



21ST ANNUAL
PLAYGROUND FESTIVAL
OF NEW WORKS

Potrero Stage / San Francisco / May 11-June 18, 2017

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

WELCOME to the 21st PlayGround Festival of New Works, the Bay Area's largest showcase of local playwrights and new plays. From May 11 to June 18, we'll present more than a dozen short and full-length plays over forty-six performances and readings, including our evening of shorts, Best of PlayGround 21 (May 11–28), the world premieres of Robin Lynn Rodriguez's *Hedge* (May 15–June 17) and Ignacio Zulueta's *Kano + Abe* (May 22–June 18), curtain raisers by top high school dramatists as part of our 9th annual Young Playwrights Project (May 18–21), and staged readings of new full-length works by Crish Barth, Patricia Cotter, Victoria Chong Der, and Kirk Shimano (May 20–21 and May 27–28). Over six weeks, the PlayGround Festival offers you a singular opportunity to sample the very best the Bay Area has to offer in new plays and new voices for the stage!

The Festival is just one of the many ways in which PlayGround supports the development of new writers, new plays, and new audiences. In October 2015, PlayGround signed the master lease for Thick House Theater and, over the last year-and-a-half, we raised more than \$260,000 to complete major renovations to the theatre, including new air conditioning, seats, theatrical lighting, signage, and upgrades to the lobby and restrooms. The renovations were completed in February in time for the theatre's grand re-opening and renaming - *Potrero Stage: The PlayGround Center for New Plays*. Potrero Stage serves as home not only to PlayGround's expanding new play programs but also to many of the Bay Area's other leading new play developers and producers, including Crowded Fire, Golden Thread, 3Girls Theatre Company, and Virago Theatre Company, among others. We hope you'll make Potrero Stage your home as well and enjoy countless opportunities throughout the year to see and celebrate the best new plays. *Together, we can ensure the future of the American Theatre... one playwright at a time!*

—Jim Kleinmann

PlayGround

268 Bush St #2912
San Francisco, CA 94104

(415) 992-6677 (office)
(415) 704-3177 (fax)

info@playground-sf.org
www.playground-sf.org

James A. Kleinmann
Artistic Director

Annie Stuart
Associate Director

Ayelet Firstenberg
Administrative Assistant

Melanie Marshall
Casting Associate

Board of Directors

Regina Guggenheim
Chair

James A. Kleinmann
President

Kate Clarvoe
Treasurer

Beverly Butler
Secretary

Aldo Billingslea
Ruben Grijalva

Molly Noble
Patrick O'Brien

Geetha Reddy
Patrick Reilly

Cherie Song
David G. Steele

SUPPORT POTRERO STAGE

Help support all the work we do at Potrero Stage with a tax-deductible contribution to the Potrero Stage campaign. Make a gift of \$2,500 or more and you can name one of the new seats at Potrero Stage.

PLAYGROUND-SF.ORG/CONTRIBUTE

POTRERO STAGE BUILDERS

PlayGround is deeply grateful for the supporters who made the Potrero Stage renovations possible: Negley Flinn Charitable Foundation, Fred M. Levin & Nancy Livingston, Art Space Development Corporation, Koret Foundation, Beverly Butler, The Leo J. And Celia Carlin Fund, Karen Chakmakian, The Clarvoe Family, Claudia Mahecha Design, Keith Goldstein & Donna N. Warrington, Regina S. Guggenheim & Paul Schoening, Lara Gilman & Jim Kleinmann, Aaron Loeb & Kathy Roberts, Gwen Loeb & Doyle Ott, Patrick J. & Kate O'Brien, Patrick Reilly, Catharine Riggs & John S. Witte, Jason Roshia, Studio Roshia Interiors, Diane Sampson, David G. Steele, Voluntary Arts Contribution Fund.

PLAYGROUND

James A. Kleinmann, Artistic Director

21ST ANNUAL
PLAYGROUND FESTIVAL
OF NEW WORKS

May 11-28, 2017

BEST OF PLAYGROUND 21

A program of short plays by six of the Bay Area's best emerging writers, the cream of the crop selected from the 2016-17 season of PlayGround Monday Nights at Berkeley Repertory Theatre.

May 15-June 17, 2017

HEDGE

by Robin Lynn Rodriguez

May 22-June 18, 2017

KANO + ABE:
A DALY CITY BIBLE STORY
by Ignacio Zulueta

May 20-21 & May 27-28, 2017

STAGED READINGS

New full-length plays in development

If Found Please Call by Crish Barth (May 21, 2pm; May 28, noon)

Daughters by Patricia Cotter (May 20 3pm; May 28 3pm)

Balancing by Victoria Chong Der (May 21 11am; May 27 1pm)

Art v. Tech by Kirk Shimano (May 20 noon; May 27 4pm)

The PlayGround Festival is made possible in part through the generous support of: Bernard Osher Foundation, Bill Graham Supporting Foundation of the Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund, John H. Gilman, Grants for the Arts, Lenore & Howard Klein Foundation, Jill Matchak, Kenneth Rainin Foundation, The Harold & Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, and Zellerbach Family Foundation. Special thanks to the William & Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Shubert Foundation.

PLAYGROUND

James A. Kleinmann, Artistic Director

BEST OF PLAYGROUND 21

A FESTIVAL OF NEW WORKS BY NEW WRITERS

OR: OR, THE PLAY OF LIGHT

by Jerome Joseph Gentes

directed by Amy Sass

MONARCHS IN SPACE

by Nicole Jost

directed by Jessa Brie Moreno

COME AND KNOCK ON OUR DOOR

by Maury Zeff

directed by Eric Reid

— INTERMISSION —

EXPLICIT CONTENT

by Sang S. Kim

directed by Christian Haines

I HAD A BIRD

by Genevieve Jessee

directed by May Liang

MISSION: AMBIVALENT

by Melissa Keith

directed by Jim Kleinmann

Lighting Designer
Kevin Landesman

Sound Designer
Ian Walker

Costume Designer
Brooke Jennings

Casting Director
Annie Stuart

Properties Artisan
Andy Falkner

Production Manager
Marcus Marotto

Stage Manager
Liz Matos

CAST
(in order of appearance)

OR: OR, THE PLAY OF LIGHT

One..... Nicole Apostol Bruno
Two..... Liam Vincent *
Three..... Michelle Ianiro
Four..... Robyn Grahn
Five..... David Cramer *
Six..... Morgan J. Booker

MONARCHS IN SPACE

Elena Vela..... Nicole Apostol Bruno
Monarch 1..... David Cramer *
Monarch 2..... Michelle Ianiro
Monarch 3..... Morgan J. Booker

COME AND KNOCK ON OUR DOOR

Janet Wood..... Robyn Grahn
Jack Tripper..... Liam Vincent *
Gloria..... Nancy French
Shirley..... Michelle Ianiro

EXPLICIT CONTENT

Abner..... David Cramer *
Matthew..... Liam Vincent *
Helen..... Nancy French
Amanda..... Morgan J. Booker
Louise..... Nicole Apostol Bruno

I HAD A BIRD

One..... Michelle Ianiro
Two..... Robyn Grahn
Three..... Nancy French

MISSION: AMBIVALENT

Tom..... Liam Vincent *
Jerry..... Nicole Apostol Bruno
Julia..... Robyn Grahn
Sam..... David Cramer *



**Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union
of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.*

*This Theatre operates under an agreement with Actors' Equity Association,
the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.*

The following topics were the inspiration for this year's festival plays:
AWAKENING TO THE DREAM OF THE EARTH (October 2016):
Or: or, The Play of Light; Monarchs in Space
GOING VIRAL (January 2017): *I Had a Bird*
CARE (February 2017): *Explicit Content; Mission: Ambivalent*
THE FEMINIST HALL OF FAME (March 2017): *Come And Knock on Our Door*

PLAYGROUND

James A. Kleinmann, Artistic Director

HEDGE

by Robin Lynn Rodriguez
directed by Emilie Talbot

CAST

Jen..... Caitlin Evenson
Jason..... Louel Senores
Lily..... Kimberly Ridgeway
David..... Steven Westdahl
Craig..... Daryl Anthony Harper

The play will be performed with one 15-minute intermission.
Running time is approximately 90 minutes.

Stage Manager
Sarah Gasser

Casting Director
Annie Stuart

Lighting Designer
Kevin Landesman

Sound Designer
Ian Walker

Properties Artisan
Andy Falkner

Costume Designer
Tammy Berlin

Production Manager
Marcus Marotto

*Kano + Abe was commissioned by PlayGround and originally developed
at the 2015 PlayGround Festival of New Works.*

*This production is made possible in part through the generous support of:
the PlayGround New Play Production Fund, Bernard Osher Foundation,
Kenneth Rainin Foundation, Lenore & Howard Klein Foundation, Jill Matichak,
The Harold & Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, and the Zellerbach Family Foundation.*

PLAYGROUND

James A. Kleinmann, Artistic Director

KANO + ABE:
A DALY CITY BIBLE STORY

by Ignacio Zulueta
directed by Colin Johnson

CAST

Abe..... Melvign Badiola
The 3rd Man..... Carlos Aguirre
Kano..... Jed Parsario
Regina..... Jasmine Osborne

The play will be performed with one 15-minute intermission.
Running time is approximately 90 minutes.

Stage Manager
Sarah Gasser

Casting Director
Annie Stuart

Lighting Designer
Kevin Landesman

Sound Designer
Ian Walker

Properties Artisan
Andy Falkner

Costume Designer
Tammy Berlin

Production Manager
Marcus Marotto

Hedge was originally developed at the 2014 PlayGround Festival of New Works.

*This production is made possible in part through the generous support of:
the PlayGround New Play Production Fund, Bernard Osher Foundation,
Kenneth Rainin Foundation, Lenore & Howard Klein Foundation, Jill Matichak,
The Harold & Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, and the Zellerbach Family Foundation.*

WHO'S WHO

PLAYWRIGHTS

CRISH BARTH (*If Found Please Call*) has written over 30 short plays, as well as numerous screenplays and full-length plays. He is an alumnus of PlayGround, where, in addition to several selections in the Monday Night series, he received the 2008 Emerging Playwright Award as well as the 2012-13 PlayGround Fellowship/Commission. His work has appeared in many of the local new play festivals as well as nationally at venues ranging from Albuquerque to Kentucky to New York City. Most recently, his full length screenplay *Wedding of Mass Destruction* was named a quarter-finalist in the WE International Screenplay Competition.

PATRICIA COTTER (*Daughters*) awards: American Academy of Arts Letters, Richard Rodgers Award, Heideman Award Finalist, Emmy Award. Plays: *Rules Of Comedy* 39th Humana Festival of New American Plays, 2015; *The Anthropology Section* (2015), The Actors Theatre of Louisville; *The Surrogate*, (The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's 2016 National Playwrights Conference finalist, produced by Centenary Stage Company, NJ, 2017); and *1980 or Why I'm Voting for John Anderson* (2016 PlayGround Festival selection).

VICTORIA CHONG DER (*Balancing*) has written for several Bay Area companies. She is a resident playwright of the Playwrights Foundation and PlayGround, received a 2014 PlayGround Fellowship, and has a BA in Creative Writing from Oberlin College. Her short play, *GraceD*, was featured in PlayGround's *The Potrero Nuevo Project*, the inaugural production of Potrero Stage. She's co-writer on *Vignettes on Love*, premiering this July.

JEROME JOSEPH GENTES (*Best of PlayGround: OR: or, The Play of Light*) is a content designer, Executive Director at Play Cafe, and co-founder of Musical Cafe. His writing has appeared in many literary journals, and he is collaborating on a new musical, *The Right Note*. He recently co-produced *Sheherezade's Last Tales* (TBA Award for Outstanding Anthology) and PCSF PLAYOFFS.

GENEVIEVE JESSEE (*Best of PlayGround: I Had a Bird*) received a B.A. degree in Theatre Arts from Dillard University, and an M.F.A. in Playwriting from Boston University. Her work has been presented at the Source Festival, Boston Playwright's Theater, EXIT theatre, and the Atlanta Black Theatre Festival. She is the recipient of the 2017 June Anne Baker Prize, Best of San Francisco Fringe Festival and a two-time PlayGround's Emerging Playwright Award winner. Her short play, *Walls Come Tumbling Down*, was featured in PlayGround's *The Potrero Nuevo Project*, the inaugural production of Potrero Stage.

NICOLE JOST (*Best of PlayGround: Monarchs in Space*) is a two-time winner of the James Milton Highsmith Playwriting Award for queer theater. She was recently named a national semi-finalist for the John Cauble Award for Outstanding Short Play. Her work has been seen in DC, Minneapolis, Denver, and here in San Francisco. Nicole is the recipient of a PlayGround/Planet Earth Arts commission to develop a new full-length play based on her Best of PlayGround short, *Monarchs in Space*. She is currently pursuing her M.F.A. at SFSU.

MELISSA KEITH (*Best of PlayGround: Mission: Ambivalent*) has been in the PlayGround Writers Pool for four years, and has had six Monday Night selections. Originally from the Midwest, Melissa began playwriting while earning her BA in Theatre from Marquette University. Since arriving in the Bay Area, Melissa has enjoyed working with Virago, SF Shakespeare Festival, KML, NCTC, Open Tab, Theatre Rhino, and PCSF. In September, Melissa will direct *Puppetry of the Lobster*, a puppet sketch-comedy show with SF's own sketch group, Killing My Lobster.

SANG S. KIM (*Best of PlayGround: Explicit Content*), an NYU graduate, has contributed to NY Fringe, SF SketchFest, and NYC and Bay Area companies including Asian American Theatre Co and Killing My Lobster. He has been profiled in the *Village Voice* and *SF Chronicle*. He is a proud former congressional staff member for Hillary Rodham Clinton.

ROBIN LYNN RODRIGUEZ (*Hedge*) is a playwright, actor and theatre teacher, based in the San Francisco Bay Area. She won the 2012 June Anne Baker Prize for her short play, *Hella Love Oakland*, featured at Best of PlayGround 16. Her full-length adaptation of *Hella* was developed and subsequently premiered at the PlayGround Festival of New Works. *Hedge* was a finalist for the 2012 Bay Area Playwrights Festival and was developed at the 2014 PlayGround Festival. Her work has also appeared at the One-Minute Play Festival, Theatre Madcap, Ohlone College Playwrights Festival, and the Playwright's Theater at Tao House.

KIRK SHIMANO (*Art v. Tech*) strives to find his own balance between art and tech as he juggles his day job of creating digital lighting tools with his playwriting ambitions. This is his sixth year with PlayGround, his first year as a Resident Playwright, and his third year trying to usher this special love story, *Art v. Tech*, to the stage.

MAURY ZEFF (*Best of PlayGround: Come And Knock on Our Door*) has received two Emerging Playwright Awards, four People's Choice Awards, and a 2017 Fellowship from PlayGround. His plays have been performed around the country, including in the Best of PlayGround 2014, the

Potrero Nuevo Project, and the Vermont Drama Festival. His fiction has appeared in *American Fiction 2012*, *Southern California Review*, and elsewhere. He is a SF Writers Grotto Fellow, a co-founder of the Babylon Salon reading series, and has an MFA from the University of San Francisco.

IGNACIO ZULUETA (*Kano + Abe*) was born in Manila, studied in Providence, and writes in Oakland. His plays have been seen and heard throughout the Bay Area, as well as in Ashland, New York, Minneapolis, and on KUSF 90.3FM and KPFA 94.1FM. He's an alumnus of the AlterLAB at AlterTheatre and NewWorks Incubator at Asian-American Theatre Company. Ignacio has written sketch comedy for Battlestache Studios and does radioplays and live foley for 915 Cayuga - a live radio style variety show. He is the lead writer for the multi-acre site-specific event *Matthew Briar and The Age of Resurrection* at San Jose's History Park. Ignacio is the recipient of a PlayGround Emerging Playwright Award and PlayGround Fellowship for his short and full-length plays.

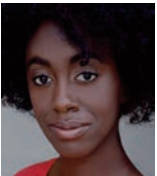
ACTORS



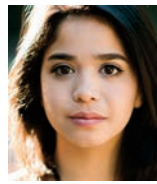
CARLOS AGUIRRE (*Kano+Abe: The 3rd Man*) most recently performed in *The Potrero Nuevo Project* (PlayGround) and *The Box* (Z Space). Other credits include *Bruja*, *Lily's Revenge*, *Oedipus El Rey* (Magic Theatre) and *Hunter's Point* (Strange Angels). He appears regularly with Campo Santo. Carlos teaches at various schools and at-risk environments throughout the Bay Area. His work has helped many students from various backgrounds gain skills to better express themselves.



MELVIGN BADIOLA (*Kano+Abe: Abe*) based out of Oakland CA, was last seen in PlayGround's *The Potrero Nuevo Project*. He tours as a Stage Manager and manages Brava Theater's Youth Program, MAPA@Brava. melvignbadiola@gmail.com IG: @m3l1to



MORGAN J. BOOKER (*Best of PlayGround: OR: or, The Play of Light; Monarchs in Space; Explicit Content*) is a Bay Area Artist and Educator. She graduated from California Institute of the Arts in 2015 with a BFA in Acting. She was in the Best of PlayGround in 2016 and has come back again for another wonderful experience. Other credits include: *A Street Car Named Desire* (Blanche), *Top Girls* (Pope Joan) and *Every 28 Hours* (Ensemble).



NICOLE APOSTOL BRUNO (*Best of PlayGround: OR: or, The Play of Light; Monarchs in Space; Explicit Content; Mission: Ambivalent*) is delighted to be a part of Best of PlayGround 2017. She returns to the Bay Area after understudying multiple productions, including *Great Expectations* and *Richard II*, during the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's 2016 season. She was recently seen on tour with New Conservatory Theatre Center's YouthAware program. She holds a B.F.A. from Southern Oregon University.



DAVID CRAMER* (*Best of PlayGround: OR: or, The Play of Light; Monarchs in Space; Explicit Content; Mission: Ambivalent*) has a BFA from the University of New Mexico, and studied at London's Royal Academy. He has performed locally with Magic Theatre, Marin Theatre Co., Word For Word, Shotgun Players and Ragged Wing Ensemble, where he helped develop last year's world premiere of Amy Sass' *Whale's Wake*. Television roles include *M*A*S*H*, *The Waltons*, and *Nash Bridges*, among others.



CAITLIN EVENSON (*Hedge: Jen*) is delighted to be part of her first full-length PlayGround production. Selected theatres include Custom Made Theatre, Livermore Shakespeare Festival, California Shakespeare Theater, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, the Breadbox, Ragged Wing Ensemble, Los Altos Stage Company, and TheatreWorks' school tour. She holds an honors degree from UC Berkeley and is a recipient of the 2015-16 TBA TITAN award



NANCY FRENCH (*Best of PlayGround: OR: or, The Play of Light; Come and Knock on our Door; Explicit Content; I Had a Bird*) is thrilled to be reprising roles in two pieces from her first season with PlayGround. Recent credits include *Sons of the Prophet* (NCTC), *Golden Girls Live* (Victoria Theatre), *Above and Beyond the Valley of the Ultra Showgirls* and her recurring role as Debbie in *Shit & Champagne*, *Champagne White and the Temple of Poon*, and *Disastrous!* (D'Arcy Drollinger/SF Oasis).



ROBYN GRAHN (*Best of PlayGround: OR: or, The Play of Light; Come and Knock on our Door; I Had a Bird; Mission: Ambivalent*) is absolutely ecstatic to be in her first production with Best of PlayGround. She was most

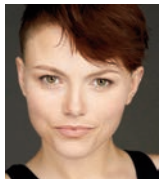
recently seen in the original production of *The Inn at Derby Shire* and continues work after Best of PlayGround in Ross Valley Players' *39 Steps*. Recent favorite roles include Emilie (*Emilie*), Elinor (*Sense and Sensibility*), and World Powers (*Dark is a Different Beast*).



DARYL ANTHONY HARPER (*Hedge: Craig*) is elated to be playing with PlayGround! Past projects in Theatre, Film, TV, and Interactive include *Crowns* (TheatreWorks), *Othello* (California Shakes), *Sonny's Blues* (Word For Word), *Bulrushers* (Shotgun Players), *Jesus Hopped the A Train* (SF Playhouse), *Chance* (Hulu Channel), *Zodiak* (Paramount Pictures), and video games "Watch Dogs 2" and "25 To Life". Much thanks, stay golden!



MICHELLE IANIRO (*Best of PlayGround: Monarchs in Space; Come And Knock on Our Door; I Had a Bird; OR; or, The Play of Light*) is thrilled to be a part of Best Of PlayGround 2017. This busy actor, playwright, cabaret artist and director, can be seen throughout the Bay Area, most recently, wrapping up *Ghost w/ OMG!! Love That Show Productions*, in February, playing Oda Mae Brown. Visit www.meianiro.com for more info.



JASMINE OSBORNE (*Kano+Abe: Regina*) Film/TV: *How To Be A Man* (Fox), *What Would You Do* (ABC), *One Life To Live* (The OnLine Network). NYC: *Manscape, The Musical!* (Algonquin), *Kris Kringle* (Manhattan Theatre Club), *You & I* (workshop starring Boyd Gaines). Regional: *The Jungle Book* (MTC), *Noises Off!* (SF Playhouse), *Hamlet* (SF Shakespeare). BFA Acting from NC School of the Arts. Jasmine thanks her parents and Chris for their unconditional love and support.



JED PARSARIO (*Kano+Abe: Kano*), an actor and teaching artist, is delighted to be part of the PlayGround family. He was last seen in PlayGround's *Potrero Nuevo Project* and is a regular at Monday Night PlayGround. He has worked with BindleStiff Studio, Magic Theatre, Marin Shakespeare, Marin Theatre Company, and TheatreWorks, among others. www.jedparsario.com



KIMBERLY RIDGEWAY (*Hedge: Lily*) has performed in over 60 stage and film projects. Her favorites include *The Gigolo Chronicles*, "#1", *Single Husbands*, *The Kid Thing*, *Hopes Identity*, *No Good Deed*, *The*

Vaginal Monologues, *Oleanna*, *The Piano Lesson*, *Doubt* and *The Mountaintop*, for which she won the 2016 BroadwayWorld San Francisco Award for Best Leading Actress in a Play (Local).



LOUEL SENORES (*Hedge: Jason*) is thrilled to be participating again in the PlayGround Festival, but this time, onstage! Last year, he stage managed *Best of PlayGround 20* and *Abominable*. Since then, he's joined the Monday Night PlayGround roster, dabbled in musicals (*Billy Elliot* at Berkeley Playhouse), and became a Paragon Bard! #Amtgard LouelSenores.com



LIAM VINCENT* (*Best of PlayGround: OR: or, The Play of Light; Come And Knock on Our Door; Explicit Content; Mission: Ambivalent*) has been a proud company member of PlayGround for almost twenty years. He is thrilled to be back at Potrero Stage (formerly Thick House) where he had the honor of appearing in the world premieres of *Five Flights* by Adam Bock, *Hunter Gatherers* by Peter Sinn Nachtrieb, and *American Suicide* by Mark Jackson. Bay Area credits: American Conservatory Theater, California Shakespeare Theater, Marin Theater Company, The Magic, Theatreworks, SF Playhouse, Z Space, CenterRep, Aurora, Joe Goode Performance Works, Shotgun Players, and Word for Word. He has appeared off Broadway with the Civilians. Regional credits: Alliance, Huntington Theater, Portland Center Stage, Arizona Theater Company, Santa Cruz Shakespeare, and Pasadena Playhouse.



STEVEN WESTDAHL (*Hedge: David*) is an Oakland-based actor, writer, and artist. He has been a member of the PlayGround playwrighting and acting pool for the past few years. He was last seen onstage in the PlayGround Festival as the Yeti in Katie May's *Abominable* and his short play *Frankenstein's Grandmother* was featured in the Best of PlayGround back in 2015.

DIRECTORS

CHRISTIAN HAINES (*Best of PlayGround: Explicit Content*) is the founding Artistic Director of AmosNYC and ShotzSF in San Francisco. Directing credits: *Bus Stop*, *Boeing Boeing* (RVP), *The Guys* (Pear) *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Tides), *A Message* (Arabian Shakes), *Heroes and Other Strangers* (Best of Fringe NYC), *Icarus' Mother* (ATSF). MFA in acting from the National Theatre Conservatory. Love to family, friends and Melissa.

COLIN JOHNSON (*Kano + Abe*) is a writer, director, filmmaker and occasional actor. Locally you may have seen his work at Circus Center, Shotz, Shortlived, Olympians, Theatre Pub, Tapas Festival, Albany FilmFest and Actors Ensemble of Berkeley, among others. He's the Artistic Director of Awesome Theatre and is thrilled to be directing and acting for PlayGround after three years in the writers pool.

JIM KLEINMANN (*Best of PlayGround: Mission: Ambivalent*) co-founded PlayGround in 1994 and has served as Artistic Director since 1996. For PlayGround, he has provided artistic and administrative leadership for the past twenty- three seasons, developing PlayGround's unique array of new playwright and new play incubator programs, including Monday Night PlayGround, the *Best of PlayGround* Festival, the full-length play Commissioning Initiative, the New Play Production Fund, and most recently the launch of Potrero Stage. During his tenure, he has directed more than 100 short plays by some of the Bay Area's best new playwrights, including Lauren Yee, Geetha Reddy, Aaron Loeb, Katie May, and Garret Jon Groenveld, among others, and has commissioned and developed over 71 full-length plays by these writers. He directed the world premiere of Ruben Grijalva's *Value Over Replacement* for the 20th PlayGround Festival. Kleinmann is a veteran arts administrator with more than twenty-five years of experience, including stints leading Traveling Jewish Theatre, Smuin Ballet and Berkeley Symphony. He is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama.

MAY LIANG (*Best of PlayGround: I Had a Bird*) is delighted to be working with PlayGround as a Directing Fellow. Her recent credits include being the Social Impact Consultant for California Shakespeare Theater's *As You Like It*, directed by Desdemona Chiang and Assistant Director for Crowded Fire Theater's *You for Me for You* by Mia Chung, directed by M. Graham Smith. She graduated from UC Berkeley with degrees in Theater and Performance Studies and Integrative Biology.

JESSA BRIE MORENO's (*Best of PlayGround: Monarchs in Space*) directing work includes *Mechanics of Love* (Crowded Fire), *The Rainmaker* (San Jose Stage), *The Circle* by Dave Eggers (SJSU) and her own devised *The Last Night of the Barbary Coast* (SOMArts). Moreno is a longtime Bay Area actor (ACT, MTC, Aurora, San Jose Stage Co, SFShakes, Marin Shakes) and founding director of several Arts Ed programs (OakTechRep, Oakland Theatre Arts Initiative, School Transformation Through the Arts).

ERIC REID (*Best of PlayGround: Come And Knock on Our Door*) has been a Bay Area actor, director and producer for over 15 years and is the Artistic Director of Theater MadCap which he founded in 2012.

AMY SASS (*Best of PlayGround: OR: or, The Play of Light*) is co-Founder and Artistic Director of Ragged Wing Ensemble and The Flight Deck. She is a leading playwright, master director, teacher, visual artist, and performer. PlayGround Resident Playwright and June Anne Baker awardee, she is known as the creator of RWE's holistic, interdisciplinary approach to dramatic story building. More information about her work can be found at www.amysass.com.

EMILIE TALBOT (*Hedge*) has worked as an actor and director in the Bay Area for over 20 years. Appearing locally with ACT, Aurora Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Magic, San Jose Rep, PlayGround, and most recently appearing in *Bondage* with AlterTheater. Regional credits include the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Mark Taper Forum, La Jolla Playhouse, Huntington Theatre, and Pittsburgh Public Theatre.

DESIGNERS

TAMMY BERLIN (Costume Designer: *Hedge, Kano+Abe*) has most recently designed shows for PlayGround, Marin Shakespeare Company, Bay Area Children's Theatre, Berkeley Opera, Diablo Theatre Co., St. Mary's College, and Berkeley Playhouse, as well as films for Flying Moose Productions, Videosyncrasy and EyeQ Films. She is the resident costume designer for Central Works.

ANDY FALKNER (Properties Artisan) is a free lance properties designer who is excited to be working on her first shows with PlayGround! She has been working in the Bay Area for the past 5 years and most recently designed props for Ragged Wing's production, *Overnight*, at The Flight Deck in Oakland.

BROOKE JENNINGS (Costume Designer: *Best of PlayGround*) is a graduate of UCSC's Theater Arts Masters Program. SF Playhouse (*Colossal, The Nether, Stage Kiss*), We Players (*Romeo and Juliet, Capulet Ball, HeroMonster, Ondine*), Magic Theater (asst. designer: *A Lie of the Mind, Bad Jews*), Custom Made Theater (*Sam and Dede, Belleville, Chess, In Love and Warcraft, Grey Gardens The Musical, The Crucible*), and Virago Theatre (*The Singularity*).

KEVIN LANDESMAN (Lighting Designer) is a Bay Area-based lighting, sets, and projections designer for opera, dance, and theatre. He is also the Lighting Director and frequent designer for West Edge Opera, Resident Designer for Bay Area Children's Theatre, and the Technical Director for Hidden Valley Music Seminars.

IAN WALKER (Sound Designer) is a Bay Area designer, actor, director, and playwright. He has created designs for Theatretworks, Center Rep, SF Playhouse, Second Wind, Tripleshot, Golden

Thread, and others. He's authored 11 plays including *The Disappearance of Mary Rosemary*, *Vigilance*, and *A Beautiful Home for the Incurable*. He's delighted to be working with the great team at PlayGround.

PRODUCTION STAFF

SARAH GASSER (Stage Manager: *Hedge, Kano+Abe*) is excited to be working with the PlayGround Festival! Previously, She has worked with BACCE, San Francisco Playhouse, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, A.R.T. Dorset Theater Festival, Reagel Music Theater, Hangar Theater, Kitchen Theater, Arkansas Children's Theatre, Theatre West, and Ocean Professional Theater. Sarah would like to thank her absolutely amazing parents for their support.

LIZ MATOS (Stage Manager, *Best of PlayGround*) is delighted to be a part of this Festival, her first production with PlayGround. Other recent stage management credits include *Othello* (ASM, Marin Shakespeare Company), *Hedda Gabler* (SM, Cutting Ball Theater), and *Tomorrow* (SM, A.C.T. Conservatory).

MARCUS MAROTTO (Production Manager) is pleased to join PlayGround for the fifth year as Production Manager for the *Festival of New Works*. Marcus has worked throughout his life in theatre as a stage hand, carpenter, stage manager, and producer through- out the bay, working at, among others, the Easily Distracted Theatre, Opera San Jose, and the San Francisco Lyric Opera.

ANNIE STUART (Associate Director) has served as casting director for PlayGround for the past nineteen seasons and in 2005 was named the company's first Associate Director. As a freelance casting director, her other credits include Marin Theatre Company, Center REP, the Bay Area Playwrights Festival, the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, Los Angeles Shakespeare Festival, Brava! for Women In The Arts, Theatre Rhinoceros, and Z Space Studio. She has taught at San Jose State University, USF, The Bennett Theatre Lab, Center REP, the College of Marin, Marin Theatre Company and for Theatre Bay Area.

PLAYGROUND, the Bay Area's leading playwright incubator, provides unique development opportunities for the Bay Area's best new playwrights, including the monthly Monday Night PlayGround staged reading series, PlayGround Festival of New Works, *Best of PlayGround*, full-length play commissions and support for the production of new plays by local playwrights through the New Play Production Fund and, PlayGround's newest initiative, the PlayGround Film Festival. To date, PlayGround has supported more than 200 local playwrights in the development and staging of over

850 original short plays and 71 new full-length plays, including more than 24 that have since premiered in the Bay Area. PlayGround alumni have gone on to win local, national and international honors for their short and full-length work, including recognition at the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, Humana Festival, Sundance Festival, The Lark, Bay Area Playwrights Festival, Aurora Theatre's Global Age Project, Internationalists Playwriting Prize, and NY International Fringe Festival, among others. More information at <http://PlayGround-sf.org>.

POTRERO STAGE is a 99-seat state-of-the-art performance space located in the heart of San Francisco's Potrero Hill neighborhood, operated by PlayGround, and serving as home to some of the Bay Area's leading new play developers and producers, including PlayGround, Crowded Fire, Golden Thread, and 3Girls Theatre, among others. For more information or to inquire about rentals, email info@potrerostage.org or call (415) 992-6677.

2016-17 PlayGround Writers Company

Sowmya Ashokkumar, Kathy Boussina, Madeleine Butler, Patricia Cotter+, Roberta D'Alois, Victoria Chong Der+, Ai Ebashi, Nancy Fishman, Vanessa Flores, Jerome Joseph Gentes, Ruben Grijalva+, Garret Jon Groenvelde+, Tanya Grove, Anthony Gutierrez, Karen Hartline, Genevieve Jessee, Nicole Jost, Melissa Keith, Sang Kim, Jeffrey Lo, Karen Macklin+, Katie May+, Laylah Muran de Assereto, Meghan O'Connor, Isaac Ontiveros, Erin Marie Panttaja, Evelyn Jean Pine+, Madeline Puccioni, Julius Rea, Jennifer Roberts, Marsha Roberts, Robin Lynn Rodriguez+, Amy Sass+, Kirk Shimano+, Cleavon Smith, Nic Sommerfeld, Cherie Song, Martha Soukup, Aimee Suzara, Steven Westdahl+, Zoe Young, Maury Zeff, Lesli Zephyr, Ignacio Zulueta+ + *Resident Playwrights*

2016-17 PlayGround Company Members

Molly Aaronson-Gelb, Patrick Alparone*, Liz Anderson*, Rinabeth Apostol*, Michael Asberry*, Michael Barrett Austin*, Bethanie Baeyen*, Mary Baird*, Julia Brothers*, Anna Bullard*, Lizzie Calogero*, Ron Campbell*, Joy Carlin*, Nancy Carlin*, Desdemona Chiong, David Cramer*, Sally Dana*, Will Dao, Anne Darragh*, Millie DeBenedet, Dods Delzell*, Carolyn Doyle*, Rebecca J. Ennals, Michael French, Douglas Giorgis*, Amy Glazer, Cindy Goldfield, BW Gonzalez*, Jessica Greenstreet, Margo Hall*, Rosie Hallett, Eric Fraisher Hayes*, Jessica Heidt, Brian Herndon*, Christen Karle*, Danielle Levin*, Jeffrey Lo, Gwen Loeb*, George Maguire*, Gabriel Marin*, Julia McNeal*, Sam Misner*, Mina Morita, Lisa Morse*, Anthony Nemirovsky*, Molly Noble*, Soren Oliver*, Melissa Ortiz*, June Palladino*, Carla Pantoja*, Louis Parnell*, Michael Phillis*, Rebecca Pingree, Stephanie Prentice*, Virginia Reed, Nican Robinson, Cathleen Riddley*, Katja Rivera*, Adrian Roberts*, Stacy Ross*, Adam Roy, Lindsey Marie Schmeltzer, Josh Senick, Brian Yates Sharber*, Robert Sicular*, M. Graham Smith, Ken Sonkin*, Teddy Spencer*, Howard Swain*, Jomar Tagatac*, Danielle Thys*, Jon Tracy, Mark Rafael Truitt*, Liam Vincent*, Maryssa Wanlass, Tracy Ward, Reggie D. White*, Anthony Williams, Aaron Wilton*, Elena Wright* * *Member of Actors Equity Association*

PLAYGROUND CONTRIBUTORS

PlayGround is deeply grateful for the generous contributions of the many individuals, foundations, gifts of \$25 or more committed between April 1, 2016 and May 11, 2017.

GOVERNMENT, CORPORATE, AND FOUNDATION DONORS

Alameda County Arts Commission • Amazon • Berkeley Civic Arts • The Bernard Osher Foundation • Bill Graham Supporting Foundation of the Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund • Creative Capacity Fund • Edgerton Foundation • The Fleishhacker Foundation • Grants For The Arts • Harold & Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust • IBM Corporation • Kenneth Rainin Foundation • Koret Foundation • Lenore & Howard Klein Foundation • The Leo J. & Celia Carlin Fund • Negley Flinn Charitable Foundation • The Shenson Foundation • The Shubert Foundation • Stanford University • Sustainable World Coalition/ Planet Earth Arts • The Tides Foundation • The Tournesol Project • Voluntary Arts Contribution Fund • The William & Flora Hewlett Foundation • Wells Fargo • WomenArts • Zellerbach Family Foundation

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

SEASON SPONSORS (\$5000+)

Zandra Faye LeDuff, Fred M. Levin & Nancy Livingston, Aaron Loeb & Kathy Roberts, Anonymous

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS (\$2500-\$4,999)

William Bivins, Beverly Butler, Daniel E. Cohn & Lynn Brinton, John H. Gilman, Regina S. Guggenheim & Paul Schoening, Jill Matchak, Patti & Rusty Rueff, David Steele, Anonymous

PRODUCERS CIRCLE (\$1000-\$2499)

Kellie Abreu, Meriko Borogove, Emilie T. & Gordon C. Brooks, Nicolas & Robin Castaillac, Adam Chall, Kate & Anthony Clarvoe, Keith Goldstein & Donna N. Warrington, Lara Gilman & Jim Kleinmann, Patrick J. & Kate O'Brien, Patrick Reilly, Abraham Sofaer, Bob & Sara Stevenson, Anonymous (3)

PLAYWRIGHTS CIRCLE (\$500-\$999)

Stan & Sophie Beraznik, Stanley F. & Sophie Beraznik, Aldo Billingslea, Patrick Blake, Maurice Bolmer, Karen Chakmakian, Claire M. Chessn & Alan J. Horwitz, Adriana Clark, Jeff & Dayna Deaton, Jessica Forbess, John Ford, Michelle Gaines, Matt Gonzalez, Regina S. Guggenheim, Dana Harrison, Enrique Landa, Gwen Loeb & Doyle Ott, Dr. Gary W. London, Douglas Love, Rebecca Martinez, Christopher Michel, Rob & Suki Moore, Peter Myers, Catharine Riggs & John S. Witte, Diane Sampson, Cherie Song, Jonathan Steele, Lisa & James Taylor, Daniel & Katherine Teree, Susannah Wise & Scott Lebus, Anonymous (5)

PATRON (\$250-\$499)

Robert and Sandie Allen, Jessica L. Bates, Wendy Bear, Emilie T. & Gordon C. Brooks, Kate & Anthony Clarvoe, Patrick T. Collins, Tony Conrad, Paulette Donsavage & Deeje Cooley, Don-Scott Cooper, Joe Corey, Deborah and Peter Davids, Mr. Richard Davis - Lowell, Ben De Waal, Andrew Dreskin, Barbara Frick, Michelle & Michael Gaines, Michele Goller, Ruben Grijalva, Roxy Jones, Toni Martin & Michael Darby, Dawn McGuire, Daniel Owens, Austin Philbin, Cindy & Chris Redburn, Virginia Reed, Patrick Reilly, Martha Richards, David & Carla Riemer, Bruce & Diane Shimano, Hillary Sinclair, Tim Stannard, Tom Swift, Maury Zeff, Anonymous (2)

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (\$125-\$249)

Dennis & Jan Austin, Mary Baird, David Beery & Norman Abramson, Lauren Berman, Joy Carlin, Len Christensen & Bernadette Kim, Sharon Eberhardt & Perrin Meyer, Steven Flannes, Michael Fried, Garret Jon Groenveld, Randy Hoffman, Carolyn Holm, Tom Hunter, Kurt & Dianne Kleinmann, Alex Loddengaard, George Maguire, Cecily T. Martin, Kerrin Mitchell, Madeline Puccioni, Marsha Roberts & Greg Hansen, Deborah Santana, Eric Starr, Jon and Susan Sweedler, Harry Wong

SUPPORTING MEMBER (\$75-\$124)

Laurie Aaronson, Ryan Anderson, Supriya Batra, Elise Beaty, Keith Belling, David Bigge, Tim Bishop, Maurice Bizzarri, Alana Bly, Jordie Bornstein, Kathy Boussina, Bruce Bronzan, Linda Bronzan, Mary Bronzan, Elizabeth Brotz, Stew Cantrell, Elizabeth Carter & Elaine Daniels, Nicolas Castaillac, Kevin Cohen, Jason Colton, Ben Davis, Todd Davis, Wendy Donner, Sharon Drake, JoAnne Winter & Adrian Elfenbaum, Rebecca J. Ennals, Brad Erickson, Ana T. Fernandez, Rachel Fink, Nancy Fishman, Steve Fox, David Gast, Diana Gay-Catania, Jerome Joseph Gentes, James Gonzales, Barbara and Reijer Groenveld, Lauren Gunderson, Joshua Harris, Naomi Hemp, Jeff & Jo Ilfeld, Abbe S. Kalos, Joelle Gropper Kaufman, Ms. Kari Kiernan, Jordan S. Kurland, Brad Leong, Ken Levin, Anonymous, Mark A. Lovas, Scott Ludwig, Colin Matthews, David M. Mayeri, Colette Meunier & Mark van Norman, Jasson Minadakis, John Paluska, Julie Pepper, Mr. Julius Rea, Marsha Roberts, Deborah Dashow Ruth, Lloyd Sacks, Tom and Anne Sauer, Tim Shaughnessy, Kerri Shawn & Scott Denison, Margaret Sheehan, Kirk Shimano, Patricia Silver, Robert & Judy Silverman, Rachel Skelly, Andrew Smith,

Robert Spatz, Robert and Cornelia Stang, Annie Stoll, Annie Stuart & June Palladino, Elizabeth Werter & Henry Trevor, David White, Henry & Carol Winetsky, Igor Zagatsky, Mr. Maury Zeff, Anonymous (2)

CONTRIBUTING MEMBER (\$25-\$74)

Bonnie Anderson, Kevin Arnold, Jayne Arthur, David Barton, Ben Bines, Kerry Bitner, Denah S. Bookstein, Nathan Boyd, Kara Bratcher, Cass Brayton, David Briefstein, Forest Bronzan, Sandra Bryson, Rachel Bublitz, Madeleine Butler, Curt & Peggy Clark, Patricia Cotter, David Cramer, Roberta D'Alois, Aimée Derbes, Ari Derfel, Irene Dickey, Susan & Jeff Dunn, Kristina Farino, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond W. Farnsworth, Kamyar Faron, Michael Patrick Gaffney, Jennifer & David Garlasco, Mitchell Gaynor, Andi Georgiana, Cindy Goldfield, Sam Gordon, Lannie Gower, Anonymous, Jay Hill, Daniel Hoffer, Daniel Holloway, Christine Johnson, Shelley Lynn Johnson, Megan Kelsey, Eli Kleinmann, Elliott Kopstein, Sarah Len, Rachael Lincoln, Andrea Lira, Aaron Loeb & Kathy Roberts, Karen Macklin, John Maes, Marc Mannino, Michael Mansfield, Thomas McNaughton, Susan Miller, Dallas Moore, Gail Mosse, David Neeve, Evren Oddikin, J.R. Palladino, Carla Pantoja, Gabrielle Perez, Doug Peckler & Evelyn Jean Pine, Ryan Pollnow, Mark Rausa, Kim Richards, Katja Rivera, Jennifer Roberts, Ben Schaefer, Alexander Schmitz, Alison Seibert, Cleavon Smith, David O. Stein, Nancy Tompkins, Kathy Voss-Jensen, Dana Wagner, Jed & Alison Waldman, Caleb Zigas, Anonymous

Become a PlayGround contributor, www.playground-sf.org

IN-KIND DONORS

American Conservatory Theater, Aurora Theatre Company, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Blue Moon Bed & Breakfast, Bon Vivants, California Shakespeare Theater, Joy Carlin, Nancy Carlin, Regina Guggenheim, Hotel Shattuck Plaza, Joie de Vivre Hotels, Jim Kleinmann & Lara Gilman, Brady Lea, Magic Theatre, Marin Theatre Company, Patrick J. O'Brien, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Pixar, San Francisco Ballet, San Francisco Playhouse, SHN, Shotgun Players, Smuin Ballet, St. George Spirits, David Steele, TheatreWorks, Thirsty Bear, John & Pamela Gaye Walker

JUNE ANNE BAKER PRIZE

The June Anne Baker Prize was initiated by John H. Gilman in memory of his late wife. The Prize is awarded annually to a female playwright selected from among that year's Emerging Playwright Award winners, representing a gifted new comedic and/or political voice for the stage and includes a commission. The Prize provides a commissioning grant for a new full-length play and support for readings and workshop productions of the new work. This year's June Anne Baker Prize has been awarded to Genevieve Jessee, author of I Had a Bird, featured in this year's festival.

June Anne Baker (1946-2000) was born and raised in Mankato, Minnesota to a playful mother and a political father. She was a sensitive soul with a very big heart. June had a love affair with words and dreamed of being a writer. She received her undergraduate degree in Sociology from Arizona State University, a Masters in Regional and City Planning from the University of Oklahoma, and a law degree from Boalt Hall at UC Berkeley.

June moved to San Francisco in 1970 and had an active city planning career with the City of Concord and Marin County. June was an active feminist, and proud of it. She was a founding member of Bay Area Women Planners. June loved life, and politics, and fun. She was serious and re ective, and yet had an overabundance of youthful enthusiasm. As a good friend once said, "If you don't think feminists have a sense of humor, you never met June Baker."

June turned to writing in her 40s and found an inner life that she needed to explore. While contemplating and struggling with thoughts of how she might manifest her writer self, she was diagnosed with salivary gland cancer. Her struggle turned from expression to survival, yet she never lost her *joie de vivre*.

This award honors June's great love for humor and politics and her commitment to advancing opportunities for women. She would want this award to make easier the struggle and more manifest the works of the emerging playwrights who receive it.

This year represents the 16th annual June Anne Baker Prize. On behalf of the sixteen June Anne Baker Prize winners so recognized since 2002 and all of us at PlayGround, we offer our deepest thanks to John H. Gilman and the family and friends of June Anne Baker for making this annual prize possible and creating this lasting legacy!

Virago Theatre Company presents
Miles Pawski's

THE EDGE OF THE WORLD

It's all just Cowboys and Indians...

JUNE 21-JULY 2 2017

at

Potrero Stage 1695 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94107

Directed by Robert Paine

with: Matt Monaco, Sophie Blackburn, Lucas Hernandez, Garth Petal, & Jamella Cross

3 GIRLS THEATRE

RADICAL HOPE & THE NEW RESISTANCE

2017 NEW WORKS FESTIVAL AUGUST 17-27

- Thursday 8/17:** The Late(ish) Nite with 3GT Show!
Performance, Music, Interviews on our theme
- Friday 8/18:** Salon Series Finalist 1 (TBA): Staged Reading
- Saturday 8/19:** ReproRights!
- Sunday 8/20:** LezWrites!
- Thursday 8/24:** Girl Talk performance
- Friday 8/25:** Salon Series Finalist 2 (TBA): Staged Reading
- Saturday 8/26:** 3GT Day: Staged Readings, a panel discussion on the theme, and a party!
- Sunday 8/27:** Girl Writes! performance (matinee)

All shows are at 7:30 unless otherwise indicated
Potrero Stage: 1695 18th St, San Francisco



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT 3GIRLSTHEATRE.ORG

BAY AREA PREMIERE

THOUGHT-PROVOKING NEW PLAYS
IN AN INTIMATE SETTING

Splendour

By **ABI MORGAN**
Directed by **BARBARA DAMASHEK**



STARTS JUN 23

2017/2018
SEASON

Featuring 1 World Premiere &
3 Bay Area Premieres

SUBSCRIPTIONS ON SALE NOW!

AURORA THEATRE COMPANY

2081 Addison St., Downtown Berkeley | 510.843.4822 | auroratheatre.org

SHOTGUN PLAYERS PRESENTS

BROWNSVILLE SONG (B-SIDE FOR TRAY)

By **KIMBER LEE**
Directed by **MARGO HALL**

JUNE 15 – JULY 9

Moving fluidly between past and present, *brownsville song* is a story about loss and renewal, grief and healing. In the Brownsville neighborhood of Brooklyn, we meet Tray, a teenager who looks after his step-sister, talks back to his grandmother, and has big plans for the future. When tragedy strikes, how do you come together? *brownsville* is a raw, visceral tale of the ties that bind.

You define your life by living it.



**GET \$10 OFF WITH THE
PROMO CODE NEWPLAY**

WWW.SHOTGUNPLAYERS.ORG

510.841.6500