arts. [It’s how] the next generation of storytellers is born.”

*Fighting Shadows* was originally developed and written with award-winning director and dramaturg Robert Egan at the Ojai Playwrights Conference in 2013 and in partnership with Homeboy Industries, *Fighting Shadows* made its 2016 debut at Inner-City Arts to critical acclaim and sold-out shows. This year, *Fighting Shadows* will help launch The Rosenthal Theater’s 10-year anniversary while celebrating the spirit of Inner-City Arts’ mission to provide high quality arts education to underserved students through select performances presented to local high school classes at no cost, as well as partnering community organizations featuring a gallery installation and special pre- and post-show conversations with Richard Cabral. Prior to each show, audiences will engage in various art-making workshops, composing letters to currently incarcerated young people and adults.

“We are not often witness to such a powerful story of human survival in constant search for love,” said Diane Rodriguez, *Fighting Shadows* Director. “We all relate to the search but few of us have had to walk through the fire to reach it. Richard Cabral lives to tell it.”

OCTOBER 18 – NOVEMBER 4 | INNER-CITY ARTS CAMPUS  
720 Kohler St. Los Angeles, CA 9002

TICKETS & MORE INFO: **General Admission Tickets: \$25** | <https://2018fightingshadows.eventbrite.com>

**PUBLIC PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

October 18 — November 4, 2018

Friday, October 19 at 8:00pm  
Saturday, October 20 at 8:00pm  
Sunday, October 21 at 2:00pm  
Thursday, October 25 at 8:00pm  
Sunday, November 4 at 2:00pm & 7:00pm

Friday, October 26 at 8:00pm  
Friday, November 2 at 8:00pm  
Saturday, November 3 at 8:00pm

**PREVIEWS & PRESS**

Wednesday, October 17 at 8:00pm – Contact raquel@inner-cityarts for press RSVP

## OPENING NIGHT

Thursday, October 18 at 8:00pm – Invitation only

## SPECIAL DATES

October 26 - Join Richard Cabral for a special post-show conversation and Q&A.

November 3 - Take part in a post-show conversation and discussion with Father Greg Boyle of Homeboy Industries and Richard Cabral.

Limited parking and street parking on Kohler St.

**Director:** Diane Rodriguez

**Set Design by:** Efren Delgadillo Jr.

**Lighting Design by:** Tom Grond

**Projection Design by:** Yee Eun Nam

**Sound Design by:** Luis Guerra

**Educator Coordinator:** Jesse Bliss, The Roots and Wings Project

Special thanks to **The Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation**.

## CONTACT

For more information, please contact Dolores Chávez | [dolores@inner-cityarts.org](mailto:dolores@inner-cityarts.org) | 213.627.9621 x 140

## ABOUT RICHARD CABRAL

Nominated for a 2015 Emmy Award for his riveting portrayal of Hector Tonz in ABC's critically acclaimed series *American Crime*, created by Oscar-winner John Ridley, Richard Cabral was discovered by the producers of NBC's *Southland* while working as a baker at Homeboy Industries. With memorable roles in Ridley Scott's *The Counselor*, starring opposite Javier Bardem, Penelope Cruz and Michael Fassbender; the Chris Weitz film *A Better Life*, with Demian Bichir; *End of Watch*, opposite Jake Gyllenhaal; *Rampart*, with Woody Harrelson; *Devil's Ink*, opposite Zoe Bell and RJ Mitte; and *Snitch*, opposite Dwayne Johnson. Cabral has also made guest-starring turns on ABC's *Body of Proof* and HBO's *Luck*. He was recently seen in *Blood Father*, a Taken-style action thriller directed by Jean-Francois Richet (Mesrine) and starring Mel Gibson.

Richard was awarded Homeboy Industries "Homeboy Hero Award," given to the former gang member and "graduate" of the Homeboy program who has most profoundly transformed his or her life. A former gang-member, he fought a life-sentence and has since dedicated himself to helping others born into similar circumstances. He is an official Ambassador for Homeboy Industries. A constant poetic force, Richard always finds a way to stitch his art together with the healing of his community and beyond.

Creating AllHeART Acting Class, Richard teaches the art of acting to homeboys and homegirls. He also established an Open Mic Poetry Night in his hometown of Montebello. Through his company, Lineage Entertainment Group, Lineage produces a live, monthly poetry slam to encourage healing through art.

Richard currently stars in FX's *Mayans MC*. He lives and works in Los Angeles.

## ABOUT DIANE RODRIGUEZ

Off Broadway Obie Award winning artist Diane Rodriguez is a triple threat theatre artist who directs, writes and performs. She began her career as an ensemble member in the politically explosive, El Teatro Campesino and now is Associate Artistic Director of the Tony Award winning, Center Theatre Group in Los Angeles. In 2016 President Barack Obama appointed her to the National Council on the Arts, a body that advises the Director of the National Endowment for the Arts.

## ABOUT LINEAGE ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

From Richard Cabral, Allison Ott, and Tui Asau, Lineage Entertainment Group is a production company comprised of 3 artists, from very different walks of life, who believe in the deep power of storytelling. Through their commitment to community outreach and healing through art, they strive to create socially conscious and beautifully artistic content. Lineage Entertainment Group is an official artistic collaborator with The Rosenthal Theater at Inner-City Arts. [WWW.LINEAGEENTGROUP.ORG](http://WWW.LINEAGEENTGROUP.ORG)

## ABOUT THE ROSENTHAL THEATER AT INNER-CITY ARTS

The Rosenthal Theater at Inner-City Arts is a creative home for innovative and diverse performance, education and artist engagement that seeks to nurture and illuminate the creative spirit of young people and adults by enabling them to create, present and experience new work.

Founded in 1989, Inner-City Arts is a learning oasis in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles and widely regarded as one of the nation's most effective arts education providers. Under the guidance of professional teaching artists, Inner-City Arts' students are immersed in a safe and supportive environment where they may engage in a variety of visual and performing art forms in a studio setting. Services include core classes during the instructional day for grade K-8 students, afterschool and weekend workshops for teens and creativity-based professional development training for educators.

Children who attend Inner-City Arts develop skills that are highly valued in the 21st century workforce such as collaboration, creativity and critical thinking. Research further demonstrates the profound impact of our programs on student achievement as indicated by dramatic increases in statewide standardized test scores: 25% in math, 18% in reading, 8% in English proficiency. [WWW.INNER-CITYARTS.ORG](http://WWW.INNER-CITYARTS.ORG)

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