



SEA OF COMMON
CATASTROPHE

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ABOUT

When a compelling stranger arrives in a tiny seaside town and initiates radical changes to the community, three long-time residents begin to lose their sense of home. Inventive lighting, image mapping, live music and innovative sets create a swiftly changing landscape of upscale living and chic restaurants that suddenly transforms into a magical sunken world. Inspired by a passage from Gabriel García Márquez's novella *Sea of Lost Time* – a town drowns on a Sunday afternoon but persists, submerged, in its daily life, as if the deluge had never occurred – *Sea of Common Catastrophe* challenges its audiences and its artists to consider the exploitations and the opportunities inherent in profound shifts of urban communities.

Conceived, designed and directed by Jeff Becker, *Sea of Common Catastrophe* was co-commissioned by 7 Stages Theatre in partnership with JEMAGWGA and National Performance Network, and was developed in part through a series of workshops and dialogues with these partners and Ashé Cultural Arts Center in New Orleans.

Sea of Common Catastrophe premiered in New Orleans and was presented by 7 Stages in Atlanta in 2017, and is now available for touring.



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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Black box-style theater with rake seating is preferred. Minimum stage dimensions are 40' wide x 35' deep, with clear ceiling height of 16'. Load-in access to theater must accommodate 8'x8'x1' flats.

Performances can begin no later than Friday night if load-in begins Monday morning and if plot is hung before arrival. Personnel needs include two crew for load-in, set up and strike; two stagehands to move the set during the performance; two performing stagehands for small roles and to assist set moves; and a light board operator.

Sea of Common Catastrophe travels with a crew of ten (two depart after tech is complete). The set arrives in a 26' truck.

To download a full list of equipment and other technical requirements, please click here: [SeaTechRider.pdf](#)



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THE TEAM



Jeff Becker
Director and Designer



Kathy Randels
Performer



Lisa Moraschi Shattuck
Performer



Mahalia Abéo Tibbs
Performer



Jeffrey Gunshol
Choreographer



Evan Spigelman
Lighting Design



Courtney Egan
Video Design



Sean LaRocca
Music and Sound



Laura Sirkin-Brown
Costume Design

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PHOTOS



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They went down very deep, to where the light of the sun and then the light of the sea stopped, and things were only visible in their own light. They passed a submerged village, with men and women on horseback turning about a carousel. It was a splendid day, and there were brightly colored flowers on the terraces. "Here a Sunday sank at about eleven o'clock in the morning," Mr. Herbert said. "It must have been some cataclysm."

Gabriel García Márquez, *Sea of Lost Time*, trans. by Gregory Rabassa

<https://vimeo.com/222004576>

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The MacDowell Colony

