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## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

## Strange Men

A thesis submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements

## for the degree Master of Fine Arts

in

## Theatre and Dance (Playwriting)

by

Will Snider

Committee in charge:

Naomi Iizuka, Chair Allan Havis Manuel Rotenberg Deborah Stein

2017

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Chair

University of California, San Diego

2017

#### DEDICATION

STRANGE MEN is dedicated to my parents, Steve Snider and Mary Ann Allison, and my mentors, Naomi Iizuka Allan Havis, and Deborah Stein. It is also dedicated to the director and actors who brought this script to life in the Wagner New Play Festival: Will Detlefsen, DeLeon Dallas, Kyle Hester, and Yonatan Gebeyehu.

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#### ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Strange Men

by

Will Snider

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Dance (Playwriting) University of California, San Diego, 2017 Naomi Iizuka, Chair

Haamid lives a modest life running a restaurant in a small market town in Uganda. A member of the minority Indian population, he is estranged from his family for reasons he prefers not to discuss. At night he cooks elaborate dinners that he eats alone. When an openly gay Peace Corps volunteer comes to town looking for more than a good meal, Haamid's comfortable routine is broken, and his life is put in danger. STRANGE MEN explores the limits of good intentions and the uneven stakes for Americans living abroad and the people whose lives they touch.