

Second Generation Production presents

# Inflections

curated by Victor Malana Maog  
 June 28-30, 2021  
 all performances are free!

Featuring works by  
 Philip Kan Gotanda, Shinji Eshima,  
 Mashuq Mushtaq Deen,  
 Ren Dara Santiago, Jade Wu, and Max Yu

in partnership with

CAATA CONSORTIUM OF ASIAN AMERICAN THEATERS & ARTISTS  
 HOWLROUND THEATRE COMMONS  
 NYCULTURE CITY OF NEW YORK

This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council

Artwork by Tony Aidan Vo

## Featuring:

### [Body of Eyes by Philip Gotanda, music by Shinji Eshima](#)

A couple wonders about their decision to not have children.

### [Darwin's Arch by Jade Wu](#)

Everything changes yet remains the same because invisibility exists only in darkness, but if light shines a spot on the unseen fear that keeps reinventing hate in the dark, it will erode, collapsing its foundation, proving that only the truest of the fittest survive.

### [Distanced Abandoned by Max Yu](#)

Zhaofei encounters the conflict between his father and uncle when he returns to Nanchang after learning of his grandmother's death.

### [Same Shadow by Ren Dara Santiago](#)

*Same Shadow* follows two Fili-Rican sisters in their late twenties living on opposite ends of the East Coast as they unfold a pattern of rediscovering themselves together through a series of FaceTime calls about food, career goals, racism, dream interpretations, trauma, and family.

### [Story, a Play in Twenty Measures by Mashuq Mushtaq Deen](#)

A story about the families we make, sometimes out of thin air, but always out of full hearts.

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## **Body of Eyes by Philip Kan Gotanda**

### **Philip Kan Gotanda (Playwright)**

Philip Kan Gotanda has created one of the largest canon of Asian American-themed works and is instrumental in bringing stories of Asians in the U.S. to mainstream American theater as well as to Europe and Asia. Mr. Gotanda holds a law degree from Hastings College of Law and studied pottery in Japan with the late Hiroshi Seto. Mr. Gotanda is a respected independent filmmaker. His 3 films: *Life Tastes Good*, *Drinking Tea*, *The Kiss*, all have been presented at the Sundance Film Festival. A CD of Mr. Gotanda performing his original songs in a 1980 concert with violinist DH Hwang is available at [www.yokohamaca.com](http://www.yokohamaca.com). Mr. Gotanda is a professor and vice chair with the Department of Theater Dance and Performance Studies at UC Berkeley. Mr. Gotanda's newest work is the libretto for the opera-play, BOTH EYES OPEN, in collaboration with New York based composer, Max Duykers.

### **Shinji Eshima (Composer)**

Shinji Eshima, born in Berkeley, is a double-bassist in San Francisco Ballet and San Francisco Opera orchestras. He is a graduate of Stanford University and The Juilliard School. In 2011, SF Ballet commissioned him to compose the score for Yuri Possokhov's *RAKU*. The ballet has been performed by the Company and ballet companies around the globe, and the score was recorded by the SF Ballet Orchestra and released the following year. *Swimmer* was his second ballet collaboration with Yuri Possokhov, also commissioned by SF Ballet. A CD recording is due to be released in 2021. In 2019, Carolina Ballet set his *Bariolage* (for double-bass and cello), choreographed by Robert Weiss and Zalman Grinberg. This led to a commission by that company for a full-length *Snow White* ballet set to premiere in 2022. His most recent major commission is *Zheng*, a new opera about the late mezzo-soprano Zheng Cao. He has served on faculty at San Francisco State University, and San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He was the recipient of the Stanford Humanities Award and was honored by the city of Berkeley with a declaration on December 6, 2011, "Shinji Eshima Day," for his contributions to the arts.

### **Victor Malana Maog (Director)**

Victor Malana Maog, named one of *American Theatre Magazine's* inaugural "People to Watch," has worked at the Public Theater, Working Theater, Second Stage, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Play On!/Classic Stage Company, New Dramatists, The Lark, Page 73/Yale, Signature Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, American Conservatory Theater, The Ground Floor at Berkeley Rep, Cal Shakes, Magic Theatre, etc. He also directed for ABC/Disney's Casting Project and created live events, spectacles, and experiences at Disney Parks Live Entertainment. Most recently, he's directed for virtual celebrity charity events featuring Alan Menken, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Bebe Neuwirth, David Cross and Daniel Dae Kim. Former Artistic Director, 2g. Immediate Past President, CAATA. Currently, he's the Visiting Professor in Theatre at St. Mary's College of California. BA, NYU/Gallatin. [www.victormaog.com](http://www.victormaog.com)

### **Kevin Gino (Vocalist)**

American-Filipino Tenor Kevin Gino has been gradually making his mark performing throughout the Bay Area. Originally from Los Angeles, Gino has been privileged to sing recently with West Edge Opera, Marin Baroque, Pocket Opera, Ars Minerva, the SF Opera Chorus, and the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra since he moved to San Francisco. A proud alumnus of the SF Conservatory of Music and Music Academy of the West, Kevin enjoys discovering works that challenge him, old and new. When he isn't creating, he is at home playing video games or outside enjoying his coffee in the beautiful Bay Area.

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### **Nicole Takesono (Vocalist)**

Originally from Hawaii, mezzo-soprano Nicole Takesono has been praised for her rich, warm voice and dedication to character. Ms. Takesono has performed with San Francisco Opera, Opera San Jose, West Edge Opera, Festival Opera, West Bay Opera, among others. Roles performed include Angelina in *La Cenerentola*, Dido in *Dido and Æneas*, Flora and Annina in *La Traviata*, Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel*, Mercedes in *Carmen*, The Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Musetta in *La Boheme*, Papagena and Second Lady in *The Magic Flute*, Rosina in *The Barber of Seville*, Siébel in *Faust*, Saint Sarah in *Four Saints and Three Acts*, Stefano in *Romeo and Juliette*, Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly*, and Teura/Third Narrator in *Bonjour M. Gauguin*. Ms. Takesono sings with the San Francisco Opera Chorus, San Francisco Symphony Chorus and Cappella SF, and studies with Deborah Benedict.

### **Brenda Vahur (Pianist)**

Praised for her "...breathtaking..." and "...captivating..." performances and for her "...great expressiveness...", pianist Brenda Tom Vahur has distinguished herself as an artist of passion and integrity. Her diverse career reflects her versatility as a soloist as well as a chamber musician. A strong advocate of new works, Brenda is the pianist for Earplay, celebrated new music ensemble in San Francisco. She has performed as soloist with the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra, San Francisco Chamber Orchestra, Pittsburgh Ballet Orchestra, I Solisti di Oakland, Fort Collins Symphony, California Symphony, and Sacramento Symphony, among others. As a chamber musician, Brenda has performed with Terry Riley, Philip Glass, Dennis Russell Davies, Zuill Bailey, Phil Myers, and Gary Karr. She has recorded for PianoDisc, China Recording Company, Klavier Records, IMG Media, and Snow Leopard Music. Brenda received her training at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music studying under Mack McCray and Beatrice Beauregard.

### **Clare Schweitzer (On-Site Videographer/Editor)**

A native of the San Francisco Bay Area, Clare Schweitzer received her early training in ballet, and continued her dance training at Mount Holyoke College, where she graduated in 2012 with a B.A. in Dance and Mathematics cum laude with high honors. In 2014, Clare moved to London to begin her postgraduate studies as a part of EDge, the repertory company associated with the London Contemporary Dance School, and had the opportunity to tour with the company around the UK and internationally in countries such as Sweden, Switzerland, France, Portugal and Austria. Clare has performed with groups such as Kinetech, Garrett+Moulton and Sarah Berges Dance. She currently works as a Production Associate with Dance Film SF (Formerly the San Francisco Dance Film Festival) and as a videographer/editor for Rapt Productions. She is also a co-host on Frameform, a podcast that discusses dance and film.

\*\*\**Body of Eyes* was filmed in person following strict COVID safety, compliance, and protocols for all on site.

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## **Darwin's Arch by Jade Wu**

### **Jade Wu (Playwright)**

Jade is veteran actor, writer, director. She received awards from Disney/ABC Writing Fellowship, Jerome Foundation, Film/Video Arts, Ms. Foundation. She was BlueCat Screenplay Semi-finalist, a PEN USA Rosenthal Emerging Voices Writing Fellowship Finalist. Her plays have had selected readings at the Santa Clara Experimental Festival, Nuyorican Poets Cafe Emerging Playwrights Series and Urban Stages Emerging Playwrights Series. She is a published financial journalist and an award-winning documentary filmmaker. She currently has three original television series in development.

In acting, Jade plays lead in Sundance/Humanitas pedigree films and currently recurs on three network primetime series. She has workshopped plays by Alexa Jung, Mia Chung, Susan Soon He Stanton, Leah Nanako Winkler, Teresa Huang, Mashuq Deen, Play On Shakespeare, EST, The Old Globe, New Dramatists, NYTW, NYS&F and Page 73/Yale. Upcoming are *SNAKEHEAD*, "Awkwafina is Nora from Queens" and "DMZ."

### **Margaret Lee (Director)**

Margaret Lee is a Hawaii-born, NYC-based director/movement director. Current: Resident Director at *Eschaton*, Virtual Commission Director for Moxie Arts NY. Recent: *From A To Double D* by Mandy Murphy (IRT Theater), *The Golden Spike* by Don Nguyen & The Lobbyists (BRIC House Artist Studio). While serving as Artistic Director of Chicago troupe 33<sup>rd</sup> Street Productions, she focused on fostering cross-disciplinary creativity with artists primarily in STEM, in addition to helming productions of *Ordinary Days* by Adam Gwon, *Venus in Fur* by David Ives, and *Company* by Stephen Sondheim. She has been fortunate to assist Kathleen Marshall, Marcia Milgrom Dodge, and David Mendizabal at theatres such as The Old Globe, New York Stage & Film, Long Wharf Theatre, and Olney Theatre Center. Margaret is a Drama League Directors Project Alumna, a Manhattan Theatre Club Directing Fellow, a 24 Hour Plays: Nationals alumna, and an SDC Associate Member. [LeeMargaret.com](http://LeeMargaret.com)

### **Jeff Biehl (Young Brute/Man #1)**

Jeff Biehl - Broadway: *MACHINAL* (Roundabout). Off-Broadway: *LIFE SUCKS* (Drama Desk Nom., Wheelhouse), *CATCH AS CATCH CAN* (Page73), *CHARLES FRANCIS CHAN'S JR'S...*(NAATCO), *10 OUT OF 12* (Soho Rep), *POOR BEHAVIOR* (Primary Stages), *BURNING* (New Group), *ISSAC'S EYE* (EST). Regional: premieres at Yale Rep, Denver Center, Woolly Mammoth, and Humana Festival. FILM: *A Master Builder*, *Ricki and the Flash*, *What is Life Worth*. TV: *The Path*, *Vinyl*, *Mysteries of Laura*, *Forever*, *Southland*, all *Law & Orders*. Juilliard.

### **Oscar Cabrera (Man #2/Trespasser)**

Oscar A. L. Cabrera is a New York based Actor/playwright born and bred in the panhandle of Texas. His plays include *Through Andrew's Eyes* (WAGG Hudson Warehouse inaugural playwright, INTAR's New Works Lab, Rising Circle, Black and Latino Playwrights Conference 2016), *Maybe You Should Just* (EWG The Public Theater), *Bonnet Blues* (LoneStar Theater), *ReSpec* (Spectrum Theater Ensemble), *Pennies and Bolts* (Labyrinth Theater Mofo Hat Festival), as well as over ten original ten minutes plays through The Flea Theater Serials. He is currently the Co-Artistic Director of the NYC Latinx Playwright Circle, an organization with the blunt aim of increasing Latinx representation across all fields in New York Theater. In 2020, he led the Economic Justice Committee for accountability of The Flea Theater's treatment of Black artists.

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**Kate Rigg (Ruth/New Broadcaster #2)**

Australian Indonesian American Kate Siahaan-Rigg is an actor, stand up comic and writer based in New York City. Her solo works "Birth of a nASIAN" and "Americasiana" were both invited to the Smithsonian Institute and she has performed her irreverent, political and occasionally foul mouthed comedy at the Montreal Comedy Festival, The Perth International Festival, and on PBS, Showtime, LOGO, Comedy Central and NBC. She recently portrayed Tartuffe in *Tartuffe* with Moliere in the Park and before the pandemic was seen in *Lifespan of a Fact* at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. On TV she has recurred on *New Amsterdam*, *Tales of The City*, *Law and Order*, and more. Training: Juilliard. [www.katerigg.com](http://www.katerigg.com) for more.

**Virginia Wing (Helen)**

Original Broadway production, *Chu Chem*; NY stage includes: *Sagittarius Ponderosa*, *Eyes of the Heart*, *You Can't Take It With You* (NAATCO); *Ivanov* (NAATCO/Mint Theatre); *Cambodia Agonistes*, *Joy Luck Club* (Pan Asian Rep); *This Side Up*, *Watcher*, *Woman From the Other Side of the World*, *Caucasian Chalk Circle* (Ma-Yi Theatre Co); *Food and Shelter*, *America Dreaming* (Vineyard Theatre); *Making Tracks* (2G). Regional includes: Barter Theatre (3 seasons) Milwaukee Rep; Mark Taper Forum; Studio Theatre; Swine Palace; East/West Players; L.A. Shakespeare. Film includes: *When the World Was Young* (Audience Award, Best Short Narrative, Personal winner, Most Inspirational Artist Award, DisOrient Film Festival); *Somebody's Hero*; *Colin Hearts Kay*; *Anamorph*; *Falling for Grace*. [performingartslegacy.org/wing](http://performingartslegacy.org/wing)

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## ***Distance Abandoned* by Max Yu**

### **Max Yu (Playwright)**

Max Yu is a Chinese-American writer and performer from the San Francisco Bay Area who is now based in Shanghai. He has been featured in the New York Times for winning the 2019 Relentless Award for his play, *Nightwatch*. He is a member of Page 73's 2021-22 Interstate 73 Writers Group. His plays have been workshopped and developed at Horizon Theater and Shaking the Tree Theater. His poetry and prose have been published in *Spittoon* and *Babel*. He studied playwriting at the University of California, Los Angeles. Learn more at his website, [www.maxyu.carrd.co](http://www.maxyu.carrd.co)

### **May Liang (Director)**

May Liang is the Artistic Director of Ferocious Lotus Theatre Company, the Asian and Asian American theater in the San Francisco Bay Area. She is also a freelance theater director/artist of color and has worked with the likes of American Conservatory Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theater's Ground Floor Lab, California Shakespeare Theater, and Crowded Fire Theater (Resident Artist). May was a member of the 2017 Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab in New York City, a member of the 2019 Directors Lab Chicago and was nominated for Outstanding Direction of a Play at the 2018 Theater Bay Area Awards for *Inside Out* and *Back Again* at Bay Area Children's Theatre. May graduated from the University of California, Berkeley and in another life, was a campaign organizer/activist for immigrant rights with ASPIRE—the first Pan-Asian undocumented immigrant youth organization housed under Asian Law Caucus in San Francisco.

### **James Chen (Shushu)**

James can currently be seen this summer on STARZ's *Run The World*, and continues as Ian Lim on CBS's hit show *FBI*. Select TV: *The Walking Dead*; *Law & Order: SVU*; *Iron Fist* and *Seven Seconds*, *Madam Secretary*, *The Last O.G.*, *Broad City*, *Blue Bloods*, *NCIS: LA*, *The Blacklist*, *Elementary*, *Person of Interest*, *Sleepy Hollow*. Select Film: *Front Cover*, *Fluidity*, *The Amazing Spiderman*, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *Labor Day*, *We Need To Talk About Kevin*. Select theater: Chautauqua Theater Company, Guthrie Theater, Philadelphia Theater Company. 20+ narrated audiobooks at Audible.com. UPENN, Yale Drama. IG: @jameschennyc T: @JamesCchen.

### **Wai Ching Ho (NaiNai)**

Wai Ching Ho last performed in Celine Song's *ENDLINGS* at NYTW in March of 2020. Other Off Broadway credits include NAATCO's production of *HENRY VI*, *NO FLOREIGNERS BEYOND THIS POINT*, *THE SQUARE* (MaYi), *JOY LUCK CLUB* (Pan Asian), and others. Regionally she had worked at A.R.T, Long Wharf, Pittsburgh Public, Denver Center, and Palo Alto Theatre Works. Her film credits include *HUSTLERS*, *SORCERER'S APPRENTICE*, *ROBOT STORIES*, *PREMIUM RUSH*. Television credits include *AWKWAFINA IS NORA FROM QUEENS*, *NEW AMSTERDAM*, *FRESH OFF THE BOAT*. She appeared in numerous episodes as Madame Gao in Marvel's *DAREDEVIL*, *IRON FIST* and *THE DEFENDERS*.

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**Jon Norman Schneider (Zhaofei / Ba)**

Jon Norman Schneider is a New York based actor, last seen onstage as the Fool in *King Lear* (Northern Stage). NY: 13P, Clubbed Thumb, Lincoln Center, Ma-Yi, NAATCO, Playwrights Realm, The Public, Signature, Women's Project, among others. Regional: Actors Theatre of Louisville, Alley, Alliance, Barrington Stage, Dorset Theatre Festival, Goodman, Huntington, Kennedy Center, Long Wharf, Magic, McCarter, Milwaukee Rep, Mosaic, Old Globe. Film/TV: *Bitter Melon*, *Manila Is Full of Men Named Boy*, *The Normals*, HBO's *Angel Rodriguez*, "Succession," "Jessica Jones," "Veep," "30 Rock," and "Law & Order: Criminal Intent."

**Katharine Chin (Stage Directions)**

Katharine Chin is a New York actor originally from the Bay Area. She is honored to be collaborating with Second Generation Productions for the first time! Film/TV credits include: *FBI* (CBS), *A Place in the Dark* (Independent Feature). New York Theatre: *Coriolanus* (Shakespeare in the Park). MFA: New School for Drama.

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## ***Same Shadow* by Ren Dara Santiago**

### **Ren Dara Santiago (Playwright)**

Ren Dara Santiago is a Fili-Rican nurturer and storyteller from Harlem. Plays: *All the Time, I'll Write You Down in Brick & Mortar*, *The Siblings Play*, *Something in the Balete Tree*, *SUBLIMINAL*. Shorts: *Building Models*, *Hard as You Can*, *Heard You*, *In the Shit*, *Love & Animation*, *Someone's Family*, *Where We At*. Theaters: Clubbed Thumb, En Garde Arts, The Lark, MCC, Ojai Playwrights Conference, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, Rising Phoenix Rep, SPACE on Ryder Farm, The Theatre Co. Radio: MTA Radio Plays, *creator and curator*. Upcoming: SEE YOU IN YOUR NIGHTMARES premieres Summer 2021 on iHeartRadio, *Head Writer*. AIN'T IT THOUGH, feature-length indie anthology, *co-writer/producer*.

### **Jesca Prudencio (Director)**

Jesca Prudencio is a theatre and film director focused on interdisciplinary work across the U.S. and internationally. Recent works include *The Interview*, a virtual play by Ekaterina Avgustenyak (Arena Stage & Forum for Cultural Engagement, DC), *Interstate*, a new musical by Kit Yan and Melissa Yi (Mixed Blood), and the award-winning short film *American Quartet* (Filmelodic, NYC). Other credits include *The Great Leap* by Lauren Yee (Steppenwolf), *Vietgone* and *Actually* (San Diego Rep), *Calling* (La MaMa ETC), *Man of God* (East West Players), *PDA* (La Jolla Playhouse's WoW Fest), *A&Q* (Pineapple Lab, Philippines) and *FAN* (B-Floor, Thailand). She is a recipient of The Drama League Fellowship and the inaugural Julie Taymor World Theater Fellowship. BFA: NYU Tisch, MFA: UC San Diego. [Jescaprudencio.com](http://Jescaprudencio.com)

### **Francesca Fernandez McKenzie (Sonia)**

Francesca Fernandez McKenzie is an actor from the San Francisco Bay Area based in New York City. NYC: Playwrights Realm, 59E59, Daryl Roth Theater, The Lark, National Black Theater of Harlem, Second Generation (2g), Pay Per View, Egg & Spoon, Loose Change Productions. Regionally: Two Rivers Theater, Cleveland Playhouse, CalShakes, Magic Theatre, Horizon Theater, Southern Rep, Theater Mu. TV/Film: "Blue Bloods;" "The Locker Room Series." MFA: Yale School of Drama, Acting. Co-Artistic Director of Yale Cabaret in its 50th season. Co-Founder of Encompass Collective and recipient of the Stonehenge NYC Still Standing Artist Residency. Francesca McKenzie is collaborating on this project as a Still Standing Artist-In-Residence with Stonehenge NYC. Follow her at [@cheskamckenzie](https://www.instagram.com/cheskamckenzie)

### **Geena Quintos (Maya)**

Geena is a Filipinx artist born and raised in Queens, NY. She is dedicated to AAPI representation in the Arts and is an advocate for representation of every marginalized and underrepresented group in the Arts. New works are her passion- she has a mighty desire to tell stories that haven't been told and should be told. She is an NYCLU Artist Ambassador Class of 2021 and when she isn't writing or performing, she is drinking good coffee, searching for the best desserts and teaching cycling classes. She is the Founder of "The Buddy System," which is an organization that provides accompaniment for individuals and families of the AAPI community who are worried about getting around safely. [thebuddysystemnyc.org](http://thebuddysystemnyc.org)

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## ***Story, a Play in Twenty Measures* by Mashuq Mushtaq Deen**

### **Mashuq Mushtaq Deen (Playwright)**

Mashuq Mushtaq Deen is a resident playwright at New Dramatists, a PWC Core Writer, and a 2019 Lambda Literary Award Winner. His full-length plays include *The Empty Place* (NYU commission), *Flood*, *The Betterment Society* (published by Methuen Books), *The Shaking Earth*, and *Draw the Circle* (productions: PlayMakers Rep, Mosaic Theatre, Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre; published: Dramatists Play Service; winner Lambda Literary Award). Deen's work has been presented/developed/supported by a number of institutions including Sundance Institute at Ucross, Blue Mountain Center, The Public Theater, NYTW, MacDowell Colony, Bogliasco Foundation, Helene Wurlitzer Foundation & Chesley/Bumbalo Foundation, Target Margin Theatre, Keen Company, New Harmony Project, Phoenix Theatre, Arch and Bruce Brown Foundation, New York Foundation for the Arts, InterAct Theatre, Page73, Ma-Yi, Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics, and Queens Theatre in the Park. He is a member of the NYTW Usual Suspects, Ma-Yi Writers Lab, founding member of the Public Theater Alumni Writers Group, and the Dramatists Guild. He is represented by the Gurman Agency.

### **Mei Ann Teo (Director)**

**Mei Ann Teo** (they/she) is a queer immigrant from Singapore making theatre & film at the intersection of artistic/civic/contemplative practice. As a director/devisor/dramaturg, they create across genres, including music theatre, intermedial participatory work, reimagining classics, and documentary theatre. Teo's international work includes Belgium's Festival de Liege (*Lyrics From Lockdown*, "Truly polished, meaningful and entertaining" -New York Times), Edinburgh International Fringe (*MiddleFlight*, "Stunning" -Scotsman), Beijing International Festival (*Labyrinth* - Top 8 in Beijing News). *Dim Sum Warriors the Musical* by Colin Goh and Yen Yen Woo, composed by Pulitzer Prize winner Du Yun for national China twenty-five city tour, Jillian Walker's world premiere *SKiNFoLK: An American Show* at the Bushwick Starr (NYTimes Critics Pick, NYMag's matrix "Highbrow and Brilliant"), Madeline Sayet's *Where We Belong* at Shakespeare's Globe and Woolly Mammoth, Nia Witherspoon's *Chronicle X* at The Shed. Josephine Abady Award from the League of Professional Theatre Women. Teo is the Artistic Director of Musical Theatre Factory.

### **Kenneth Lee (Guy)**

Kenneth originated the role of Hsu in Matt Charman's *The Machine* at the Park Ave Armory in NYC, London's Donmar Warehouse, and the Manchester Int'l Festival. He has worked at theatres in NYC and regionally that include The Shakespeare Theatre, The Pearl Theatre, Clubbed Thumb, Baltimore Centerstage, The Rep in St Louis, Cleveland Playhouse and the American Players' Theatre. Film/TV: *Search Party*, *Mr Robot*, *Madam Secretary*, *Unforgettable*, *The Following*, *Delocated*, *Deception*, *Children of Invention*, *Law & Order CI*, *Second Act*. He trained at NYU Tisch School of the Arts, the Public Theatre Shakespeare Lab and American Conservatory Theatre (MFA). [www.ikennethlee.com](http://www.ikennethlee.com)

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### **Riti Sachdeva (Lola)**

As a theatre maker and cultural worker, Riti Sachdeva has created art in some shape, pattern, or rhythm for 25 years. Incorporating text, installation, and dance into her performance-making, she straddles the practices and conventions of U.S. and international theater, and performance art. Layering the personal, political, and arcane, she has crafted a unique Indo-Gothic aesthetic. Acting/performance highlights include work with National Hispanic Cultural Center, PopUp Theatrics, Honest Accomplice, HBO, Disney, lots of cool indie films, an Outstanding One Act award from Planet Connections for her solo show *Scene/Unseen*. She continues to develop her solo show *BEHIND EVERY FAVORITE SONG IS AN UNTOLD WOMAN* workshopped at The Drama League and Wildfyre Artzmosphere in Belize. Riti is a Core Writer with PWC, Audrey Resident at New Georges and recipient of the Dramatists Guild's Thom Thomas playwriting award.

### **Sushma Saha (Hope)**

Off-Broadway: *INTERSTATE* (New York Musical Festival), *THE NAKED CROSS* (Pride Plays) / Regional: *INTERSTATE* (world premiere at Mixed Blood Theatre), *THE WOLVES* (Actors Theatre of Louisville) / Other credits: *INTERSTATE* (National Alliance for Musical Theatre, Dramatists Guild Foundation Fellows Festival), *DANCE NATION* (Ithaca New Voices Literary Festival), *LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS* (1st site-specific production at Bool's Flower Shop in Ithaca, New York). Sushma won Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role playing Henry in *INTERSTATE* at New York Musical Festival in 2018.

Instagram: @sushmasahahaha

### **Futaba Shioda (Story)**

Futaba Shioda (he/him) is an actor and activist, advocating for rights and arts accessibility for marginalized communities. He believes in art's capacity to envision freer worlds and call attention to capitalism's inequities. Selected works - Theater: *RENT* Tour, Kennedy Center, Barrington Stage Company, WP Theater, North Shore Music Theatre. TV: [Sideways Smile](#). Advocacy: [Gender & Family Project](#), [Gender Conference NYC](#), The New York Times, Penguin Random House. [www.futabashioda.com](http://www.futabashioda.com)

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## Production

### **Brian Kim (Editor & Recording Manager)**

Brian Kim is a Korean-Adoptee Artist hailing from the great state of MN but currently calls sunny SoCal his home. As a film editor, he has worked on several award-winning short films including "The Struggle" and "The Beach House" and most recently for Pan Asian Repertory's 2021 production of *The Emperor's Nightingale*. Brian's recent acting credits include the world premiere of *Interstate: the Musical* with Mixed Blood Theatre, *Aubergine* at San Diego Rep, *Labour of Love* at The Olney, and this July, he will make his South Coast Rep debut with *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*. Brian is also the founder of Misfit Dog Productions, a creative collective producing underrepresented stories through intersectional community collaborations. "Toku whānau <3"

### **Eric Elizaga (Assistant Recording Manager)**

Eric Elizaga is a New York-based actor, writer, producer, and an award winning director. His films have been accepted to multiple film festivals and garnered awards, including one for best director. His on-camera credits include a recurring guest starring role on the ABC drama *For Life*, a guest starring role on the CBS drama *Elementary* as well as co-starring roles on multiple TV shows like *Orange Is The New Black*, *Hawaii 5-0*, *FBI*, *New Amsterdam*, and as recurring characters on *Law & Order: SVU* and *Gotham*.

### **Dani Bae (Body of Eyes Project Manager)**

Bae recently assistant directed A.C.T.'s *A Christmas Carol: On Air*. A.C.T. Stage Management credits: *Communion*, *Trouble in Mind*, and *Her Portmanteau*. Other A.C.T. assistant stage management credits include: *Testmatch*, *Heisenberg*, *The Birthday Party*, and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Local Bay Area credits: *Culture Clash (Still) in America* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre), *A Year of Magical Thinking*, *Detroit '67*, *Dry Powder*, *Luna Gale*, and *Splendour* (Aurora). Other notable Stage Management credits include *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (Arena Stage, Seattle Repertory Theatre), the Bard Music Festival (Bard SummerScape), *Urinetown: The Musical* (American Theatre of Actors). Bae has a BFA in stage management from Syracuse University.

### **Risa Kurasaki (Distance Abandoned & Darwin's Arch Project Manager)**

Risa Kurosaki is a Los Angeles based Stage Manager dedicated to working with diverse storytellers. She has stage managed for CATT ConFest, Artists at Play, and on staff at AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts.

### **Alex Montoya (Story, a Play in Twenty Measures & Same Shadow Project Manager)**

Alex Montoya is a New York City based stage manager and producer, originally from Houston, Texas. Some of his stage management credits include *Tell Me I'm Not Crazy* (Williamstown Theater Festival), *Fucking A*, *Paradise Blue & The Mother of Us All* (The Juilliard School), *Alice by Heart*, *The North Star* (New York Stage & Film), *Ragtime* (Theatre Under The Stars). Alex is a proud alum of the University of Houston School of Theatre & Dance.

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**Victor Malana Maog (Executive Producer & Curator)**

Victor Malana Maog, named one of *American Theatre Magazine's* inaugural "People to Watch," has worked at the Public Theater, Working Theater, Second Stage, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Play On!/Classic Stage Company, New Dramatists, The Lark, Page 73/Yale, Signature Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, American Conservatory Theater, The Ground Floor at Berkeley Rep, Cal Shakes, Magic Theatre, etc. He also directed for ABC/Disney's Casting Project and created live events, spectaculars, and experiences at Disney Parks Live Entertainment. Most recently, he's directed for virtual celebrity charity events featuring Alan Menken, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Bebe Neuwirth, David Cross and Daniel Dae Kim. Former Artistic Director, 2g. Immediate Past President, CAATA. Currently, he's the Visiting Professor in Theatre at St. Mary's College of California. BA, NYU/Gallatin. [www.victormaog.com](http://www.victormaog.com)

**Gladys Chen (Second Generation President)**

Gladys Chen has been involved with Second Generation since its inception. She holds a Masters of Business Administration from the Wharton School of Business and has also held numerous positions in advertising and marketing.. With her strong business acumen, Gladys was the Managing Director of Second Generation and produced its first Off-Broadway musical Making Tracks from 1997 to 2001. Additionally, Gladys helped to create the In the Works series which provides artists with workshops to collaborate and stage their work before an audience prior to a full-production at 2g and regional theaters.

**Jonathan Castanien (Producer, 2g)**

Jonathan Castanien (He/him) is a stage manager, producer, and co-founder of The SÓng Collective. He has stage managed at companies including The Atlantic Theater Company, Manhattan Theatre Club, BAM, Lincoln Center Theater, The Public, and Artists at Play. With the SÓng Collective he produces work aims to uplift voices from the Vietnamese diaspora and create space for Artists of Color. Jonathan holds a BA in Theatre Design and Production from CSU Fullerton. He is an alumnus of artEquity's National Facilitator Training, was included in *American Theatre Magazine's* December 2018 "People to Watch" list.  
[www.jonathancastanien.com](http://www.jonathancastanien.com)

**Ariel Estrada (Line Producer, CAATA)**

Ariel Estrada is an actor, producer, writer, and advocate in support of Asian American equity in the performing arts. As an actor, he has performed on television, film, commercials, digital media, and Off-, and Off-Off-Broadway. As a producer, Ariel is the Founder and Producing Artistic Director for Leviathan Lab, a nonprofit creative studio for Asian American performing artists. Through Leviathan, his play FULL CONTACT was a 2020 National New Play Network Commission Grant Finalist. As an arts advocate, he is the Marketing & Membership Director for the Consortium of Asian American Theatres and Artists and the National Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator for Actors' Equity Association. He was designated an Emerging Arts Leader by New York Foundation for the Arts and a Rising Leader of Color by Theatre Communications Group. He is a founding member of New York City Theatre Standards. As a grant writing consultant and has won over \$180K in grant funding for small NYC nonprofits of color. He is also a Fortune 500 and Inc. 5000-level graphic designer. [arielestrada.com](http://arielestrada.com) | [leviathanlab.com](http://leviathanlab.com)

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### **Tony Aidan Vo (2g Graphic and Website Designer)**

Tony Aidan Vo is a first generation Vietnamese American from Boulder, CO. Select theater credits include Atlantic Theater Company, Naked Angels, The Bushwick Starr, various concerts at Joe's Pub at The Public, Baltimore Center Stage, Two River Theater, and The Colorado Shakespeare Festival. On television, Tony can be seen on *Teenage Bounty Hunters* (Netflix), *Queen Sugar* (OWN), and *Instinct* (CBS). Tony is a co-founder of The Lobbyists, a Drama Desk Nominated folk band/theater collective based in New York City. When he isn't performing, Tony designs websites and is currently developing Audition Cat, an app for performers to be released later this summer. Follow: @tvo\_this, [tonyaidanvo.com](http://tonyaidanvo.com)

### **Second Generation (2g)**

Founded in 1997, Second Generation is a non-profit theater company dedicated to:

\*Creating contemporary, world-class Asian American theater that reaches across cultural, generational and racial boundaries;

\*Cultivating the next generation of Asian American dramatic arts, by identifying and nurturing a vibrant community of actors, directors and writers from the established and emerging to the early-career and pre-professional; and

\*Connecting with new and underserved audiences, especially young Asian Americans and other groups historically underrepresented in mainstream American theater, towards the establishment of a vital and effective platform for Asian American voices to be heard on the world's stage. [www.2g.org](http://www.2g.org)

### **The Consortium of Asian American Theatre & Artists**

The mission of The Consortium of Asian American Theaters & Artists (CAATA) is to advance the field of Asian American theater through a national network of organizations and artists. We collaborate to inspire learning and sharing of knowledge, and resources to promote a healthy, sustainable artistic ecology.

(CAATA) envisions a strong and sustainable Asian American theater community that is an integral presence in national culture—evocative of our past, declarative of our present, and innovative towards our future. As a collective of Asian American theater leaders and artists, we bring together local and regional leaders to work nationally toward our shared values of social justice, artistic diversity, cultural equity and inclusion. We hold national conferences and festivals biennially in different parts of the country, reaching as wide a range of Asian American populations and communities as possible. We survey Asian American theater artists and organizations to find out their foremost concerns. We form alliances with other theater groups of different affinities to advance mutual goals cooperatively and to exchange ideas and strategies. Learn more at [caata.net](http://caata.net)

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## Community Partners

### **GAPIMNY**

Founded in 1990, GAPIMNY is an all-volunteer, membership-based organization which provides a safe space for support, visibility and action among NYC's community of queer and transgender Asian American and Pacific Islander people. GAPIMNY works in coalition with other LGBTQ and API community organizations to help educate the broader community on issues of race, sexuality, gender, and health. Learn more:

[gapimny.org](http://gapimny.org)

### **The Buddy System**

The Buddy System is an organization geared to help the AAPI/API community get around safely. We help individuals and families who need a buddy or a chaperone while they commute to work, run errands, travel to visit loved ones, go on their daily walk, etc. We have buddies in all boroughs of NYC. All of our buddies are connected through mutual friends/mutual people and many of our buddies are trained in bystander intervention, conflict intervention or self defense. We all carry the same mission- to keep our community safe. Our organization is one of action and hope and we are working hard to ensure everyone's safety. We are partnered with AAFE (Asian Americans for Equality) with a new initiative to further help our community in the city. Right now, we are focusing our efforts on the AAPI/API community as we see a rise in attacks. Our goal is for The Buddy System to be a service for anyone who feels unsafe and needs a buddy. Learn more:

[www.thebuddysystemnyc.org](http://www.thebuddysystemnyc.org)

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