

**Directors Lab West Steering Committee,  
in association with the The Pasadena Playhouse,  
Center Theater Group, and The Music Center, present**



**Est. 2000**

**Dream. Create. Imagine.**

**May 20–27, 2017**

*Directors Lab West has been made possible through the generous support of  
innumerable artists donating their time and resources to this event.*

*Special financial support for Directors Lab West has been received from  
the Stage Directors & Choreographers Society.*



The Directors Lab West Producing Steering Committee, in association with The Pasadena Playhouse, Center Theatre Group, and The Music Center, presents

# Directors Lab West

May 20 – 27, 2017

Welcome to the 18th Annual Directors Lab West! You are welcomed to the Lab as a very special group of directors and choreographers. This week provides an opportunity available to only a few each year. This is a chance for you to meet with fellow artists and other notable theatrical personalities in order to exchange ideas, discuss the process of theatre around our world, and hopefully guide its course. In addition to the artistic exchange with your peers, there is also an opportunity to expand your approach and add to your skills through discussion, demonstration and observation.

## THIS IS YOUR LAB, MAKE OF IT WHAT YOU WILL!

### General Notes:

- Hang on to your Lab ID. Security at all locations will require a valid Directors Lab West ID.
- Sessions are subject to change. Any and all changes or additions after May 20, 2017 will be posted on the Lab Callboard. Please check this board frequently! Daily schedule updates will also post to your Private Facebook Group.
- Information on any other off-site sessions, or 'Special Events' will be posted on the callboard. If required, sign-ups will be taken on the first day of the lab. After that, seating for all activities will be on a first come, first served basis.
- We have arranged for discounted tickets for several theatrical events around Los Angeles. This year we are able to offer a 6 show ticket package for \$125, however please take special note: transportation and parking to all events is each Lab member's responsibility.

### Attendance:

- We hope you will choose to attend each and every session offered during the week, or as many as you are able. Guest artists donate their time to the Lab, so please take advantage of every opportunity.
- All events are FREE except for arranged performances. Look for any event that requires a sign-up sheet (any additional costs will be indicated). If you sign up you MUST attend.
- You must purchase a ticket in advance to attend all performances. If you would like to buy additional and individual tickets for these performances, please reach out to our production coordinators.
- All events of the Lab (other than the opening Saturday's SDC "Open Session") are by invitation only and are for Lab members, participants and special invited guests. PERSONAL GUESTS ARE NOT ALLOWED. This includes: spouses, significant others, industry friends, or individuals personally owed favors. Do not bring them as they will not be allowed in.

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Special support and extended dedication of time has been provided by alumni associate producers Debbie McMahon, Doug Oliphant, Donna Simone Johnson, and Martin Jago; the staff at The Pasadena Playhouse, Danny Feldman, Artistic Director; the staff at the Kirk Douglas Theatre, Lindsay Allbaugh; the staff at The Music Center, Michael Solomon; Directors Lab West Producing Steering Committee members Che'Rae Adams, Ernest Figueroa, Janet Miller, Diana Wyenn; and our Production Coordinators Simon Chau and Joannarae Ibañez.

**Connect with Directors Lab West online!** Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/DirectorsLabWest](https://www.facebook.com/DirectorsLabWest) (the official DLW profile has no year attached) and tag us on Twitter and Instagram using **#DirectorsLabWest**

# Welcome to Directors Lab West 2017

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May 20, 2017

Welcome! It is with great pride and excitement that we are able to offer the 18th year of Directors Lab West.

Our roots begin 3,000 miles east and over 20 years back as the brainchild of Anne Cattaneo and André Bishop, Literary Manager and Artistic Director of the Lincoln Center Theater. Recognizing the absence of a program that allows young directors to cultivate their skills, Lincoln Center Theater established the Lab as a pilot project in 1994 in New York, designed as an interactive forum to engage emerging directors in an intensive study of their craft and to foster collaborative relationships among a community of artists. The LCT-Lab offered a series of workshops, seminars, readings, and productions that enabled participants to learn and grow as artists and working professionals. Each spring some one hundred directors representing a broad cross-section of backgrounds are invited to examine ideas about their profession and discuss their roles in the theater. In its first year, the Lab attracted artists living and working in New York City. By the second year, nearly one quarter of the applicants traveled in from other cities. Since then, this trend has continued and the Lab now has members from across the country, as well as from Brazil, Canada, Switzerland, India and other countries.

In April 2000, five alumni of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab (Nick D'Abruzzo, Ernest A. Figueroa, Olivia Honneger, Kappy Kilburn, Andrew Sachs) came together with the help of Lincoln Center Theater's Literary Manager and LCT Lab founder Anne Cattaneo and organized the West Coast extension of the Lab which was launched at the Greenway Court Theatre in Hollywood. In 2002, the Pasadena Playhouse (and later Boston Court Performing Arts Center and A Noise Within) became the hosting partners of the Lab. For the past several years Directors Lab West has been, and continues to be, sponsored by the generous support of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

Since 2000, the Directors Lab West has drawn together theatre artists from around the United States and beyond. Speakers and Panelists have included Notable Actors, Artistic Directors, Critics, Dramaturges, Designers, Directors, Actors Equity, LA Stage Alliance, Musicians, and Writers. Previous years' sessions have addressed issues such as producing theatre, working with writers and dramaturges, the relationship between actors and directors, movement, design and concerns and issues, not only of concern to Los Angeles, but the entirety of American Theater.

Each year these inspiring artists donate their time and talents in order to share their collective knowledge with you, our attending directors and choreographers. Alumni of Directors Lab West now count over 500, and with each passing year we on the Producing Steering Committee grow more and more moved by the talent, energy, and creativity shared by our Lab attendees. This eighteenth year of Directors Lab West is your lab and you have been greatly anticipated.

Sincerely,

**Directors Lab West Producing Steering Committee**

Che'Rae Adams, Ernest Figueroa, Janet Miller, and Diana Wynn

**Associate Producers**

Martin Jago, Donna Simone Johnson, Debbie McMahon, and Doug Oliphant

**Production Coordinators**

Simon Chau and Joannarae Ibañez

**Special Thanks**

The Pasadena Playhouse, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, The Music Center, Center Theater Group, Anne Cattaneo, Laura Penn, Barbara Wolkoff, and all the Directors Lab West alumni.

# Directors Lab West 2017

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## Producing Steering Committee

Che'Rae Adams  
Ernest A. Figueroa  
Janet Miller  
Diana Wyenn

## Associate Producers

Martin Jago  
Donna Simone Johnson  
Debbie McMahon  
Doug Oliphant

## Production Coordinators

Simon Chau  
626-297-0955  
Joannarae Ibañez  
562-565-0900

## Interns

Makena Metz  
Luke Rampersad  
Rachel Rea  
Jivika Rajana  
Jennifer Zahlit

## Lab Members

Joel Asher  
Donna Marie Baratta  
Yvette Lawrence Bishop  
Lauren Campedelli  
Peta Coy  
Scott Davis  
Christine M. Deitner  
Pamela Donohoo  
Megan Doyle  
Tammi Doyle  
Kristen Fogle  
John Freeland  
Tatiana I. Gelfand  
Catie Glogovsky  
Victoria Goring  
Shen Heckel  
Julia Heinrichs  
Janet Howe  
Tovya Jacobs  
Nehara Kalev  
Ann Kreitman  
Robin Levine  
Rebecca Lynne  
Hans Meyer  
Virginia Monte  
Emmett Murphy  
Christopher Murrach  
Julie Petry  
Allison Plamondon  
Jeffrey Polk  
Colton Pometta  
Artemis Preeshl  
Matt Ritchey  
Lisa Marie Rollins  
Josh T. Ryan  
Shea Sullivan  
Chadwick Taylor  
Annalee Traylor  
Elena Vannoni  
Mercy Vasquez  
Amy Watson  
Bec Willett  
Shad Willingham  
Jonathan Zautner

## Guest Artists

Lindsay Allbaugh  
David Bridel  
Fernando Calzadilla, Ph.D.  
Rex Camphuis  
Anne Cattaneo  
Alexis Chamow  
Brian Cole  
Drew Dalzell  
Alana Dietze  
Sheldon Epps  
Louis Fantasia  
Larissa Fasthorse  
Danny Feldman  
Chris Fields  
Dan Froot  
Marianne Galloway  
Aloysia Gavre  
Alex Jaeger  
Donna Simone Johnson  
Laura Karlin  
Nancy Keystone  
Jessica Kubzansky  
Jeremy Lelliot  
Deborah Lewis  
Sharrell Luckett, Ph.D.  
Ian MacCallister-McDonald  
Claytie Mason  
Heather May  
Debbie McMahon  
Michael Michetti  
Dan O'Connor  
Trefoni Michael Rizzi  
Diane Rodriguez  
Stephen Sachs  
Giovanna Sardelli  
Sabra Williams  
Lisa Wolpe  
Joann Yarrow  
Steven Young

# Saturday, May 20

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10 – 11 am | Orientation | Library at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Welcome to the Directors Lab West 2017!**

**w/ Steering Committee Che'Rae Adams, Ernest Figueroa, Janet Miller, and Diana Wyenn**

11 – 12 pm | Conversation | Green Room at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Crossing the Nation: There and Back Again**

**w/ Danny Feldman**

Danny Feldman joined the Pasadena Playhouse this past fall as the new Producing Artistic Director and immediately embraced Directors Lab West. He will take a moment to welcome and address this year's directors and choreographers to California's State Theater.

12 – 1:30 pm | Group Photo + Pizza Lunch

1:30 – 3:30 pm | Workshop | Green Room at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **It's Showtime... !**

**w/ Dan O'Connor (DLW '08) of Impro Theater**

The interconnectivity of all the arts is profoundly influencing what we explore in theatre. Impro Theatre uses our most direct collaborator, the writer to create and recreate spontaneously new works of art each similar but as unique as the writers who inspire them. From Chekov to Austen, Impro actors and directors use the creative work of others to inspire the act of new creation.

3:30 – 4 pm | Break

4 – 5:30 pm | Conversation | Green Room at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **And Now a Word from Our Sponsors...**

**w/ Sheldon Epps**

Every year the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society supports the efforts of Directors Lab West as a West Coast representative introducing working directors and choreographers to the union, its programs, and activities.

5:30 – 7:30 pm | Dinner + Travel

7:30 pm | Performance | The Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

## ***A Streetcar Named Desire***

**adapted and performed by The Scottish Ballet**

This vibrant adaptation by Scottish Ballet of the classic Tennessee Williams tale, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, brings the heat and music of New Orleans straight to The Music Center. The definitive Pulitzer Prize-winning drama is transformed into a powerful and emotional ballet that not only excites, but further enhances the story's suspenseful take on lust, desire, and betrayal that can only be conveyed by the honesty of dance.

<p><b>The Pasadena Playhouse</b> 39 South El Molino Drive Pasadena, CA 91101</p>	<p><b>Dorothy Chandler Pavilion</b> 135 North Grand Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90012</p>
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# Sunday, May 21

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10 am – 12 pm | Workshop | Rehearsal Hall at the Kirk Douglas Theatre

## **Africa Moves Me**

**w/ Donna Simone Johnson (DLW '15)**

Let's get moving with an energetic union of music, dance and kinesthetic tradition accompanied by live djembe drumming! All levels are encouraged to open up their instrument and join us in fully expressing themselves, freeing up their body and having a great time. Clothes to move in are encouraged, as is an open heart.

12 – 1 pm | Lunch

1 – 3 pm | Roundtable | Rehearsal Hall at the Kirk Douglas Theatre

## **At Home At The Zoo**

Join your fellow Labbies for an open discussion of this year's theme. Be prepared for anything!

3 – 5 pm | Workshop | Rehearsal Hall at the Kirk Douglas Theatre

## **String Theory from Aristotle to Albee and Beyond**

**w/ Louis Fantasia (DLW '02)**

The session consists of an original short play, a brief lecture, and a possibly impossible experiment on the intersection of string theory, harmonics and poetics; with references to empathy, catharsis, and the mathematics of vibrating bodies.

5 – 6:30 pm | Dinner

6:30 pm | Performance | Kirk Douglas Theatre

## ***Dry Land* by Ruby Rae Spiegel**

**directed by Alana Dietze**

Echo Theater Company's *Dry Land* is a haunting play about female friendship and an abortion that takes place in the locker room of a central Florida high school. Written when Spiegel was just 21 years old and still an undergraduate at Yale, the play is a deeply truthful portrait of the fears, hopes, and bonds of teenage girls—as gut-wrenching as it is funny. In his *New York Times* “critic’s pick” review, Ben Brantley called *Dry Land* tender, caustic, funny, and harrowing, often all at the same time.

**Kirk Douglas Theatre**  
9820 W Washington Blvd  
Culver City, CA 90232

# Monday, May 22

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10 am – 12 pm | Workshop | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **The Spirit of Play**

**w/ David Bridel**

An exploration of clown work and the opportunities it offers to directors.

12 – 1 pm | Lunch

1 – 2:30 pm | Panel | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Adaptive Directing**

**w/ Brian M. Cole, Marianne Galloway (DLW '05), Deborah Lewis & Heather May (DLW '14)**

While many theatres strive to promote ethnic diversity in casting and aim for gender equity in the hiring of playwrights and directors, the largest minority group in the country is still mostly left out of the picture. Four theatre-makers share their experiences in staking their space in the scope of theatre, and encourage a candid conversation on inclusion for those with disabilities, from the visible to the unseen to the unheard.

2:30 – 5 pm | Conversation | Multiple locations at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Design Speed Dating: Designers, Our Main Collaborators**

**w/ Trefoni Rizzi (Scenic), Drew Dalzell (Sound), Alex Jaeger (Costume) & Steven Young (Lighting)**

Where do designers get inspiration? Where does the interconnectivity of all the arts overlap with our theatrical creativity? How do you learn “designer speak”? What do designers want from directors? What are those questions you are afraid to ask? Ask them now! They are here and ready to tell it all!

5 – 5:30 pm | Break

5:30 – 6:30 pm | Conversation | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Design Speed Dating Debrief**

6:30 – 8 pm | Dinner + Travel

8 – 10 pm | Workshop | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Melodrama in Physical Theatre: The Athlete of the Emotions**

**w/ Debbie McMahon (DLW '14)**

In this workshop, we will explore a non-verbal, physical approach to storytelling through Melodrama - literally drama to music. It is the most expressive of Western theatre forms, closest to the theatrical impulse, Artaud's "athlete of the emotions." Through heightened gesture, we will explore the struggle of virtue and vice through the archetypes of villain, victim and hero... to music. Play Ferocious. Play to Survive.

**The Pasadena Playhouse**  
39 South El Molino Drive  
Pasadena, CA 91101

# Tuesday, May 23

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10 am – 12 pm | Workshop | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Storytelling through Movement w/ Laura Karlin (DLW '14)**

Dive into the possibilities of movement as a storytelling device using techniques specific to dance but also useful to theater. Whether you're directing Shakespeare or Suzan-Lori Parks, these exercises create a two-way flow of invention in which text motivates movement and movement helps the actors engage with text and each other. We'll generate and expand upon kinetic and theatrical impulses. You'll also learn how to help reluctant actors overcome insecurities with movement and connect in a creative, organic process. Wear clothes in which you can move. Bring your body just as it is. It's perfect.

12 – 1 pm | Lunch

1 – 2 pm | Presentation | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Black Acting Methods: Critical Approaches w/ Sharrell Lockett (DLW '14)**

Endorsed by theatre luminaries Anne Bogart and Kenny Leon, *Black Acting Methods: Critical Approaches* highlights performance pedagogies influenced by African American and Afrocentric aesthetics. Lockett's recently published book, for all cultures, provides a culturally relevant framework for directing/acting teachers seeking to enhance their lessons with diverse pedagogical approaches and perspectives to teaching acting and directing theatre. Lockett provides an avenue for directors and actors seeking to strengthen artistic relationships with culturally diverse performance methodologies, particularly of a Black American aesthetic, in and outside of rehearsal labs; furthering the work of diversity and inclusion in the theatre.

2 – 2:30 pm | Break

2:30 – 4:30 pm | Performance | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Shakespeare and the Alchemy of Gender w/ Lisa Wolpe (DLW '03)**

Visionary theatre artist Lisa Wolpe's powerful solo show offers a unique celebration of the enchanting power of cross-gender Shakespeare. Over the past 24 years of work with the Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company, Ms. Wolpe has played more of the Bard's male roles than any woman in history, always to superlative reviews. An activist as well as a celebrated actress and director, Wolpe's work speaks toward liberation from the "gender box" of expectations, and offers a unique and powerful perspective of courage, resilience and hope against her family's background of war, suicide and despair.

4:30 – 6:30 pm | Conversation | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **String Theory and YOU—How Encounters with Seemingly Random Things Become a Catalyst for Passion and Great Theatre w/ Jessica Kubzansky**

Jessica Kubzansky, the Co-Artistic Director of The Theatre @ Boston Court and an award-winning director working nationally, will share the ways in which oddly unexpected happenings and experiences in daily life and in the world around us can instigate great theatre. From Jade Trees in Burger King Bags to Declarations of War to Identity Crises, how these events and encounters can ignite, incite, and illuminate the creative spark on the way to making full productions, leaning on the most important resource that you have as an artist—yourself.

6:30 – 8 pm | Dinner + Travel

8 pm | Performance & Talkback | The Mark Taper Forum

## **Archduke by Rajiv Joseph directed by Giovanna Sardelli**

Three hapless and hungry young men fumble their way through history as they take on a mission of martyrdom. Are they fighting for Serb independence or a sandwich? Patriotism or pudding? With Archduke Franz Ferdinand as their target, a depraved Captain sends Gavrilo, Nedeljko, and Trifko on a darkly comedic journey towards immortality in Rajiv Joseph's (*Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*, *Guards at the Taj*) World premiere and Center Theatre Group commission Archduke.

**The Pasadena Playhouse**  
39 South El Molino Drive  
Pasadena, CA 91101

**Mark Taper Forum**  
135 North Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

# Wednesday, May 24

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10 am – 12 pm | Roundtable | Rehearsal Hall at The Music Center

## **The String Theory: Exploring Relationships to Further the Work**

Join your fellow Labbies for an open discussion of this year's theme. Again, be prepared for anything!

12 – 1:30 pm | Lunch

1 – 2:30 pm | Conversation | Rehearsal Hall at The Music Center

## **Who's Afraid of Edward Albee?**

**w/ Ian MacAllister-McDonald**

Playwright Ian MacAllister-McDonald talks about his long term association with Edward Albee and discusses how our relationship with the theatrical icons extends forward and backward "stringing" us all together in a united art form.

2:30 – 4 pm | Panel | Rehearsal Hall at The Music Center

## **Transcript Theatre: Whose Story To Tell?**

**w/ Larissa Fasthorse (DLW '15), Dan Froot, and Claytie Mason**

Four transcript theatre artists sit down for a conversation about oral tradition, replication theatre, and community immersion through their experiences with being the historical keeper of underserved and marginalized narratives in the canons of theater.

4 – 5:30 pm | Panel | Rehearsal Hall at The Music Center

## **No Party Like A Block Party w/ Lindsay Allbaugh (DLW '05), Alana Dietze, Chris Fields, Jeremy Lelliot, and Stephen Sachs**

Block Party is a Center Theatre Group initiative focused on supporting and highlighting Los Angeles area theatres through the sharing of audiences, ideas, and resources. Los Angeles is home to over 250 theatre companies—including more small theatres than New York—featuring an abundance of talent, diversity, and ingenuity. To celebrate the vibrant theatre of our city, Block Party presents three recently produced productions from local theatre companies as part of the Kirk Douglas Theatre season. The artistic directors of Block Party productions will share their experience in the inaugural program, designed to encourage collaboration and stronger relationships among the Los Angeles theatre community.

5:30 – 7 pm | Dinner + Travel

7 – 8 pm | Mixer | Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

## **SDC Mixer**

Eat, drink & meet more members of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society!

8 pm | Performance | Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

## ***Battlefield* based on *Mahabharata* and the play written by Jean-Claude Carrière adapted and directed by Peter Brook and Marie-Hélène Estienne**

The internationally renowned team of Peter Brook, Marie-Hélène Estienne and Jean-Claude Carrière together revisit the great Indian epic *Mahabharata* thirty years after Brook's legendary production took world theater by storm. The devastation of war is tearing the Bharata family apart. The new king must unravel a mystery: how can he live with himself in the face of the devastation and massacres that he has caused. An immense canvas in miniature, this central section of the ancient text is timeless and contemporary, asking how we can find inner peace in a world riven with conflict.

<p><b>The Music Center</b></p>	<p><b>Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts</b></p>
<p>135 Grand Ave.</p>	<p>9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd.</p>
<p>Los Angeles, CA 90012</p>	<p>Beverly Hills, CA 90210</p>

# Thursday, May 25

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10 am – 12 pm | Workshop | Cirque School LA in Hollywood

## **The Air Up There**

**w/ Rex Camphuis & Aloysia Gavre**

For anybody with a body, Cirque School works on building both body and mind. By using the techniques of professional circus artists, our students gain strength, flexibility, and achieve their maximum potential.

12 – 1:30 pm | Lunch + Travel

1:30 – 4 pm | Workshop | Multiple locations at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Directors in Process**

**“I hoped that the dog would understand...”**

**w/ Nehara Kalev, Emmett Murphy, Julie Petry & Jonathan Zautner**

Four of the Directors Lab West 2016 have been invited to explore a selection of *The Zoo Story* in an open rehearsal setting. Their charge is to explore the text from their distinct points of view. Join them and view it from your perspective.

4 – 4:30 pm | Break

4:30 – 5:30 pm | Workshop | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Directors in Process Debrief**

**“I don’t know why I expected the dog to understand much...”**

5:30 – 8 pm | Dinner + Travel

8 pm | Performance & Talkback | East West Players

***Next to Normal* music by Tom Kitt; book and lyrics by Brian Yorkey**

**directed by Nancy Keystone**

One of the most powerful stage experiences of recent years, *Next to Normal* is about the seemingly picture perfect Goodman family. However, Diana, the mother, is a little too happy. Her husband Dan constantly worries. Her daughter Natalie is awfully intent on getting that scholarship to Yale. And her son Gabe, well...This Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize winning rock musical is a heartbreaking, humorous and unflinchingly authentic look at a suburban family struggling with the effects bipolar disorder. Set to a pulsating rock score by Tom Kitt (*American Idiot*) with a powerhouse female lead at its core, *Next to Normal* will leave you breathless.

<b>Cirque School LA</b> 5640 Hollywood Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90028	<b>The Pasadena Playhouse</b> 39 South El Molino Drive Pasadena, CA 91101	<b>East West Players</b> 120 Judge John Aiso St Los Angeles, CA 90012
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# Friday, May 26

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10 am – 1 pm | Workshop | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Rasabox**

**w/ Fernando Calzadilla, Ph.D & Joanne Yarrow (DLW '00)**

Devised in the 1980s and 90s by Richard Schechner, rasaboxes offers performers a concrete physical tool to access, express, and manage their feelings/emotions within the context of performance. Useful as performer training, rasaboxes also has many other applications in various fields including (but not limited to) therapy, business, and education. Rasaboxes trains participants to physically express eight key emotions integrating the ancient theory of *Natyasastra*, a Sanskrit text, with contemporary emotion research about the “brain in the belly” (the enteric nervous system), studies in facial expression of emotion, neuroscience, and performance theory — including Antonin Artaud’s provocative assertion that the actor is “an athlete of the emotions,” arming you with a new approach to engaging the whole performer in a single, powerful and learnable approach.

1 – 2 pm | Lunch

2 – 5 pm | Roundtable | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Who the Hell Are You?!**

**w/ the Members of Directors Lab West 2017**

Come and find out.

5 – 5:30 pm | Break

5:30 – 7 pm | Conversation | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **The Actors' Gang: The Prison Project**

**w/ Sabra Williams**

Founded by Tim Robbins in 1981, The Actors' Gang is one of the most respected and revered theatre companies in the country, with one of the foremost Arts in Corrections programs; The Prison Project, created in 2006 by company member Sabra Williams. The program takes the high emotional and physical style of theatre practiced by the Actors' Gang and through workshops with incarcerated students, uses it to create a transformative rehabilitation process. The program is currently in ten prisons, two Reentry programs and two girls Juvenile Camps. Director of Outreach & The Prison Project, Sabra Williams and one of her formerly incarcerated students will be speaking about the journey and impact of the work and the place of the Arts in the movement for Criminal Justice Reform that is sweeping the country.

7 – 8 pm | Dinner + Travel

8 pm | Performance & Talkback | Boston Court Performing Arts Center

## ***The House in Scarsdale: A Memoir for the Stage* by Dan O'Brien**

**directed by Michael Michetti**

As Tolstoy said “All happy families are alike; each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.” In *The House in Scarsdale*, playwright Dan O'Brien traces the roots of his family's particular unhappiness to learn why his parents and siblings cut him off years ago. The more Dan learns about his family, the more mysterious the circumstances surrounding their estrangement become, until his world is shaken when rumors surface that his real father might be another member of the family. Ultimately, Dan must decide if his pathological pursuit of the truth is worth the risk or should he follow the advice of a psychic and make his life a never-finished work of art.

<p><b>The Pasadena Playhouse</b> 39 South El Molino Drive Pasadena, CA 91101</p>	<p><b>Boston Court Performing Arts Center</b> 70 North Mentor Avenue Pasadena, CA 91106</p>
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# Saturday, May 27

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10 am – 12 pm | Conversation | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Are You or Have You Ever Been...**

**w/ Anne Cattaneo**

In 1994, Anne Cattaneo initiated the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab designed as an interactive forum engaging emerging directors in an intensive study of their craft and to foster collaborative relationships among artists. At the same time Ms. Cattaneo nurtured America's most renowned playwrights offering world premieres of the most memorable theatrical productions of the past two decades. Ms. Cattaneo will share her pathway and her own insight on building relationships with "The String Theory."

12 pm – 1 pm | Lunch

1 – 3 pm | Workshop | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **All The World's A Stage**

**w/ Alexis Chamow**

Alexis is experienced at applying theatre and coaching techniques with non-performers to enhance communication, presence, and performance.

3 – 5 pm | SDC Open Session | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **Pathways and Links through Space and Time:**

**A Conversation w/ Diane Rodriguez**

From her early work with El Teatro Campesino to her enduring relationship with the Center Theatre Group to her many years of service on the Theatre Communications Group board of directors and her recent appointment by President Obama to the National Endowment for the Arts' National Council on the Arts, few artists have intersected with so many organizations and people as Diane Rodriguez. A director, writer, producer, and Obie award-winning actress, Diane is truly a "Renaissance Woman" of the new millennium whose influence has been felt nationwide. In this open conversation, she will share the experiences and pathways, unexpected and planned, which have created her prestigious career and brought her to this place.

5 – 6 pm | Wrap Up | Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse

## **The Future of the American Theatre**

**w/ the members Directors Lab West 2017**

Go and take on the world! You are the future of the American Theater!

**The Pasadena Playhouse**  
39 South El Molino Drive  
Pasadena, CA 91101

# Who's Who

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**CHE'RAE ADAMS (Steering Committee)** is currently the Director of Programming for the Moss Theater in Santa Monica and the Chief Operating Officer for New Roads School. She has been the Producing Artistic Director of the LA Writers Center since 2006 where she develops new work with local writers. She has also been a Development Executive for Playhouse Pictures Studios, Co-Artistic Director of the Road Theatre Company, and Managing Producer for the LA Women's Theatre Festival. She began her career as the Assistant to the Staff Producer at The Mark Taper Forum where she worked on the writing workshop of the Pulitzer Prize winning *Angels in America, Part II: Perestroika*. Also for the Taper, she coordinated the Taper Lab Series and Mentor Playwright's Series working with writers such as Luis Alfaro, Anthony Clavoe, Marlane Meyer, David Lee Lindsey, Oliver Mayer, Ellen McLaughlin, Alice Tuan and Mac Wellman. Che'Rae has directed/dramaturged the West Coast premiere productions of several new plays including pieces by Lee Blessing, Ken Hanes, Patricia Cardoso, John DiFusco, Jon Bastian, and Abi Morgan. Other credits include Cincinnati Opera Outreach, Disney/ASCAP Musical Theatre Workshop, Highways Performance Space, and Troupe Vertigo at the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre. She has worked with prominent performers such as Tonya Pinkins, Lynn Redgrave, Patti Cohenour, Kim Fields, and Carlos Alazraqui. She has worked with award winning directors and choreographers such as Vincent Paterson, Tom Hulce, Bonnie Story, Kitty McNamee, and Tina Kronis. Che'Rae is also an experienced public speaker and teacher having taught acting and writing workshops at various institutions around the country such as The Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, Catholic University, Miami Dade University, California State University, Fullerton, UCLA Extension, and Azusa Pacific University. Her students are Academy Award winners, New Century Writer Award Finalists, PEN West Literary Award Drama Nominees, New York Drama Desk Award winners, Los Angeles Drama Critics' Circle Award Winners, and NAACP Award Winners. She is the recipient of a SDC Foundation Observership Award and has a Masters Degree from the University of Cincinnati, College Conservatory of Music. Fun fact: In 2009, Che'Rae played Gladys Presley in Cirque du Soleil's "Viva Elvis" which opened the Aria Casino in Las Vegas.

**LINDSAY ALLBAUGH** is a member of Center Theatre Group's artistic staff and has served in varying capacities for the past 13 years. Selected producing credits include—Mark Taper Forum: the upcoming world premiere of *Archduke* by Rajiv Joseph, *Bent*, *What the Butler Saw*, *Steward of Christendom*, *Waiting for Godot*; Kirk Douglas Theatre: *Block Party*, *Good Grief*, *Vicuna*, *Throw Me On the Burnpile* and *Light Me Up*, *Endgame*, *Women Laughing Alone With Salad*, *Chavez Ravine*, *Race*, *different words for the same thing*, *The Nether*. Co-Artistic Director of the Elephant Theatre 2004–2014.

**DAVID BRIDEL** is dean of the USC School of Dramatic Arts. He is also the director of the MFA in acting program. Bridel is a director, choreographer, playwright, librettist, performer and teacher of acting, movement and clown. His work in all these theatrical disciplines has been seen at the Mark Taper Forum, the Odyssey Theater, the Ford Amphitheatre, the Shakespeare Center, the Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble and the Broad Stage in Los Angeles; Classic Stage Company, the BMI Musical Workshop and the Bound for Broadway series in New York; at Shakespeare & Company and Barrington Stage in Mass.; the Roy Hart Theatre in Malerargues, France; the TEDxUSC conference 2012 and TEDxBeijing 2014; in opera houses in Los Angeles, Paris, Vienna, Munich, Mexico City, Guanajuato, Santiago and Madrid; on screen (PBS' Great Performances series and ABC's Dancing With the Stars); and at universities, festivals and theatres in the U.S., U.K., Israel, China, Hong Kong, Australia, Austria and Brazil – including the Beijing Film Academy, the National Theatre of China and the Brazilian Museum of Sculpture in Sao Paulo.

**FERNANDO CALZADILLA** is a theater designer, dramaturg, scholar, performance artist, and one of the six rasaboxes licensed instructors. He has a Ph.D. in Performance Studies at New York University where he worked closely with Richard Schechner and Diana Taylor. He has co-authored with Stephanie Ansin adaptations of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *Three Sisters*, *Hedda Gabler*, and *The Seven Year Itch*; the original scripts for *Inanna and the Huluppu Tree*, *The Red Thread*, and *Everybody Drinks The Same Water*. A native Venezuelan, Fernando has been awarded 14 times best set, costumes, or lighting designer for his work in Caracas. He has taught Performance at FIU, Performance Art at DASH (Design and Architecture Senior High), ECA's Performance Workshop at New York University, and rasaboxes (actors training technique) workshops at colleges and regional theaters throughout the U.S. and abroad. He is currently Dramaturg/Resident Artist for Miami Theater Center.

**REX CAMPHUIS** has been working in Theater, Film, Television or Circus Production since 1986. Rex attended The San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts and is a graduate of San Diego Jr. Theater Training Program. After a 3 season apprenticeship at San Diego's Starlight Opera Rex went to Cabrillo College in Santa Cruz where he studied Acting and Direction for the stage and was the stage manager for the Tandy Beal Dance Company. Those opportunities gifted him the chance to run away with San Francisco's Pickle Family Circus' where he became the stage manager from '92-'95 for both national and international tours. In '96 he moved to Los Angeles to begin work in film and television production where he was the Production Coordinator for WB's *Felicity* and ABC's *Alias*. During that time Rex served as the Board President for Pasadena Jr. Theater, a youth theater school, for 4 years. In '04 Rex Co-directed and was the Musical Director of the Pickle Circus Production Birdhouse Factory. His directing work along with partner Aloysia Gavre continued with the Pickle Circus including productions of *High Water Radio* with the Tin Hat Trio at the Palace of Fine Arts, *Elevation 63* and *E63:Vertigo* at Theater Artaud. Rex spent the '07/'08 season as San Francisco's Traveling Jewish Theatre's Associate Producer and Sound Designer in Residence whose credits include their productions of *Rose* and *Death of a Salesman*.

**ANNE CATTANEO** is the dramaturg of Lincoln Center Theater and the creator and head of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab. A three term past president of Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas, she is the recipient of LMDA's first Lessing Award for lifetime achievement of dramaturgy. She has worked widely as a dramaturg on classical plays with directors such as Bartlett Sher, Robert Wilson, Adrian Hall, Jack O'Brien, Robert Falls, Mark Lamos and JoAnne Akalaitis. As the director of the Playworks Program at the Phoenix Theater during the late 1970's, she commissioned and developed plays by Wendy Wasserstein (*Isn't It Romantic*) Mustapha Matura (*Meetings*) and Christopher Durang (*Beyond Therapy*). For the Acting Company, she created two projects: *Orchards* (published by Knopf and Broadway Play Publishing) which presented seven Chekhov stories adapted for the stage by Maria Irene Fornes, Spalding Gray, John Guare, David Mamet, Wendy Wasserstein, Michael Weller and Samm-Art Williams, and *Love's Fire* (published by William Morrow) responses to Shakespeare sonnets by Eric Bogosian, William Finn, John Guare, Tony Kushner, Marsha Norman, Ntozake Shange and Wendy Wasserstein. Her own translations of 20th Century German playwrights include Brecht's *Galileo* (Goodman Theater 1986 starring Brian Dennehy) and Botho Strauss' *Big and Little* (Phoenix production starring Barbara Barrie, published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux.) She is currently on the faculty at Juilliard. In July 2011, she was awarded the Margo Jones Medal given annually to a "citizen of the theater who has demonstrated a significant impact, understanding and affirmation of the craft of playwriting, with a lifetime commitment to the encouragement of the living theatre everywhere." Anne was awarded the Alfred Drake Award by Brooklyn College in May, and is working on a book for Yale University Press entitled, *The Art of Dramaturgy: How to Read, Research, Rehearse and Realize a Play*.

**ALEXIS CHAMOW** Director & Performance Coach, is a personal and professional coach, certified through the International Coach Federation, who works with leaders and teams to create inspirational connections and opportunities for impact. With Stand & Deliver, she has worked with companies such as Cisco, Sony, Medtronic, UDEM and Deloitte, as well as with private coaching clients. As a long-time performer herself, and having directed and facilitated education programs for major regional theatres in Southern California (such as Pasadena Playhouse, Geffen Playhouse and Center Theatre Group) since 2004, Alexis is experienced at applying theatre and coaching techniques with non-performers to enhance communication, presence and performance. She often works with professional women who tend to sabotage themselves in the area of public speaking, and teams in transition looking to create effective new cultures in changing environments. Alexis' theatre portfolio includes directing, acting, improvising, voiceover work and guest teaching at Universities and institutions all over the country. She holds a comprehensive Theatre MFA from the University of Texas at Austin and a BA from Washington University in St. Louis. She currently lives in Los Angeles where she has her own coaching practice, A of All Arts, that focuses on sustained coaching engagements with individuals and organizations looking to make foundational shifts in operational methods.

**SIMON CHAU (Production Coordinator)** is a stage manager based in Los Angeles, and is thrilled to be serving as a production coordinator for this year's Directors Lab West. He is currently a senior in the BFA Stage Management program at the University of Southern California, and focuses on musicals, live events and international ceremonies. His most recent works include assistant stage manager and production coordinator positions for the 2015 Special Olympics World Games Ceremonies, and the 2016 Copa America Centenario Opening Ceremony.

**BRIAN COLE** has worked with Deaf West Theatre, The Road Theatre, Fountain Theatre, Casa 0101. Film credits include: I'm Harry Clark, Pie Head: Kinda True Story, Always A Bridesmaid, Simone. B.A. in FMA (Film & Media Arts) Temple University (Philadelphia). Brian currently teaches American Sign Language at Glendale Community College.

**DREW DALZELL** is an award winning sound designer, show control programmer, and theatrical consultant. His experience encompasses theme parks, cruise ships, theatre, television, film, industrials, and installations. Drew's multidisciplinary skill set—which ranges from lighting, sound, and set design to stage management, direction, and show control programming—uniquely qualifies him to oversee large-scale productions. In themed entertainment, Drew has worked for Universal Studios, Walt Disney Imagineering, Disney Creative Entertainment, Nickelodeon Recreation, and Paramount Parks, among others. He has done extensive sound and show control work for Universal Studios Hollywood, most notably Halloween Horror Nights 2006-2017. For Nickelodeon Resorts, Drew acted as the show control programmer and technical systems consultant for multiple shows at the Nick Hotel. His work on cruise ships includes being Technical Director for the Nickelodeon Family Cruise, Nick @ Sea, and Nick All Access from 2008-2011 and the 2009 R Family Cruise to Alaska. Drew has designed sound for over 250 theatrical productions. His designs have appeared in venues as varied as Disney Cruise Lines' Wonder for the world premiere of *Toy Story: The Musical* to world and West Coast premieres at regional theatres such as South Coast Repertory, The Laguna Playhouse, The Colony, and the Rubicon. As a young designer, he received the 1998 USITT ClearCom Sound Achievement Award. Since then, he has been nominated for Ovation, *LA Weekly*, Garland, LADCC, and NAACP Awards, winning multiple times. Drew also works with Stage Research as an expert trainer for their SFX Software and has trained students ranging from attendees at LDI to Local 1 members in New York City. Some of Drew's notable installation work includes working with Utopia Entertainment on a large scale wireless audio speaker system for the City of Beverly Hills holiday season and the San Diego Zoo, and managing show control design and integration for the Porsche Hall at the LA Auto Show. His television work can be heard in the dialog recording and editing for Ruroni Kenshin, Batman Beyond, Detentions, and Justice League. Drew received his MFA in Theatrical Sound Design from the College Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati, and his subsequent accomplishments and unique skill set have created a demand for him as a lecturer. He teaches specialized classes in sound design at California Institute of the Arts, the University of California Los Angeles, and Santa Monica Community College; he has also lectured at Yale University, University of California Irvine, The University of Missouri Kansas City, North Carolina School for the Arts, Purdue University, Pomona College, and The University of Cincinnati.

**ALANA DIETZE** has appeared, as an actor, in over twenty productions on LA's small stages. Favorites include: *Fugue*, *BOB*, *God's Ear*, *Everything Will Be Different* (Ovation nominations for Best Leading Actress, Best Ensemble, Best Production) with the Echo Theater Company, *The Hillary Game*, *Villon*, *The Hive Project* with Padua Playwrights, *Lady Macbeth in Macbeth* for the Vagrancy, *Possum Carcass*, *What May Fall*, *Have You Seen Alice?*, *Shake*, *Nibbler* with Theatre of NOTE, and *Lascivious Something* with Circle X. Alana has directed three productions for the Echo: *The Found Dog Ribbon Dance*, *DRY LAND*, and *A Small Fire* (4 Ovation, 1 LADCC, and 2 Stage Raw nominations). *DRY LAND* won the 2016 Ovation Award for Best Production (Intimate theater). It is nominated for four Stage Raw Awards including Best Director and Best Production. The production will be remounted in May 2017 as part of CTG's prestigious Block Party program. Alana has also directed short plays and workshop productions for Antaeus and Moving Arts. She has served as Literary Manager of the Echo Theater Company since 2008.

**SHELDON EPPS** was honored to be Artistic Director of the renowned Pasadena Playhouse for twenty years (1997-2017). Before beginning his tenure at the Playhouse he served as Associate Artistic Director of the Old Globe Theatre for four years. He was also a co-founder of the Off Broadway theatre, The Production Company. Currently he continues to serve Pasadena Playhouse as Artistic Director Emeritus. Mr. Epps has directed both plays and musicals at many of the country's major theatres including the Roundabout, Manhattan Theatre Club, the Guthrie, Playwrights Horizons, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Arena Stage, and the Goodman Theatre and Houston's Theatre Under the Stars in Houston. He conceived the highly acclaimed musicals *Play On!* and *Blues In the Night*, which both received Tony Award nominations. He directed productions of both of those shows on Broadway, in London, and at theatres throughout the world. He also co-directed the Broadway production of *Baby It's You!*, which had its world premiere at The Pasadena Playhouse. He also has had a busy career as a television director helming episodes of shows such as *Frasier*, *Friends*, *Everybody Loves Raymond*, *Girlfriends* and many others. Mr. Epps received the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award for his efforts and accomplishments at the Pasadena Playhouse. Under his leadership the Playhouse has earned distinction for productions of artistic excellence, critical and box office success, and highly praised theatrical diversity.

**LOUIS FANTASIA** has produced and directed more than a hundred and fifty plays and operas worldwide. Director of the Shakespeare Globe Centre's Teaching Shakespeare Through Performance Institute from 1997 to 2002, and President of Deep Springs College (2007), Louis is currently Director of Shakespeare at the Huntington, the teacher training institute of the Huntington Library, Art Galleries and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California. He was the first American to direct a production on the reconstructed Globe stage, with a workshop production of *Much Ado About Nothing* in 1997. Recently, Louis has served on panels on education and cross-cultural development at both the Beijing and Shanghai Film Festivals, and has lectured and given workshops at the Beijing Film Academy and the Shanghai Theatre Academy. His book, *Instant Shakespeare*, was published in the U.S. by Ivan R. Dee and by A & C Black in England. *Tragedy in the Age of Oprah*, his second book, was published by Scarecrow Press. His new book, *Talking Shakespeare: Notes from a Journey*, will be published in 2017 by Peter Lang Publishers. In 2003, the Council of Europe named the theatre collection at its library in the European Parliament in honor of Louis Fantasia, who holds both U.S. and European Union passports. In 2016 he was awarded the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for his contributions to German culture and theatre.

**LARISSA FASTHORSE** is an award winning playwright, director, and choreographer based in Santa Monica. Larissa's produced plays include *What Would Crazy Horse Do?* (KCRep, Relative Theatrics), *Urban Rez* (Cornerstone Theater Company), *Landless* (AlterTheater), *Average Family* (Children's Theater Company of Minneapolis), *Teaching Disco Squaredancing to Our Elders: a Class Presentation* (Native Voices at the Atrium), *Vanishing Point* (Eagle Project) and *Cherokee Family Reunion* (Mountainside Theater). Her new comedy, *The Thanksgiving Play*, will be produced at Artists Rep and Cap Stage next season. Larissa directed the critically acclaimed play, *Our Voices Will Be Heard* (Perseverance Theater Company) and is developing two new projects to direct in the next year. Additional theaters that have commissioned or developed plays with Larissa include ASU Gammage, History Theater, Kennedy Center TYA, Baltimore's Center Stage, Arizona Theater Company, Mixed Blood, the Center Theatre Group Writer's Workshop and Berkeley Rep's Ground Floor. Larissa was awarded the PEN USA Literary Award for Drama, NEA Distinguished New Play Development Grant, Joe Dowling Annamaghkerrig Fellowship, AATE Distinguished Play Award, Inge Residency, Sundance/Ford Foundation Fellowship, Aurand Harris Fellowship, the UCLA Native American Program Woman of the Year and numerous Ford and NEA Grants. She is a current member of the Playwright's Union, Director's Lab West 2015, Theatre Communications Group board of directors, Playwright's Center Core Writers and is an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Sicangu Lakota Nation. Hoganhorsestudio.com Jonathan Mills, Paradigm NY for theater, Britton Rizzio, Writ Large LA for TV/film. Hoganhorsestudio.com Indigenoudirection.com

**DANNY FELDMAN**, Producing Artistic Director, joins The Playhouse from his former post as the Managing Director/Executive Director at the Labyrinth Theater, a leading Off-Broadway theater company in New York City founded by John Ortiz and Philip Seymour Hoffman. He led the theater to its first Broadway production, the Tony nominated *The Motherf\*\*ker With The Hat*. He led a strategic effort to cultivate relationships with and engage top artists in the theater and ushered in an expanded play development program. Feldman instituted an audience development plan that resulted in more than doubling the audiences while maintaining one of the youngest and most diverse audiences in New York. He also led an effort to increase contributed income and resolve the organization's longstanding debt. Prior to that, Feldman joined Reprise Theatre Company in 2002 as the company's General Manager before becoming its Managing Director in 2007. While there, he increased artistic programming, created a city-wide festival, launched a concert series featuring lesser known Broadway musicals, and created education program, giving at-risk high school students an introduction to classic American musicals for which he received the California Theater Education Teacher's Association Award. As an independent producer, Mr. Feldman collaborated with Tony-nominated director Kristin Hanggi, presenting the World Premiere of *bare: a pop opera*. *bare* received the 2001 Los Angeles Ovation Award for "Best Musical – Intimate Theatre" and later was produced Off-Broadway in 2004. The pop opera continues to play to audiences internationally. He also produced the West Coast Premiere of Terrence McNally's *Corpus Christi*, also directed by Ms. Hanggi, at the Lillian Theatre. Mr. Feldman received his B.A. in Music from the University of California, Los Angeles.

**CHRIS FIEDLS** is a Los Angeles based director, actor and teacher. As founding Artistic Director of The Echo, he's produced, to date, 63 Los Angeles premieres, 48 of which were world premieres, and of those, 28 were commissioned. As a director, most recently: the Los Angeles Premiere of Miki Johnson's *American Falls*, and the World Premieres of Tommy Smith's *Fugue* and *Firemen*. He won the LADCC award for direction for *Firemen* as well as winning the LA Weekly Award for Best Comedy Direction for his production of Gary Lennon's *A Family Thing*. Additionally, among many others: the world premiere of Kate Robin's *What They Have at South Coast Repertory*, the Los Angeles Premiere of Jessica Goldberg's *Body Politic* which received four Ovation nominations, the World Premiere of *The Illustrious Birth of Padraic Duffy*, the Los Angeles Premieres of Kate Robin's *Anon* and Sarah Ruhl's *Melancholy Play*, the World Premiere of Paul Zimmerman's *Pigs and Bugs*, and the World Premiere of *Eat Me* by Jacqueline Wright, which was nominated for six LA Weekly Awards including Best Director. His work in film includes his adaptation of Neal Bell's *Out the Window*, which he produced and directed, and his recent short *Sunnslope*, which was awarded Best New York Film at the New York Film and Video Festival and nominated for Best in Fest at the Great Lakes Film Festival. In 1995, he founded the Ojai Playwrights Conference, serving as Artistic Director until 2000. While there, he was responsible for bringing David Lindsay-Abaire, Adam Rapp, Kira Obolensky, Deborah Jo Laufer, Neena Beber and Ari Roth, to Southern California as well as work-shopping *Betty's Summer Vacation* by Christopher Durang and David Ives' *POLISH JOKE*, among many others. As an actor, he has appeared on Broadway in James Duff's *Homefront* with Carroll O'Connor and Frances Sternhagen directed by Michael Attenborough, off Broadway in Gary Sinise's original Steppenwolf production of *Orphans*, Michael Greif's *Machinal* at both Naked Angels and The Public and the world premiere of David Ives' *Words Words Words* at The Manhattan Punchline, to name just a few. Regionally, he's worked at The Actor's Theatre of Louisville, The Philadelphia Drama Guild, The Rep Theatre of St. Louis, and The Missouri Repertory Theatre and was a proud member of the acting ensemble for Lloyd Richards at The Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Conference. On film: *Alien3*, *The Game*, *Fight Club* and *Zodiac* for David Fincher as well as *Jurassic Park*, *Apollo 13* and *Stargate* among others. He's also been in numerous hour, half-hour, mini-series and mow's on television. Chris was an adjunct professor of drama at SUNY Purchase and maintains a workshop in Los Angeles. [www.chrisfieldsactingstudio.com](http://www.chrisfieldsactingstudio.com)

**ERNEST A. FIGUEROA (Steering Committee)** has been a dedicated director, producer, actor and playwright in theatre, film and television throughout the country. As a founding director of Directors Lab West, which now boasts over 500 alumni, he has served on the Steering Committee from 2000 to the present. He was a member director and presenter for the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab in New York in 1998 and 1999. He directed the New York premiere of *Dos Corazones* representing the Lincoln Center Theater Director's Lab Festival @ HERE in New York. Since 2008 Figueroa has served as Producer at the state-of-the-art Broad Stage, a 541-seat presenting house located at the new Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center. There he assists on the programming and coordinates production of the season that includes notable artists in the fields of opera, jazz, choral, chamber and orchestral music, theatre and dance. He served as Artistic Director of The Group Rep at the Lonny Chapman Theatre in North Hollywood from 2009- 2010 and as a Director and performer with the second longest running show in Los Angeles, the American Girl Revue from 2004-2006. He was the Associate Artistic Director for the Sacramento Theatre Company from 1996 – 1998 where he also served as casting director and literary manager. Previously, he worked as the national Education Director for Plays for Living, Inc. in New York City and worked twice on the professional staff of The Pasadena Playhouse. He currently works as a Director and Producer with Bonnie Franklin's outreach program, C.C.A.P. – Classic and Contemporary American Plays. With C.C.A.P. he has directed a large variety of staged-readings including *All My Sons* starring Ms. Franklin, *A Touch of the Poet* starring David Birney, *Death of a Salesman* starring Michael Gross, and *Broadway Bound* with Harold Gould. In 2001, he was honored as a Drama League Fellow serving as the Associate Director on *Blue* starring Phyllicia Rashad, first working on the production at the Roundabout Theatre Company in New York, then working on the production at the Pasadena Playhouse, finally guiding the play onto the Arizona Theatre Company, Coconut Grove in Florida, and the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey starring Leslie Uggams. His award winning productions include *Oleanna* at the Third Street Theatre and *The Effect of Gamma Rays . . .* at the Alternative Repertory Theatre. He has launched two active Improv companies, "Loose Screws" in Hawaii and "Metro North Improv" in Connecticut. Figueroa won the '96 W.A.V.E. award for his talk show *Adelante!* featuring Hispanic role models. He received his Masters of Fine Arts in Directing from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and his Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Theatre Education from McPherson College in Kansas. His professional training includes improvisation studies at the Groundlings School in Los Angeles and studies at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Figueroa is a Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

**DAN FROOT** is a producer, composer, choreographer, writer, saxophonist, dancer, actor and director. He has performed his dance, music and theater work throughout the U.S. and overseas since 1983, and has worked with artists as diverse as Yoshiko Chuma, Ping Chong, Mabou Mines, Dan Hurlin, Ralph Lemon, Guy Klucevsek and Victoria Marks. Dan and long-time collaborator David Dorfman have co-created a popular and ongoing series of interdisciplinary duets collectively entitled *Live Sax Acts*. He received a Bessie (New York Dance & Performance Award) for his music/theater piece, *Seventeen Kilos of Garlic*, and a City of Los

Angeles Artist Fellowship and a playwriting commission from the National Foundation for Jewish Culture for his gangster-vaudeville, *Shlammer*. He recently completed a national tour of *Who's Hungry*, a collaboration with celebrated New York puppet artist Dan Hurlin and Seattle-based composer Amy Denio. *Who's Hungry* tells life-stories of individuals living with hunger and/or homelessness in Los Angeles. Dan's current project, *Pang!*, is a triptych of live radio plays based on the life stories of three families living with hunger in Miami, Cedar Rapids, and South Central Los Angeles. It will premiere in all three cities in 2017-2018. Dan's work has received major support from Network of Ensemble Theaters, MAP Fund, US Artists, Doris Duke Charitable Trust, The National Endowment for the Arts, Jerome Foundation, Meet The Composer, The Durfee Foundation, The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, The New York State Council on the Arts, The Vermont Community Arts Foundation, The New England Foundation for the Arts, The Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, Reader's Digest, the City of West Hollywood, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, AEPOCH Foundation, University of California Institute for Research in the Arts, UCLA Council on Research, and the UCLA Center for Community Partnerships.

**MARIANNE GALLOWAY** is a 2005 alumni of Directors Lab West and a 2005/2006 alumni of the Lincoln Center Directors Lab. After a hiatus from Directing during which she created her greatest two productions (5-year-old Zoë and 1-year-old Archer), she appeared Off-Broadway as Elizabeth in the NYC premiere of Lone Star/Laundry and Bourbon, as well as playing the Woman in Red in the J.J. Abrams produced miniseries of Stephen King's *11.22.63* (with James Franco). She also turned in a series of critically acclaimed regional performances, including Sarah in *Children of a Lesser God*, Izzy in *Rabbit Hole* (Contemporary Theater of Dallas), Harper in *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* (Uptown Players), Susan in *title of show* (Theatre Three), Julie/Fredrick in *Lovers and Executioners* (Circle Theater), and Annie Canon in *Silent Sky* (Watertower Theater). Her BC (Before Childbirth) directing credits include *Much Ado About Nothing* (Shakespeare Dallas), *The Receptionist* (Watertower), *Lawrence and Holloman* (Second Thought Theatre), *Waiting for Godot*, *Slaughterhouse 5*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *Marisol*, *Orgasmo Adulto Escapes From The Zoo*, and *Antarctica* (Risk Theater Initiative). She served as Assistant Director on the Pasadena Playhouse/DeafWest world premiere co-production of Stephen Sach's *Open Window*, and has directed for New York's Cherry Lane Theater Alternative. She recently returned to directing, and is currently directing *A Little Night Music* for Dallas' Theatre Three. She is also developing a new script for Theatre Three about parenting a severely autistic child, as well as a new script premiering this summer at Dallas' Festival of Independent Theaters about living with Stiff Person Syndrome. As an actor, she will continue Harper's journey this fall in *Angels in America: Perestroika* for Dallas' Uptown Players. Awards/Nominations: multiple DFW Theater Critics Forum, Column, Dallas Theatre League, and Dallas Observer Reader's Choice Awards. Affiliations: Risk Theater Initiative (Founder/Artistic Director), Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, Dallas Theater League (Past President), Gideon's Feet: Help and Hope For Artists In Need (Board Member, [www.gideonsfeet.org](http://www.gideonsfeet.org)). Represented by Core Talent.

**ALOYSIA GAVRE** began touring internationally with San Francisco's Pickle Family Circus at the age of 18 after spending her youth training under Master Lu-Yi (Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe), Shana Carrol (7 Fingers) and at Montreal's Ecole Nationale de Cirque. At 23 she joined Cirque du Soleil as an aerialist performing in both *Quidam* in over 2,000 shows across 10 countries and *O* in Las Vegas. Aloysia's aerial hoop act with *Quidam* was asked to represent Cirque du Soleil at the International Circus Festival of Monte Carlo leading her to receive special honors. Other performing highlights include appearances in the film *Water for Elephants* and on stage with *Teatro Zinzanni*, Cirque Mechanics on Broadway, and touring the globe with highly acclaimed *Symphonies* for the last 8 years including appearances at the Sydney Opera House and the Kennedy Center. After 20 years of performing across the globe Aloysia choose to share her skills both as an Educator by creating Cirque School for Anybody with Any Body and as a Circus Creative Director for Troupe Vertigo Circus-Dance-Theater, both with her partner Rex Camphuis. Aloysia began her circus choreography and directing career in 2004 starting with a co-production with the Pickle Family Circus and Cirque Mechanics show *Birdhouse Factory* which included a run on Broadway. Since that time she has remained a collaborative partner with Cirque Mechanics working on Pedal Punk and Cirque Orchestra both currently on tour. Besides her own creations with Troupe Vertigo she additionally stages and choreographs for various Symphonies including a premier of *Cirque Goes to the Movies* for the Philly Pops and *Cirque Goes to Broadway* for Indianapolis Symphony and Holiday themed shows. Other choreography and directing highlights include work on the Film *Pitch Perfect 2* with Rebel Wilson, Eclipse Shadow Acrobatics & Dance, PBS Special- *A Symphonic Adventure* and numerous special events. Aloysia has additionally given lectures & demonstrations on the art of Circus Creation at TED-X, Directors Lab West, Center Theater Group and the Chicago Contemporary Circus Festival. She was quoted in the book entitled *The Ordinary Acrobat* and is the feature cover story in the August 2016 issue of *Dance Teacher Magazine*.

**JOANNARAE IBANEZ (Production Coordinator)** is a Director & Theatre Arts Educator. For the last 10 years, Joannarae has been building and teaching theatre programs for K-12th students both inside and outside of the classroom. She is the founder & artistic director of MOONLIGHTVSN a production company that focuses on bringing honest, empowering, accessible, theatre and art to East Los Angeles, San Gabriel Valley, and surrounding communities. Joannarae is currently associate company manager for The Broad Stage in Santa Monica and is excited to be program coordinator for Directors Lab West 2017.

**ALEX JAEGER** has designed costumes for theater, film, dance and opera across the country and internationally. He has also worked as a fashion designer for an international label and as a celebrity stylist. His fashion work has appeared on the pages of *Vogue*, *G.Q.*, *In Style*, *Rolling Stone*, *Details*, and *The N.Y. Times* Style section. Theater highlights include: N.Y.: *Two Sisters and a Piano* at the Public, *Wiesenthal* at the Acorn. Regional credits include: *A Parallelogram and Other Desert Cities* for the Mark Taper Forum; *Mr. Burns* for the Guthrie; *Rock N Roll* for the Huntington Theatre; *The Nether*, *The Paris Letter* and *Eclipsed* for the Kirk Douglas Theatre; *The Hard Problem*, *Venus in Fur*, *Arcadia*, *4000 Miles*, *Once in a Lifetime*, *Maple and Vine*, *The Homecoming*, *November*, and *Speed the Plow* for A.C.T. San Francisco; *A Wrinkle in Time*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* Iowa, *August: Osage County*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Handler*, *Fuddy Meers* and *Stop Kiss* for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival; *Amadeus*, *Office Hour*, *Zealot*, *Cloudlands*, *All My Sons*, *What They Have*, *Nostalgia*, *True West*, *But Not For Me*, *Skylight*, *Play Strindberg*, *Godfish* and *Pinocchio* for South Coast Repertory; *King Charles III* and *One Man Two Guvnors* for The Pioneer Theatre; *Life is a Dream* for California Shakespeare Theatre; *Major Barbara* for Theatre Calgary. Recently, his designs for *The Sneetches* at the Children's Theatre in Minneapolis were featured in a 5 page spread in *American Theatre Magazine*. Alex works on many world premiers including the upcoming new Neil LaBute play *How to Fight Loneliness* and Han Ong's *Grandeur*. He earned a BFA from Massachusetts College of Art and an MFA from UCLA. For more information, pictures and a full resume, please visit [www.alexjaegerdesign.com](http://www.alexjaegerdesign.com)

**MARTIN JAGO (Associate Producer)** is an interdisciplinary theatre director from Great Britain. The author of several plays and two books on Shakespeare published by Smith & Kraus, one of the world's foremost publishers of theatre trade books, he recently renewed his ties with S&K by signing a new two-book deal. The Founding Artistic Director of RAZE THE SPACE, a Los Angeles based theatre company with a global perspective, he maintains a vibrant working practice, enriched by the spirit of international collaboration that defines his work. He was educated at the University of Oxford.

**DONNA SIMONE JOHNSON (Associate Producer)** is a LA-based actress, choreographer and producer who has performed on 4 continents, 14 countries and a myriad cities. Choreography credits include *Echoes of a Thousand Hills* alongside the Center for New Performance in Kigali, Rwanda, *Salt of The Earth*, with Brigette Dunham at Highways Performance Space, REDCAT Studios, *August Wilson's Seven Guitars*, *The Depth of Black Art* at ACT, *Balm in Gilead* at USC, directed by Heidi Helen Davis in addition to creating pieces at CalArts, NYU, Idyllwild Arts Academy, Arts and Communication Magnet, Cal State LA and the Harlem Academy with Ronald K. Brown. She is also on the teaching faculty of Vanguard University and Idyllwild Arts Academy, and has taught adjunct courses at NYU in

the Steinhardt School of Education. Producing credits include Jean Genet's *The Blacks, Mitera: As We Remember Our Mothers*, an interdisciplinary devised visual piece, *Alive & Well*, a celebration of black resilience, *Homefree*, directed by Michael Matthews, *Birder*, and *John is a Father* at The Road.. She currently serves on the Artistic Board of The Road Theatre Company, is an Associate Artist with Antaeus and is on the Governing Board of Hardcorps, NYC, an organization that provide formal dance training to homeless and impoverished youth around the country. In 2013, she was honored with the Guthrie Visiting Artist Fellowship and was the recipient of the NAACP Production Grant for Best Solo Performance for her one-woman adaptation remount of *Twilight, Los Angeles: 1992*. She holds a BA in Theatre Performance and Directing, a MA in Somatic Education from New York University and a MFA from CalArts in Acting. She is also a proud alumnus and associate producer of Directors Lab West. For more information, visit: [www.donnasimonejohnson.com](http://www.donnasimonejohnson.com)

**Laura Karlin**, Artistic Director of Invertigo Dance Theatre and DLW '14 Alum, creates engaging dance pieces of virtuosic movement delivered with stunning athletic physicality and a whimsical theatricality. The company forges a new relationship between audience and performer and its storytelling incorporates elements of theatre, spoken dialogue and live music. Laura's choreography has been performed in such venues as the Ford Theatres, Los Angeles Theatre Center, Alex Theatre, LACMA, Broad Stage and Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Invertigo's Dancing Through Parkinson's program offers weekly dance classes to people living with Parkinson's disease and its Invert/ED education program empowers young people through the creative process. [@invertigodance](http://www.invertigodance.org)

**Nancy Keystone** is a Los Angeles-based director, multi-disciplinary artist, and the artistic director of Critical Mass Performance Group. She functions as the ensemble's chief investigator, writer, director, and designer. Among CMPG's recent works: *Ameryka*, (Shakespeare Center of LA) *Alcestis* (Getty Villa & Theatre @ Boston Court), *Apollo* (Kirk Douglas Theatre & Portland Center Stage), *The Akhmatova Project*. As a freelance artist she has directed and designed dozens of award-winning theatre productions and opera around the country including at Portland Center Stage, Center Theatre Group, East West Players, Long Beach Opera, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, Actors Express, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. Among many honors, Keystone is the recipient of a 2014 Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, a United States Artists Hoi Fellowship (2011), Theatre Communications Group Alan Schneider Director Award (2003), and she has been named one of *LA Times*' "Faces To Watch." She received a BA in Theatre Arts from UCLA, and an MFA in Directing from Carnegie Mellon University. She is on visiting faculty at UCLA, and is a frequent university guest lecturer. [www.nancykeystone.com](http://www.nancykeystone.com)

**Jessica Kubzansky** is the Co-Artistic Director of The Theatre @ Boston Court in Pasadena since inception and an award-winning director working nationally. Kubzansky develops and directs a great deal of new work, and is also passionate about classics. Most recently: Aditi Kapil's *Orange* (South Coast Rep), Jeanne Sakata's *Hold These Truths* (Portland Center Stage), *Stupid Fucking Bird* (ACT, Seattle), Luis Alfaro's *Mojada, A Medea in Los Angeles* (Boston Court at The Getty Villa), *Pygmalion* (Pasadena Playhouse), the New York premiere of Sheila Callaghan's *Everything You Touch* (Rattlestick at The Cherry Lane), *Rll*, her own three-person *Richard II* (Boston Court), world premieres of Stefanie Zdravec's *Colony Collapse, EYT*, Michael Elyanow's *The Children*, Jordan Harrison's *Futura*, Laura Schellhardt's *Courting Vampires*, Salamone/McIntyre's musical *Gulls*, Mickey Birnbaum's *Bleed Rail*, Carlos Murillo's *Unfinished American Highwayscape #9 & 32*, Jean Claude Van Itallie's *Light*, Cody Henderson's *Cold/Tender*, plus *Camino Real* and *Mother Courage* (all at Boston Court). Also: *Macbeth* (Antaeus), *Hamlet* with Leo Marks, *Winters Tale*, and Jen Haley's *Breadcrumbs* (Theater 150); *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Illinois Shakespeare Festival); *The Glass Menagerie, Toys in the Attic, Heartbreak House* (The Colony Theatre), Julia Cho's *The Language Archive* (East/West Players), *The 39 Steps* (La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts), *Mauritius* (Pasadena Playhouse), Sheila Callaghan's *Kate Crackernuts* (24th Street Theatre), and many more. Kubzansky, who also teaches graduate playwrights and directors at UCLA, has received numerous awards, including the LA Drama Critics Circle Award for Sustained Excellence in Theatre.

**Jeremy Lelliott** is the founding artistic director of Coeourage Theatre Company, where he has programmed a wide variety of classics, original works, revivals, premieres, musicals, and theatre for young audiences, with a special commitment to Shakespeare that includes directing *Romeo & Juliet* and his own adaptation, *Andronicus*. Onstage, Jeremy has worked for theatres such as The Pasadena Playhouse, La Jolla Playhouse, Laguna Playhouse, Independent Shakespeare Company, The Chance, The La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts, and Disney on Broadway. A veteran film and TV actor, Jeremy has worked for acclaimed directors Francis Ford Coppola, Ernest Dickerson, Karen Arthur, and Gideon Raff, and amassed an extensive list of series regular, recurring, and guest star roles. Jeremy holds a BFA in film production from Loyola Marymount University and an MFA in acting from California State University, Fullerton.

**Deborah B. Lewis** has been an audio describer and trainer since 1987 when she was trained through the Ohio Theatre Alliance. She brought Audio Description to the state of Georgia through her work as the Executive Director of Special Audiences whose mission was to make the arts accessible to people with disabilities. She described the premiere audio description season of 16 plays for the Alliance and Academy Theatres She then went on to train over 40 audio describers in Georgia and enroll 50 theatres, museums and cultural institutions. During the Olympics in Atlanta, she facilitated the audio description program for all of the Cultural Olympiad events from 1992 through 1996. Upon moving to Los Angeles in 1997 she established audio description services through Audio Description Los Angeles (ADLA) and the Los Angeles Radio Reading Service. She has trained describers for ADLA, Very Special Arts Georgia, ARTability, Yale Repertory Theatre, Amaryllis Theatre, Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Kickstart Disability Arts and Culture, Picasso PRO, Stratford Shakespeare Festival, California Musical Theatre, Newseum, La Jolla Playhouse, Lincoln Park Zoo, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, San Diego Zoo, Wharton Center for Performing Arts and for the LEAD conference through the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. In 2010 she joined forces with Audio Description Solutions as a Senior Writer and in 2016 became the President when Bill Patterson retired. Through her work with ADS, she has done Audio Description scripts for New River Gorge National River, Keweenaw National Historic Park Calumet Visitor Center, James A. Garfield National Park, Mammoth Cave National Park, Mesa Verde National Park, Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park, Cuyahoga Valley Experience Center, and the Albright Visitor Center at Mammoth Hot Springs - Yellowstone National Park. She is currently a member of the California Audio Describers Alliance and the national Audio Description Coalition. She is a founding member of the Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disabilities through the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

**Sharrell D. Luckett's** literary and embodied interdisciplinary scholarship is situated in performance theory, Black studies, and Fat studies. She is lead editor of *Black Acting Methods: Critical Approaches* (2017), a groundbreaking anthology that is the first book to highlight diverse acting/directing methods rooted in Afrocentrism. The anthology is endorsed by theatre luminaries Anne Bogart and Kenny Leon. Her upcoming monograph, "YoungGiftedandFat: Size, Sexuality & Privilege," engages with her life as a transweight actress and artist. An accomplished director, Luckett served as the Guest Artist in Residence at SUNY-Potsdam and Tri-Cities Visual & Performing Arts program, directing *Ruined* and *The Bluest Eye*, respectively. She is a proud invitee of Harvard University's Mellon Institute of Theater and Performance Research, the Performance Encounters series at Cornell University, Northwestern University's Mellon Program in Black Feminist Performance, Directors Lab West, and the Lincoln Center Directors Lab in NY. She holds a doctorate in Theatre & Performance Studies from the University of Missouri-Columbia, and is Assistant Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies at Muhlenberg College. [www.sdluckett.com](http://www.sdluckett.com)

**IAN MACALLISTER-MCDONALD** is a playwright, filmmaker and educator from Portland, Maine. He holds an MFA in Playwriting from Brown University, where he also taught. He is the recipient of a playwriting grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Clauder Competition Gold Prize, and the Visionary Playwrights Award from Theatre Masters. He has also been awarded residencies at the MacDowell Colony, the Edward Albee Foundation, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, the Brush Creek Foundation for the Arts and the Ucross Foundation. Ian teaches Playwriting at Loyola Marymount University and writes for the *L.A. Review Of Books*. Ian's first feature film, *Some Freaks*, premiered at the Fantasia Film Festival this past summer and will be in theaters in select cities later this August.

**CLAYTIE MASON** is a playwright/director and co-founder of Nebunele, an award winning theatre company in it's 11th year producing original, ensemble-driven work. Claytie has twice headlined San Francisco's DIVAfest, a festival celebrating women artists, poets and playwrights. Her interview-based production of *The Secret Ruths of Island House* won 'Best New Play' at both the San Francisco and Boulder, Colorado Fringe Festivals. Claytie's work has been lauded by the SF Chronicle as "...an engrossing exercise in theatrical simplicity" and "...almost heartbreaking in it's sympathetic and curiously affirmative humanity." Claytie received her MFA in playwriting from Columbia University, with a special concentration in Narrative Medicine, where she focused on issues related to the medical community, aging, identity, and end of life. While at Columbia, Claytie received the Arts Outreach Fellowship, creating a program that joined residents of the Amsterdam Nursing Home with grad students from Columbia's MFA program in oral history, interview-based theatre projects. Claytie's current work as a writer/director is community oriented and purposefully small in scope. Her most recent stage play, *The Big White Door*, examined the experience of children who deal with terminal illness, their families, and the doctors and nurses who care for them. She is currently working with a tightly knit grief support group on *The Love & Loss Project*, an interview-based theatre project focused on people who have lost their life partners. Outside of theatre, Claytie is working on her first feature film, co-writing with internationally acclaimed Dutch film maker Jan-Willem Van Ewijk.

**HEATHER MAY** is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Theatre Department at Hobart and William Smith Colleges and founder and Artistic Director of Mosaic NY, a collaborative year-round social justice theatre company comprised of HWS students that creates and performs original material as well as leads workshops on embodied activism. Prior to joining the faculty of HWS, she was an Associate Professor of Theatre at Auburn University, where she founded Auburn's Mosaic Theatre Company. Heather has directed for Grinnell College, Indiana University, Auburn University, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, ShatterMask Theatre, The Theatre Conspiracy, Orthwein Theatre Company, and the *Wizard of Oz* Centennial Celebration, and has participated in numerous directing workshops, such as Directors Lab West ('14), Directors Lab North ('15), Dell'Arte International Summer Theatre Intensive, and the La MaMa International Symposium for Directors, which she is looking forward to attending again this summer. Heather is a Full Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society since 2014 and a stage management member of Actors' Equity Association since 1995. She teaches courses in script analysis, directing, stage management, theatre for social change, theatre history, acting, African American theatre, and a senior capstone in theatre. In February of this year, Heather was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa, a genetic disorder that causes retinal degeneration. Although grateful to learn that she doesn't just flip over 2-foot pylons while running because she is clumsy or inattentive, the knowledge that the ways she has taught and directed are about to be similarly upended has not been as comforting. Her (seemingly always out-of-date) website is [www.playingtheother.com](http://www.playingtheother.com).

**DEBBIE MCMAHON (Associate Producer)** is a director/performer, and Artistic Director of Grand Guignolers with whom she creates and directs critically acclaimed sold-out productions blending traditional physical theatre genres in new ways: melodrama, Commedia dell'Arte, clown, Grand Guignol, dance, vaudeville and puppetry in a 1920's Parisian event-like atmosphere. The Guignolers have performed around Los Angeles, in Hollywood, at The Actors' Gang and for Pasadena Playhouse's Cirque-A-Palooza. In addition to revisiting classic Grand Guignol (horror), original productions have included *A Grand Guignol Children's Show* ("Not for Children) and *Absinthe, Opium and Magic: 1920s Shanghai*. McMahon has also directed at USC, for *Wicked Lit* at the Pasadena Mausoleum, been a member of the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble, The Actors' Gang and has clowning with Cirque du Soleil. She graduated Dell'Arte School of Physical Theatre, earned a BA in Philosophy and Theatre at Connecticut College, and an MA in Performance Studies at NYU. She has also taught melodrama, Grand Guignol, and physical theatre at Dell'Arte and USC. [www.debbie-mcmahon.com](http://www.debbie-mcmahon.com).

**MICHAEL MICHETTI** is Co-Artistic Director of The Theatre @ Boston Court where his directing credits include Roland Schimmelpfennig's *The Golden Dragon*, Eric Coble's *My Barking Dog*, Aaron Posner's *Stupid Fucking Bird*, Carlos Murillo's *Dark Play or Stories for Boys*, and world premieres of Deborah Stein's *God Save Gertrude*, Eric Whitacre's *Paradise Lost: Shadows & Wings*, and his own adaptation of Oscar Wilde's *A Picture of Dorian Gray*. He also directed the world premiere of Tom Jacobson's *The Twentieth-Century Way*, and that production went on to have an acclaimed run at New York's Rattlestick Playwright's Theatre. Other directing credits include: the world premieres of *Jacobson's House of the Rising Son* at Ensemble Studio Theatre L.A. and *Ouroboros* at the Road Theatre; *Figaro*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Hamlet*, *Don Juan* and *As You Like It* at A Noise Within; Brecht's *Edward II* for Circle X; *Amy's View* starring Carol Lawrence at Florida Rep; *Noises Off* at PlayMakers Repertory Theatre; *A Life in the Theatre* starring Hal Holbrook at the Pasadena Playhouse; *Kiss Me, Kate*, *Carousel*, and *Man of La Mancha* at Reprise. He has received many awards including two Ovation Awards and five Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards for his direction.

**JANET MILLER (Steering Committee)** is a producer, director, choreographer and educator. She is the recipient of the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Joel Hirschhorn Award for Career Achievement in Musical Theater. Her original choreography has been showcased Off-Broadway at the Westside Theatre in The Marvelous Wonderettes. She received a Lucille Lortel Award nomination for Outstanding Choreographer for this production. Janet garnered a LA Stage Alliance Ovation nomination for her work on TMW, a BackStage West Garland, a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Choreography, a BroadwayWorld LA Award nomination for Best Choreography and was part of the team that won the Ovation Award for Best Intimate Musical in 2007. She also received a Garland and a LADCC choreography award for Winter Wonderettes. Ms. Miller was thrilled to choreograph the European Premiere of TMW for Teatro Franco Parenti in Milan, Italy. Janet has staged her award winning step touch extensively throughout the US, most notably at Northlight in Chicago, San Jose Repertory Theatre, Capital Repertory in Albany, New York, Sacramento Music Circus, Pittsburgh CLO, The Plymouth Playhouse in Minneapolis, Cabrillo Music Theatre in Thousand Oaks, CA, Moonlight Stage Productions in Vista, CA, McCoy Rigby Entertainment, and The Merry-Go-Round Playhouse in Auburn, NY. Good People Theater Company just celebrated their four-year anniversary and Janet serves as Producing Artistic Director. GPTCo has seven productions under their belt thus far, *A Man of No Importance*, *Barrymore* (2x) *The Fantasticks*, *Closer Than Ever*, *Marry Me A Little*, and *The Toxic Avenger*. The shows have been well received in Los Angeles by both critics and spectators, garnering wonderful notices, as well as inclusion in several year-end roundups for Best Production and Best Director, and *LA Weekly* nominations for Best Musical Production, Best Musical Director, and Best Director-Musical for *AMONI*. *AMONI* and *Barrymore* were both Ovation Recommended, and *Barrymore* received a 2013 Ovation nomination for Best Actor. Janet was the Resident Director for Phantom Projects Theatre Group, housed at the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts. In 2010, she had the honor of directing Lydia R. Diamond's adaptation of the Toni Morrison book, *The Bluest Eye* to critical acclaim. The following season, Phantom remounted this production at the Miles Playhouse in Santa Monica for a successful run. Also for Phantom Projects, she has helmed *The Miracle Worker*, *The Crucible*, *Of Mice and Men*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*, *Grapes of Wrath*, *The Giver* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Ms. Miller has worked as director and/or choreographer on both coasts on such shows as *Side By Side By Sondheim*, *South Pacific*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Anything Goes*, *Baby*, *The Fantasticks*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Dames At Sea*, *Charlie Brown*, *Urinetown*, *Bat Boy*, *The Musical*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Nerd*, *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, *The Rimers of Eldritch*, and *Taming of the Shrew* to name a few. Her preferred style of dance is tap, which she has taught and choreographed worldwide in China and Thailand. She was one of the founding members of Golden State

Theatre, the Family Theatre of La Mirada, for eighteen years, directing and choreographing over 50 original productions. Janet is the recipient of the 2003 Excellence in Art Award for Drama from the city of Torrance, where she was the Artistic Director/Resident Director at the Torrance Theatre Company for seven years, directing sixteen shows during her tenure. JM holds a B.A. in Musical Theatre from CSU Northridge, an M.A. in Theatre Arts & Dance from CSU Los Angeles and an M.F.A. in TV/Film/Theatre from CSULA. She is a professor at College of the Desert and Copper Mountain College. Ms. Miller is a proud member of SDC. [www.janetmiller.net](http://www.janetmiller.net) [www.goodpeopletheaterco.org](http://www.goodpeopletheaterco.org)

**DAN O'CONNOR** is co-founder and Producing Artistic Director of Impro Theatre as well as a co-founder of Los Angeles Theatresports and BATS Improv in San Francisco. For Impro Theatre he is the co-director for *Jane Austen UnScripted* (The Broad Stage, Carrie Hamilton Theatre @The Pasadena Playhouse, North Coast Rep, Oregon Shakespeare Festival Green Show), *Fairytales UnScripted* (The Broad Stage, Lewis Family Playhouse), *The Western UnScripted* (The Falcon Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, North Coast Rep), *Sondheim UnScripted* (Thomas Theatre at OSF), *Shakespeare UnScripted* (The Odyssey Theatre, Carrie Hamilton Theatre @The Pasadena Playhouse, North Coast Rep, Theatre Asylum) and he is the Director for Chekhov UnScripted (The Odyssey Theatre, Carrie Hamilton Theatre @The Pasadena Playhouse, North Coast Rep, Impro Studio). Television directing credits include the critically acclaimed ABC hybrid sit-com *Sons and Daughters* and *Campus Ladies* for the Oxygen Network. He was a writer and the improv director for *The Wayne Brady Show*. He co-created the NBC television improv comedy show World Cup Comedy, which ran for two seasons on PAX. Television acting credits include *Seinfeld*, *VEGAS*, *Raising Hope*, *Campus Ladies*, *Malcolm In the Middle*, *The Tonight Show*, *The Newz*, *Life Game*, *Quick Witz*, *Law and Order LA*, *Little Britain USA* and *the Middle*. Theatre credits include the Improbable Theatre's production of Keith Johnstone's *Life Game* (Off-Broadway), work with the American Conservatory Theatre, A Noise Within, Shakespeare Santa Cruz and the Taper Too. He was an adjunct professor for USC 's BFA program. He has taught at DUKE, Pepperdine, UCSB, UCLA extension, the MBA Program at UT Austin, Dreamworks and Disney Animation, Cirque du Soleil, and for improvisational theatre companies and festivals around the world. He is a graduate of the Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art in London. Dan's TEDx Talk "Improvising a Better World" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmDbPUjeWMA>

**DOUG OLIPHANT (Associate Producer)** is an LA-based theatre director, movement director and fight choreographer and produces work through Drive Theatre. Directing credits include Amy Tofte's *Women of 4G* (Drive Theatre/Fierce Backbone), Jerry Lieblich's *D Deb Debbie Deborah* (Theatre of NOTE), *Eurydice* (Ophelia's Jump Productions), *SubUrbia* (Pacific Resident Theatre), *Lazy Boy* (The Blank Theatre), Nathan Wellman's *Love Life Alpha* (Sci-Fest LA), *ELIZABETH HAMMOND—a eulogy*, *Rite of Seymour*, *44 Plays for 44 Presidents* (Drive Theatre), and *The Sound of Silence* (OC-Centric New Play Fest). Recently developed/directed new play readings with playwrights Steve Yockey, Nahal Navidar (EST/LA), James McLindon, Larry Mollin, Kirsia Rein (The Blank Theatre), Brian James Polak (Moving Arts), Jacob Juntunen (Theatricum Botanicum), Larry Pontius (Skylight Theatre), Greg Machlin (SkyPilot Theatre), and Howard Ho, Cort Brinkerhoff, Annette Lee, Megan Breen (The Vagrancy). He's choreographed movement or fights at the Carrie Hamilton Theatre at Pasadena Playhouse, Odyssey Theatre, Skylight Theatre, CalArts, Chapman University, The Vagrancy, and LA Theatre Ensemble. 2017 Finalist for the O'Neill's National Directors Fellowship, recipient of the Kennedy Center's ACTF Directing Fellowship. BFA in Acting/Directing at Central Connecticut State University, alum of the O'Neill's National Theater Institute and studied at the St. Petersburg State Theatre Arts Academy (Russia). Associate member, SDC. [www.DougOliphant.com](http://www.DougOliphant.com)

**TREFONI MICHAEL RIZZI** recently designed *Sex and Education* starring Julia Duffy at the Laguna Playhouse, the World Premieres of *Two Boys From Brooklyn* starring Lainie Kazan at The Palace Theatre in Los Angeles and Scenic, Lighting and Projections for *Marilyn, Madness and Me!* at The El Portal Theatre in NoHo. Other recent local designs include Scenic and Projection Design for *COPENHAGEN*, starring Linda Purl at the Rubicon Theatre in Ventura, Scenic Design for *Parallel Lives* at The Falcon Theatre and Scenic Design for *Sex and Education* starring Stephanie Zimbalist at the Colony Theatre. Off-Broadway work includes Scenic, Projection and Lighting Design for *A Woman of Will* at the Daryl Roth Theatre. Colorado Shakespeare Festival designs include Scenic, Lighting and Projection Designs for *The Little Prince* and *A Child's Christmas in Wales* and Lighting Design for *The Inspector General*. Trefoni received the Ovation Award for Scenic Design in a Larger Theatre for *Songs for a New World* at the Rubicon Theatre. Other award winning designs include *Lady Macbeth Sings the Blues*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, and *Defying Gravity*. World Premieres include Maltby/Shire's *A Time for Love*, P.J. Barry's *Bad Axe*, and Stephen Legawiec's *Peru in Africa*. New York Premieres include Richard Hellesen's *Dos Corazones* for Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab Festival at HERE. West Coast Premieres include Melanie Marnich's *Quake* and LeeBlessing's *Chesapeake*. Favorite designs include *Holes*, *Noises Off!*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Miser*, *The King Stag* and *Translations*. Trefoni is the Lead Faculty member in the Set and Exhibit Design Program at the Art Institute of California - Hollywood, holds a B.A. in Design from UCLA, and a M.F.A. in Theatre and Dance from the University of Hawaii Manoa, with an emphasis in Asian Theatre and Theatre for Young Audiences. A member of IATSE/USA Local 829, he was first finalist in the NEA/TCG Career Development Program for Designers. Trefoni is author of the Award Winning *Teddy's Travels – America's National Parks*. [www.teddystravels.com](http://www.teddystravels.com)

**DIANE RODRIGUEZ** Currently running at the Los Angeles Theatre Center, Diane wrote and directed *The Sweetheart Deal*. She has directed for Playwright's Arena Erik Patterson's world premier production *Sick* (Best Director Nomination LA Weekly Awards) as well as for East West Players, Cornerstone Theater Company, South Coast Repertory, the Fountain Theatre, Center Theatre Group, the Odyssey Theatre, City Theatre in Pittsburgh, PA, *Mixed Blood* in Minneapolis, Actor's Theatre of Phoenix (Two Best Director Nominations, Arizona Theatre Awards), Borderlands Theatre, Phoenix Theatre, Victory Gardens in Chicago, among others. Diane wrote collectively with the ensemble LATINS ANONYMOUS whose two-play anthology is published under the same name. Her solo work is published in various anthologies including *La Crème de la Femme* Random House. Her play *Living Large* premiered at Teatro Luna in Chicago in 2012. *The Sweetheart Deal* was developed by New Harmony in Indiana, the Atlantic Theatre's Latino Mix Fest in NYC, and the Black Swan Lab at Oregon Shakespeare Festival. This production is part of El Fuego Project/Latinx Theatre Commons. She served on the TCG Board for eight years and was president for three. She is Associate Artistic Director at Center Theatre Group, a member of the National Council on the Arts, a body that advises the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. She is the 2016-2017 SDC Foundation Denham Fellow.

**STEPHEN SACHS** is the author of 13 plays, including *Citizen: An American Lyric* (adaptor), *Cyrano* (L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award), *Bakersfield Mist* (London's West End, starring Kathleen Turner), *Central Avenue* (PEN Award finalist), *Sweet Nothing in My Ear* (PEN Award finalist), and others. He wrote the teleplay for *Sweet Nothing in My Ear* for CBS starring Marlee Matlin and Jeff Daniels. Sachs was honored by the Los Angeles City Council for "his visionary contributions to the cultural life of Los Angeles."

**GIOVANNA SARDELLI** Los Angeles: *Guards at the Taj* (Geffen Playhouse, 2017 Ovation Award for Best Production of a Play). Select Off-Broadway World premieres: *Little Children Dream of God* (Roundabout Theatre); *Wildflower*, *Animals Out of Paper*, *All This Intimacy* (Second Stage); *Finks* (Ensemble Studio Theatre); *Apple Cove* (Women's Project Theater); *Huck & Holden* (Cherry Lane Theatre). Regional: *Mr. Wolf*, *All the Way*, and *The Whipping Man* (Cleveland Play House); *The Mountaintop*, *Absalom* (Actors Theatre of Louisville); *Clybourne Park*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Muckrakers*, and *The North Pool* (Barrington Stage Company); *Crimes of the Heart*, *Velocity of Autumn*, *The Lake Effect*, *Somewhere*, and *The North Pool* (TheatreWorks Silicon Valley). Sardelli is the Director of New Works for TheatreWorks. Education: MFA graduate acting program, NYU and graduate of their Director's Lab. Upcoming: *Constellations* (Geffen Playhouse), *Describe the Night* by Rajiv Joseph (Alley Theatre), *Skeleton Crew* (Marin Theatre/TheatreWorks), *Finks* (TheatreWorks), and *An Entomologist's Love Story* (San Francisco Playhouse).

**SABRA WILLIAMS** has received international acclaim for her work as an actor and founder of The Actors' Gang Prison Project, including being named by President Obama as a Champion of Change. After establishing a body of work as an actress and television host in the United Kingdom and internationally, Sabra became an "alien of exceptional ability" upon her arrival to Los Angeles in 2002. In 2004 Sabra was honored with an invitation to serve as a company member of The Actors' Gang (Tim Robbins, Artistic Director) Based in part on her experience of working in prisons in the United Kingdom with The English Shakespeare Company and The London Shakespeare Workout, Sabra created The Actors' Gang Prison Project and currently serves as the program's Director in addition to serving as the company's Director of Engagement, creating and overseeing prevention programs for at greater risk youth and gang members and ensuring an off-ramp from prison with two Reentry programs for those coming back to our communities as well as ongoing programs in ten California Prisons and girls Juvenile Camp. She is currently developing a program for Correctional Officers. Sabra has established strategic program partnerships between The Actors' Gang, the Obama US Department of Justice and such organizations as Inner-City Arts, the Anti-Recidivism Coalition and Homeboy Industries. She was invited by President Obama's Senior Advisor, Valerie Jarret to co-produce an event at The White House around innovative programming and the Arts in Criminal Justice Reform. Sabra has been a tireless advocate for including the Arts in legislation and has been invited to do two TEDx talks about her work and is in great demand for speaking engagements. The work has been featured by the BBC, *Los Angeles Times*, *New York Times*, *The Today Show* and National Public Radio, as well as many other publications, articles, and radio and television shows nationally and internationally. Among several awards garnered by the work, The Martin Luther King Westside Coalition gave their Community Light Award and California Lawyers for the Arts gave their Artistic License Award to The Prison Project for the work, and Sabra was honored by radio station KNX as a KNX Hero. In May the Prison Project will receive a, 'Pursuit of Justice Award' from the California Women's Law Center. *'Working with people who understand the power of the Arts to effect social and inner transformation is crucially important to me'.*

**LISA WOLPE** is an actress, director, teacher, playwright and producer, and was Producing Artistic Director of the Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company from 1993 - 2017. LAWSC was named by LA Magazine as "one of the ten sexiest things to do in Los Angeles", and has been featured on PBS, CNN, ABC, NBC, and CBS News. Honors include "Sustained Excellence" Award from Playwrights Arena, the Key to Harlem, Congressional Certificate of Merit for work with Harlem Shakespeare Festival; L.A. Drama Critic's Award for Sustained Excellence, NBC News' "Local Hero", Jacob Bronowski Award for Theater Excellence, Women in Theater's "Red Carpet" Award and "Woman of the Year" Award, Women's Theater Festival's "Rainbow Award" for promoting Diversity, Nominations for Best Leading Actress for Hamlet and Shylock; Whittier College's Distinguished Artist Award. Credits include Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, Orlando Shakespeare Festival, San Diego Repertory Theater, California Shakespeare, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Prague Shakespeare Festival, and more.

**DIANA WYENN (Steering Committee)** challenges and inspires audiences to see beyond the usual. Her work as a director, dramaturge, and choreographer has been presented around the country at cutting edge venues, including REDCAT in Los Angeles and SummerStage in New York City's Central Park. Wyenn has collaborated on large spectaculars and intimate performances, including work for Disney, Radarworks, Center Theater Group, LA Phil, Chalk Rep, Theatre Dybbuk, Ghost Road Ensemble, Playwrights' Arena, East West Players, Unknown Theater, electronic music artist RYAT, trapeze artists The Steben Twins, and satellite radio host Jason Ellis, among others. She has directed several solo performances which continue to tour nationally and receive critical praise, and recently developed one for herself to perform called *Blood Sugar* which explore her own relationship to living with Type 1 Diabetes. Offstage, Wyenn champions arts and cultural events as an integral part of American society through her work on the board of directors for Padua Playwright, the Directors Lab West steering committee, and as co-founder of Circle Readings. In 2012, she transformed a two-day freeway closure into ARTmageddon, a city-wide celebration of the arts that encouraged thousands of L.A. residents to walk, bike and take public transit to art in their neighborhoods through expansive partnerships with Metro, the Mayor's Office, and the Department of Cultural Affairs for the City of Los Angeles. Her work, ideas, and words have been featured in *The Los Angeles Times*, the Daily Beast, Fast Company, *American Theatre Magazine*, Howlround, and on NPR. She has received a 2017 Woman's Building: Animating the Archives Fellowship, a 2016 Inquiry Fellowship from the American Jewish University, and a 2016 Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation Observership with Michael Wilson. She also works with the CEO Perspective Group, a New York-based consulting firm where she received a major break early in her career, to pay it forward by advising entrepreneurs, non-profit executives, and young achievers on presence and presentation. Wyenn graduated from New York University with Honors, BFA Drama, and is a proud associate member of SDC (Stage Directors and Choreographers Society). [www.DianaWyenn.com](http://www.DianaWyenn.com)

**JOANN MARIA YARROW** was born in Barranquilla, Colombia and directs, choreographs, and produces theater and film around the world. Joann began her career as a director and choreographer while with Double Edge Theatre in Boston. She went on to train with Odin Teatret in Denmark consequently co-founding A Laboratory for Actor Training with Vernice Miller in New York. Concurrently, Joann worked at La Mama ETC with East Coast Artists director, Richard Schechner and spent three years working for Broadway director, Harold Prince. She has since staged theater in Denmark, London, Madrid, Boston, New York, Los Angeles and Brazil. She received her BFA from Boston University and her M.F.A. in Directing from the University of California at Irvine. She has taught at the Universidad de Alcalá in Madrid, the NYU Madrid Program and Union College. She co-directed the film *Unspoken* as well as produced the documentary, *Beyond Offence*, dealing with issues of diversity on college campuses. Joann is a featured director in the book, *The Art and Practice of Directing in Latin America: Central America and United States*, and her adaptation and translation of Oliver Mayer's play, *Blade to the Heat (Filo al fuego)* has been published in the *Tramoya Anthology*, 2014. Joann Yarrow is the Executive Artistic Director of Teatro Prometeo at Miami Dade College, the nation's only Spanish-language Acting Conservatory and Repertory and one of the most reputable Hispanic theatre organizations. She has directed numerous productions as well as translated, adapted and commissioned new works that have been presented at the International Hispanic Theatre Festival and have toured to the Dominican Republic, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Boston, Los Angeles and New York.

**STEVEN YOUNG** is Principal Lighting Designer and Director of Design for Visual Terrain's California office. Current and recent projects include a new themed attraction in Hollywood, opening in summer 2015; six new theme park attraction and one restaurant for the Wanda Wuhan theme park in China; the Dragons Wild Shooting theme park attraction at Lotte World, South Korea; the USA Pavilion at the World Expo in Yeosu; and the historic re-creation of the Capitol Theatre in Fort Edmonton Park. Past projects include: Aquarium of the Pacific retail; numerous live shows for AMDA; the Goretorium themed attraction in Las Vegas; the King Kong 360° 3D attraction at Universal Studios Hollywood; Rivera restaurant, Los Angeles; Choctaw Casino Resort Durant, Oklahoma; the Barnas Brannstasjon (Firefighter attraction) Kongeparken, Norway; and the Beyond All Boundaries 4D cinemaDc experience at the National World War II Museum. Steven's prior portfolio includes designs for Cat In The Hat - Dark Ride, Universal Studios Islands of Adventure; Riddler's Lair and Maverick, Magic of the West, Warner Bros Movie World Australia; and Looney Tunes - Dark Ride West, Warner Attraction for LEGOLAND parks in California, Windsor, and Denmark. Steven received two Illumination Engineering Society North America (IESNA) Awards of Merit in 2014 for Pacific Collections retail store, Aquarium of the Pacific. Long Beach, California; and Dragons Wild Shooting Interactive Ride, LoHe World Adventure, Seoul, South Korea. In 2011, Steven was awarded with IESNA Awards of Merit and Excellence for Hard Rock Cafe Tampa. Tampa, Florida and Choctaw Casino Resort Durant. Durant, Oklahoma. He also received a 2011 Thea Award for his work on the Barnas Brannstasjon (Firefighter attraction) Kongeparken, Norway, and a 2009 Thea Award for Beyond All Boundaries at the National WWII Museum, New Orleans, Louisiana. Steven has done theatrical design for productions in Los Angeles, New York, Coconut Grove, Buffalo, Winnipeg, Cincinnati, and Pasadena. In 2004, Steven was honored by the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle with the Angstrom Lifetime Achievement Award. Steven holds a Master of Fine Arts in Theatrical Design and Production from University of Cincinnati, CCM, and a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Theatre from Indiana State University.

## Notes & Quotes

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DREAM.  
CREATE.  
IMAGINE.



The Directors Lab West Steering Committee and Stage Directors and Choreographers Society present the 2017 Directors Lab West SDC Open Session

## **Pathways and Links through Space and Time: A Conversation w/ Diane Rodriguez**

Saturday, May 27, 3 – 5 pm  
at The Pasadena Playhouse's Carrie Hamilton Theatre



From her early work with El Teatro Campesino to her enduring relationship with the Center Theatre Group to her many years of service on the Theatre Communications Group board of directors and recent appointment by President Obama to the National Endowment for the Arts' National Council on the Arts, few artists have intersected with so many organizations and people as Diane Rodriguez. A director, writer, producer, and Obie award-winning actress, Diane is truly a "Renaissance Woman" of the new millennium whose influence has been felt nationwide. In this open conversation, she will share the experiences and pathways, both unexpected and planned, which have created her prestigious career and brought her to this place.

This event is open to all DLW Alumni and 2017 DLW members, as well as Lincoln Center Theatre Lab Alumni and current SDC members and associates.

To RSVP, send an email to [directorslabwest@gmail.com](mailto:directorslabwest@gmail.com) by Friday, May 26 at 5 pm.

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Now in its 18th year, Directors Lab West is an eight-day intensive for emerging and mid-career theatre directors and choreographers. The Lab and its annual SDC Open Session are funded in part by generous support from Stage Directors & Choreographers Society (SDC).

To learn more about Directors Lab West, visit [www.directorslabwest.com](http://www.directorslabwest.com)

# Directors Lab West 2017 Schedule At A Glance

SATURDAY, MAY 20 <i>The Pasadena Playhouse</i>	SUNDAY, MAY 21 <i>Kirk Douglas Theatre</i>	MONDAY, MAY 22 <i>The Pasadena Playhouse</i>	TUESDAY, MAY 23 <i>The Pasadena Playhouse</i>	WEDNESDAY, MAY 24 <i>The Music Center</i>	THURSDAY, MAY 25 <i>The Pasadena Playhouse</i>	FRIDAY, MAY 26 <i>The Pasadena Playhouse</i>	SATURDAY, MAY 27 <i>The Pasadena Playhouse</i>
9 – 10 AM Check In							
10 – 11 AM Welcome to Directors Lab West	10 AM – 12 PM Africa Moves Me	10 AM – 12 PM The Spirit of Play	10 AM – 12 PM Storytelling through Movement	10 AM – 12 PM The String Theory: Exploring Relationships to Further the Work	10 AM – 12 PM The Air Up There	10 AM – 1 PM Rasabox	10 AM – 12 PM Are You or Have You Ever Been...
11 – 12 PM Crossing the Nation							Lunch
Group Photo + Pizza Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch + Travel		
1:30 – 3:30 PM It's Showtime...!	1 – 3 PM At Home At The Zoo	1 – 2:30 PM Adaptive Directing	1 – 2 PM Black Acting Methods	1 – 2:30 PM Who's Afraid of Edward Albee?	1:30 – 4 PM Directors in Process	Lunch	1 – 3 PM All The World's A Stage
Break			Break		Break		
4 – 5:30 PM And Now a Word from Our Sponsors...	3 – 5 PM String Theory from Aristotle to Albee and Beyond	2:30 – 5 PM Designer Speed Dating	2:30 – 4:30 PM Shakespeare and the Alchemy of Gender	2:30 – 4 PM Transcript Theatre: Whose Story to Tell?	4:30 – 5:30 PM Directors in Process Debrief	2 – 5 PM Who the Hell Are You?!	3 – 5 PM SDC Open Session: Pathways and Links through Space and Time
		Break	4:30 – 6:30 PM Borrowing Inspiration for Production	4 – 5:30 PM No Party Like A Block Party		Break	5 – 6 PM The Future of the American Theatre
Dinner + Travel	Dinner + Travel	5:30 – 6:30 PM Designer Speed Dating Debrief		Dinner + Travel	Dinner + Travel	5:30 – 7 PM Actors' Gang: The Prison Project	
	6:30 PM <b>DRYLAND</b> at Kirk Douglas Theatre	Dinner + Travel	Dinner + Travel	7 – 8 PM SDC Mixer		Dinner + Travel	
7:30 PM <b>STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE</b> at The Dorothy Chandler Pavilion		8 – 10 PM Melodrama in Physical Theatre: The Athlete of the Emotions	8 PM <b>ARCHDUKE</b> at Mark Taper Forum w/ Talkback	8 PM <b>BATTLEFIELD</b> at The Wallis	8 PM <b>NEXT TO NORMAL</b> at East West Players w/ Talkback	8 PM <b>THE HOUSE IN SCARSDALE: A MEMOIR FOR THE STAGE</b> at Boston Court w/ Talkback	

**DirectorsLabWest.com**  
**#DirectorsLabWest**