

ATLAS DREAMING

New Play Development Deck

A stage play by

Daniel Flores



Development Project
USC Annenberg

A Stage Built on Memory

Every space in Atlas Dreaming is a container for memory.
The stage becomes a living landscape — intimate, vast, and alive.



LOGLINE

Atlas Dreaming follows a young hospital worker navigating grief, identity, and conditional love as they search for belonging between the life they are expected to live and the one their spirit insists is possible.

T H E M E S

Identity

The search for wholeness in a world that demands division.

Memory

The past lives alongside the present, shaping how we understand ourselves.

Belonging

Family, culture, and community are both refuge and challenge.

Transformation

Becoming oneself requires courage, risk, and compassion.

THE WORLD OF THE PLAY

Atlas Dreaming moves between intimate human spaces and symbolic landscapes.

Hospital corridors, family kitchens, and nightclubs exist alongside the quiet presence of wind, desert, and the Flower World.

Lighting, projection, and movement transform the stage into shifting emotional environments rather than literal locations.



STAGING APPROACH

Club Lushes

Atlas Dreaming is designed for a minimalist theatrical stage that uses lighting, projection, and movement to transform space.

The production centers on a two-level stage structure that allows multiple worlds to exist simultaneously: the hospital, the nightclub, family spaces, and the Flower World.

Lighting and projection shift the emotional landscape while the physical architecture remains constant — allowing the play to move fluidly between memory, reality, and spiritual space.



VISUAL LANGUAGE

The production relies on minimalist staging with layered lighting and projections.

Key visual motifs:

- Wind and desert imagery
- Antler constellations
- Shifting shadows and memory fragments
- Fluorescent hospital light vs moonlit Flower World



KEY CHARACTERS

Atlas

A hospital worker searching for wholeness.

Chase

A young man navigating addiction and vulnerability.

Roger

A figure of control offering security at a cost.

Sylvia

Atlas's mother, whose presence bridges memory and spirit.

Atlas Dreaming explores how love, control, and memory shape the search for belonging.



WELCOME

A photograph of a large, red, illuminated 'WELCOME' sign on a building at dusk. The sign is made of metal scaffolding and is positioned on a rooftop or upper level. The building has a classic architectural style with arched windows. The sky is a deep blue, and the overall scene is dimly lit, suggesting twilight. The sign is the central focus of the image, and its reflection is visible in the dark surface below it.

DEVELOPMENT

Atlas Dreaming is currently in development as part of Daniel Flores's graduate capstone project at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism.

The project explores theatrical storytelling that blends personal narrative, cultural memory, and visually driven stage design.

Atlas Dreaming is currently seeking development opportunities, collaborators, and future production partners.

CONTACT

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