

The Fountain Theatre presents the World Premiere of

RUNAWAY HOME

by Jeremy J. Kamps





The Fountain Theatre is a non-profit producing organization established in 1990 by Co-Artistic Directors Deborah Lawlor and Stephen Sachs dedicated to providing a nurturing, creative home for multi-ethnic theatre and dance artists. The Fountain offers a safe, supportive haven for artists of varied backgrounds to gather, interact and inspire each other toward the creation of work that will ignite and illuminate the community from which it's drawn and give creative voice to those who may not otherwise be heard.

Now in its 27th year, The Fountain has grown into one of the most highly regarded theatres in Los Angeles. The Fountain Theatre's activities include a year-round season of fully produced new and established plays (34 world premieres and 45 U.S./West Coast/Southern California/Los Angeles premieres), a full season of Flamenco and multi-ethnic dance, a New Plays developmental series, and educational outreach programs. To date, Fountain Theatre productions have won more than 240 awards for all areas of production, performance, and design. The Fountain has the distinction of being honored with more nominations and winning more Ovation awards than any other intimate theatre in Los Angeles. The Fountain was honored with the 2014 BEST Award from the Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation, and has been presented with seven Awards of Excellence from the Los Angeles City Council for enhancing the cultural life of the city. The Hollywood Arts Council presented the Fountain with its Charlie Award for overall achievement of excellence in Theatre. The Fountain was instrumental in launching, hosting and guiding the Deaf West Theatre Company at the Fountain in 1991.

Fountain projects have been seen in major theaters around the country, internationally and around the world and have been made into a CBS Movie-for-Television and a BBC Radio Drama. New plays developed at the Fountain Theatre have won the PEN USA Literary Award for Drama, been named PEN Award Finalists 3 times, the Elliot Norton Award for Best New Play, LA Drama Critics Circle Awards, the Edinburgh Fringe First Award, the California Governor's Media Access Award, and many other honors. Recent Fountain highlights include being honored for its acclaimed 25th Anniversary Season in 2015 by Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Los Angeles City Council; the 2014 Ovation Award for Best Season and the 2014 BEST Award for overall excellence from the Biller Foundation; the inclusion of the Fountain's *Citizen: An American Lyric* in Center Theatre Group's upcoming Block Party at the Kirk Douglas Theatre; and the naming of seven Fountain productions in a row as "Critic's Choice" in the *Los Angeles Times*. The Fountain's most recent production, the world premiere of *Building the Wall* by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Robert Schenkkan, ran for five months and was named "L.A. hottest ticket" by the *Los Angeles Times*. Under the guidance of Producing Artistic Director Deborah Lawlor, the Fountain is also the premier venue for Flamenco in Los Angeles. Since 1990 it has produced over 600 world-class Flamenco concerts on its intimate stage and thirteen seasons at the 1200-seat Ford Amphitheater.

The Fountain Theatre

Deborah Lawlor *Producing Artistic Director* · **Stephen Sachs** *Co-Artistic Director*
Simon Levy *Producing Director* · **James Bennett** *Associate Producer*
Scott Tuomey *Technical Director* · **Barbara Goodhill** *Director of Development*
Lucy Pollak *Public Relations* · **Elizabeth Tractenberg** *Accountant*
Tamara Bunker *Café* · **William Sachs** *House Manager* · **Marisela Hughes** *Box Office*
Jose Lomeli *Parking Attendant* · **Ed Krieger** *Photographer*



Presents the World Premiere of

RUNAWAY HOME

by **Jeremy J. Kamps**

Starring

Leith Burke Jeris Poindexter Armando Rey
Maya Lynne Robinson Camille Spirlin Brian Tichnell
Karen Malina White

Scenic Design
Stephanie Kerley
Schwartz

Lighting Design
Jennifer Edwards

Music/Sound Design
Peter Bayne

Costume Design
Naila Aladdin-Sanders

Props Design
DeAnne Millais

Dialect Coach
Tyler Seiple

Fight Direction
Edgar Landa

Production Stage Manager
Jessaica Shields

Technical Director
Scott Tuomey

Produced by

Stephen Sachs Deborah Lawlor Simon Levy James Bennett

Executive Producers

Karen Kondazian

Diana Buckhantz Dick Motika Jerrie Whitfield
Dorothy and Stanley Wolpert Don and Suzanne Zachary
Lois Fishman Ejike and Victoria Ndefo

Underwriting Producers

Rabbi Anne Brener LCSW Elle Johnson Rita Rothman Barbara and Barry Shaffer

Directed by

Shirley Jo Finney

Runaway Home received a workshop production by Company Cypher, NY
Sarita Covington, Sarah Stites and Amy Rafa, Executive Producers, in 2015.

CAST

Kali
Eunice
Shana
Armando
Mr. Dee
Lone Wolf
Tat

Camille Spirlin
Maya Lynne Robinson*
Karen Malina White*
Armando Rey*
Jeris Poindexter*
Brian Tichnell
Leith Burke*

**Member of Actors Equity Association,
the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.*

Setting: Lower Ninth Ward, New Orleans. August 2008.

Runaway Home is approximately 1 hour 40 minutes.
It is performed with no intermission.

The Fountain Theatre is donating a percentage of
Runaway Home ticket sales to Hurricane Relief

Houston
Food Bank
Feeding America

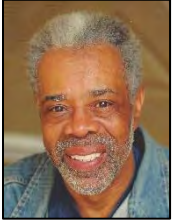


THE
FOUNTAIN
Theatre

THE CAST



LEITH BURKE (Tat) was last seen at the Fountain in the world premiere of *Citizen: an American Lyric*; Past theater includes *Judgment at Nuremberg* on Broadway; Multiple seasons with the Santa Cruz, San Francisco, and Oregon Shakespeare Festivals; *Antony and Cleopatra* at the Guthrie; *Miss Julie* at San Jose Rep.; National tours with the S.F. Mime Troupe; and the premiere of *Neighbors* at the Matrix Theater. Film includes: *The Tiger Hunter*; *Choir Director*; and *Suburbicon* directed by George Clooney this fall. Television: *Life in Pieces*, *The Mick*, Tyler Perry's *The Have and Have Nots*; *Scorpion*; *Real Husbands of Hollywood*; *Grey's Anatomy*; *Parenthood*; *NCIS*; *Criminal Minds*; *CSI: NY*; *Numbers*; and the *West Wing*.



JERIS POINDEXTER (Mr. Dee) better known as Kill Moves from *Everybody Hates Chris*, hails from Chicago via Mississippi. As an actor, he has had a recurring role on *Saving Grace* as Pup with Academy Award winner Holly Hunter. Most film and TV roles can be found in IMDB. He appeared in *Insidious 3 – The Further* with Dermont Mulroney. As a director, he has directed *What Ever Happened to Black Love* which toured with Freda Payne, Tommy Ford, Dawn Lewis, Bernadette Stanis, Terry J. Vaughn, and his good friend Ernest Thomas. Co-directed *King Solomon Lives* with Tichna Arnold and Bebe Winans. As a coach, he has worked with Oprah Winfrey, Hinton Rattle, Lisa Raye McCoy, Kellita Smith, Mae Ali, and many more. He has been nominated by the NAACP four times for best supporting actor winning the award twice, and the LA Weekly Award for Featured Performer in a Comedy. He is proud and honored to be working with “my sister” Ms. Shirley Jo Finney. And to be returning to *mi familia*, The Fountain Theatre. He has been seen here in *The Darker Face of the Earth* with Jacqueline Schultz, Jason George and Taraji P. Henson. Created the role of Sam Washington for Stephen Sachs' *Central Avenue* directed by Shirley Jo Finney. Last seen as Eli in *Gem of the Ocean*. Thanks so much for allowing me to work. To friends and family, you ain't seen nuttin' yet.



ARMANDO REY (Armando) Excited to be making his Fountain Theatre stage debut. In L.A. Armando has performed with Bilingual Foundation of the Arts, Casa 0101, Frida Kahlo Theater, Teatro De Las Americas and Short+Sweet Latino. In San Jose, he performed with Teatro Vision in *Bless Me, Ultima* (Rudolf Anaya), in San Francisco at Brava Theater 12 *Angry Men* (Juror #3), Thick House Theater *Cloud Tectonics* (Anibal), AlterTheater *Two Sisters and a Piano* (Lt. Portuondo), as Juan Julian at 6th Street's Playhouse *Anna in the Tropics* (nominated for Best Play at Sonoma County Theatre Awards), Manitoba Theatre Centre in Winnipeg, Canada in *Night of the Iguana* co-production with Rubicon Theatre Company. Associate Producer/Asst. Director to Bruno Bichir in *eXtras* at Rubicon Theatre Company. Currently touring his one man show *Men on the Verge of a His-panic Breakdown*. Best Actor Award from the L.A. Shorts Awards and a Best Actor Nomination from the North Hollywood Cinefest Film Festival for his work on the film *Diablo* (Gabriel). Festivals include Cannes Film Festival (Court Métrage) and a Best Short nomination at this year's Imagen Awards. Armando was just named one of the 25 most influential people in the L.A. LGBT Community by Adelante Magazine.

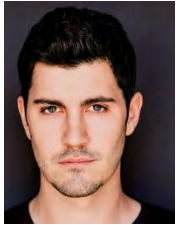
THE CAST



MAYA LYNNE ROBINSON (Eunice) is thrilled to return home to the Fountain Theatre in *Runaway Home*. Some regional theatre credits include: *Disgraced* (Coachella Valley Rep), for which she is currently nominated for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama – Professional, *Echo Location* (B Street Theatre), *Metamorphoses* (Ensemble Theatre Company), *Shotgun* (Florida Studio Theatre) and *Insurrection: Holding History* (Theatre Alliance), for which she received a Helen Hayes nomination. Maya Lynne is most well-known for her role as Nia in The Fountain Theatre's production of *In The Red and Brown Water*, for which she won a L.A. Drama Critics Circle award, as well as received LA Weekly and Ovation award nominations. Other credits include *Dead Women Walking*, *Monogamy*, *Heaven is Now*, *Soul Stealer*, as well as *GURL* and *HTMAST*, which Maya Lynne also created, wrote and produced.



CAMILLE SPIRLIN (Kali) is an actress and director. As an actress, she was a series regular in Nickelodeon's *Marvin Marvin*. In 2016, she had a recurring role on the FOX TV series *Rosewood*. Recently, she guest starred on the ABC web series *American Koko*. Currently, she is happy to make her debut at the Fountain Theatre. Camille received a scholarship to attend Stella Adler Academy of Acting from Inner-City Filmmakers. Camille graduated from Bill Duke Youth Media Camp in 2015. While attending BDYMC she directed a short film called *Who am I?*. In 2016, Camille graduated from Inner-City Filmmakers. While attending ICF she completed her short film *True Desire*. Currently, with ICF alumni, she is in pre-production for their *Untitled Horror* short film. This past June, she welcomed with ICF alumni, the Inner-City Filmmakers class of 2017 at Creative Artist Agency.



BRIAN TICHNELL (Lone Wolf) Theatre credits include Roy in *Dream Catcher* (The Fountain); Benjamin Braddock in *The Graduate* (L.A. Theatre Works national tour); *Clearwater/Mr. Job* (Padua Playwrights/Bootleg); *Circle Jerk* (RedCat CNP); *Peace In Our Time*, *The Curse of Oedipus* and *Macbeth* (Antaeus Theatre Company); *Camino Real* (Theatre @ Boston Court); and *Hamlet* (Oxford Shakespeare Festival). He recurs on HBO's *Silicon Valley* as the "brogammer" Eric and has appeared on *Chance*, *Castle*, *The Newsroom*, *Maron*, *Body of Proof* and *Happy Endings*, among others. Originally from South Mississippi, Brian attended the University of Mississippi and the California Institute of the Arts.



KAREN MALINA WHITE (Shana) The Fountain: *Citizen: An American Lyric*, *The Ballad of Emmet Till*; Antaeus: *As You Like It*, *The Wedding Band*, *The Liar*, *You Can't Take It With You*; South Coast Rep: *Crumbs From the Table of Joy*. TV: *Animal Kingdom*, *Snowfall*, *Shameless*, *Mike & Molly*, *VEEP*, *How to Get Away with Murder*, *The Mentalist*, *Southland*. BFA Howard University, cum laude.

PRODUCTION TEAM



JEREMY J. KAMPS (Playwright) is overjoyed to be making his Fountain Theater (and LA) debut. Based in Brooklyn, NY, he is a member of the Public Theater's Emerging Writers Group and Esperance Theater Company's Playwright-in-Residence. His work has been produced/developed with Company Cypher at the National Black Theatre of Harlem, Ugly Rhino, Dixon Place, Hudson Valley Shakespeare, The Amoralists and New York Theatre Workshop. His play *Breitwisch Farm* is scheduled for production in November '17 (NYC). Plays have received recognition and awards including: The William Saroyan Human Rights Award Finalist (2016), Page 73 Semi-Finalist (2017), Ruby Lloyd Apsey Award winner, Goldberg Prize, Hudson Valley Writers Center, NYU Festival of New Works and TCG On the Road grant recipient. Published/Award winning fiction include: *The Madison Review*, *The Little Patuxent*, John Reid/Tom Howard Award, H.E. Frances Award, Lamar York Prize. He has facilitated drama and writing workshops from East Africa to Rikers Island to India to Wisconsin and beyond, with all ages as a means of social justice and community building. MFA: NYU. Love to Trixie, Mom, Mwix, fam & friends, my students. For Dad. For Antione. Keeping watch. Keeping time.



SHIRLEY JO FINNEY (Director) is an award-winning international director. She has worn her director's hat in some of the most respected regional theater houses across the country: including The McCarter Theater, The Pasadena Playhouse, The Goodman Theater, the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, the Cleveland Playhouse, the Fountain Theatre, LA Theater Works, the Crossroads Theater Company, Actors Theater of Louisville Humana Festival, the Sundance Theater Workshop, The Mark Taper Forum Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the State Theater in Pretoria, South Africa. Her awards include the LA Stage Alliance Ovation Award, The Los Angeles Drama Critics Award, LA Weekly Award, The NAACP and the Santa Barbara Independent award. Finney helmed the acclaimed International South African Opera entitled *Winnie* based on the life of political icon Winnie Mandela. Most recently Miss Finney directed and developed the critically acclaimed world premiere of *Citizen: An American Lyric* by the award-winning PENN poet Claudia Rankine. Other recent works include *Facing Our Truth*, *The Trayvon Martin Project* at the Kirk Douglas Theater in Los Angeles, the Lark Foundation's Rolling World Premiere of *the road weeps* by Marcus Gardley at the Los Angeles Theater Center and Tarell McCraney's *Brother/Sisters Plays*. Miss Finney also directed several TV episodes of *Moesha* and she garnered the International film award for her short film, *Remember Me*. She was honored with the UCLA Department of Stage Film and Television Distinguished Alumni Award, The Black Alumni Associations Dr. Beverly Robinson Award for Excellence in the Arts, and The African American Film Marketplace Award of Achievement for Outstanding Performance and Achievement and leader in Entertainment. She is an alumnus of the American Film Institute's Director Workshop for Women and holds an MFA degree from UCLA.



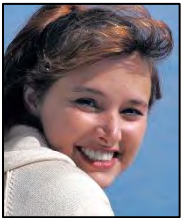
PRODUCTION TEAM



NAILA ALADDIN-SANDERS (Costume Design) Credits include *Citizen: An American Lyric*, *Building the Wall*, *The Brother's Size*, *In the Red & Brown Water*, *The Ballad of Emmett Till*, *Gem of the Ocean*, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, *The Scottsboro Boys* for the Fountain Theatre. *The Color Purple*, *The Women of Brewster Place*, *the Musical* for The Celebration Theatre. *Neighbors* by Branden Jacob-Jenkins, and *The Johnson Chronicles* were designed for The Matrix Theatre. *The Magnificent Dunbar Hotel*, *Ana Lucasta*, *Bronzeville*, *The River Niger*, *A House With No Walls*, *Permanent Collection*, as well as all three parts of *The Haitian Trilogy* were designed by Naila for The Robey Theatre Co.



PETER BAYNE (Original Music and Sound Design) Previous credits with the Fountain: *Dream Catcher*, *The Painted Rocks of Revolver Creek*, *Citizen: An American Lyric*, *Reborn*, *The Brothers Size*, *Broomstick*, *In the Red and Brown Water*, *A Normal Heart*, *The Blue Iris*, *Cyrano*, *On the Spectrum*, *Bakersfield Mist*, *Opus*, *Coming Home*, *El Nogalar*, *Shining City*. Selected theatre credits include Center Theatre Group, South Coast Repertory, Boston Court, A Noise Within, The Antaeus Company, The Colony Theatre, The Actors' Gang, Rogue Machine Theatre, Skylight Theatre Company, and the Elephant Shakespeare Company. Other regional credits include American Repertory Theatre, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, and Shakespeare and Company. Bayne is active as a composer in film and television, he produces leftfield dance music and performs as a multi-instrumentalist.



JENNIFER EDWARDS (Lighting Design) is so pleased to be back at the amazing Fountain Theatre with the uber talented company of *Runaway Home*. Recent lighting designs include: *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (Welk Resort Theatre), *Tarzan, The Musical* (Moonlight Amphitheater), *Broomstick* and *My Manana Comes* (Fountain Theatre), *Just Judy* (Jackson Hole PAC), *El GRANDE Circus de Coca Cola* (Skylight and Colony), *Broadway and Beyond* (Alex Theatre), *Step Up* (Pasadena Playhouse), *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (SRT), *West Side Story* (Poway Center for the Arts), *Into the Woods* (S.D. Starlight Bowl) *The Full Monty* (Birch North Park Theatre), *Dreamgirls* (S.D. Lyceum) and others. Jennifer is also a proud AEA Stage Manager since 1994. Many thanks to the entire Fountain family. Love to Marc and Mom!



EDGAR LANDA (Fight Director) is an actor/director and creates fights & violence for theatres large and small. Credits include: *The Model Apartment* (Geffen Playhouse); *That Pretty Pretty; or, The Rape Play* (Son of Semele); *Hit The Wall* (Los Angeles LGBT Center), *El Henry* (San Diego Rep/La Jolla Playhouse); *The Reunion* (South Coast Repertory); *Parfumerie* (The Wallis); *The Nether* (CTG/Kirk Douglas Theatre). Edgar serves on the faculty of the USC School of Dramatic Arts and is a long-time collaborator of Son of Semele Ensemble. He is an AEA member and Pro99 supporter of intimate theatre in Los Angeles.



PRODUCTION TEAM



DeANNE MILLAIS (Prop Designer) is a native Angeleno and a proud member of Sacred Fools Theater Company. For the Fools, she's designed the sets for *Taste* (Stage Raw Award winner and Ovation Award nominated), *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* (L.A. Weekly Theater Award nominated), *Occupation*, *Astro Boy and the God of Comics*, *Past Time*, and *Skullduggery*. As a prop designer, she's sourced and designed for *Evil Dead in Concert* at the Ace Hotel (her severed leg dancing canes can be seen on her

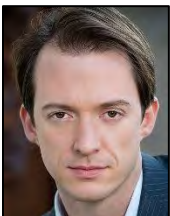
Instagram page) and *La La Land in Concert* at the Hollywood Bowl. She's also created environmental design for *Clown Bar* (Red, Writeable / Pasadena Playhouse), exhibition design for the Pasadena Playhouse, experience design for Escape Room LA / *The Theatre*, and produced/designed over 200 special events. She's excited to be involved with The Fountain Theatre for this special production. deannemillais.com



JANET ROSTON (Choreographer) As Choreographer for Theater: *The Boy From Oz* (Ovation Award Choreography, LADCC Award Choreography, Ovation and LADCC Awards Outstanding Musical) *The Color Purple* (Ovation Award Choreography, NAACP Award Choreography; LA Weekly & LADCC Nominations; Ovation, NAACP, LA Weekly Awards Outstanding Musical) both Celebration Theatre: *Once On this Island*, International City Theater (NAACP Award Choreography); *The Who's Tommy*, East West Players; *Failure*, *A Love Story*, Coeourage Theater Company, part of Center Theater Group's Block Party

(Ovation Award Nominee). As Director/Choreographer: *Tonya and Nancy*, *The Rock Opera*, American Repertory Theater, Boston; *Anais*, *A Dance Opera*, Greenway Court Theater, Avignon Festival 2017, New Vic Theatre of Santa Barbara, Chapman University; *Striking 12*, *Laguna Playhouse*, *The Wanting*, Highways Performance Space; Midsummer Night, Tennessee Shakespeare Festival, Texas New Musical Festival. Winner Palm Desert Choreography Festival for The Tanjore Project. Two American Choreography Awards. Janet is thrilled to be working with Shirley Jo Finney again and to be involved in this special production at the wonderful Fountain Theatre.

STEPHANIE KERLEY SCHWARTZ (Set Design) is thrilled to be making her Fountain debut. She is the Resident Designer at Rogue Machine where most recently she designed *Les Blancs*, *Super Variety Match Bonus Round*, *Honky*, and *Pocatello*. Other recent credits include scenery for *Good Grief* for CTG at the Kirk Douglas Theatre, and costume design for *Rules of Seconds* by John Pollono at LATC with The Temblors. At the Theatre@Boston Court she designed scenery for *Stupid F*cking Bird*, *Shiv* and costumes for *Golden Dragon*. For East West Players, she designed sets for *Tommy* and *Free Outgoing*. Her designs have been seen all over Southern California, including SCR (*Reunion*), The Skylight Theatre (*The Devil's Wife/Lost Child*), Antaeus (*Cloud 9*), Circle X (*Trevor*) among many others. Her work has received multiple awards and nominations. www.kerleydesign.com



TYLER SEIPLE (Dialect Coach) has extensive experience as a freelance voice and speech coach as the founder of phonetic phreedom™. His clients have been heard onscreen in projects ranging from *True Blood* and *Shameless* to *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* and *The League*. As always, he is delighted to be back with his Fountain Family, having previously coached *Baby Doll*, *My Name is Asher Lev*, and *Broomstick*. He has also coached shows with other Los Angeles-area performance groups, including the Antaeus Theatre Company, the Ensemble Studio Theatre, Rogue Machine Theatre, the LA Philharmonic Association, and the Museum of Natural History. Tyler is an Associate Teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework® and a Certified Teacher of Knight-Thompson Speechwork®. He has taught at the University of California,

Irvine, and at Chapman University, as well as in multiple studios in Los Angeles. Tyler privately coaches clients in American accent acquisition, accent coaching for stage use, and voice coaching for greater self-expression. An Ovation-nominated actor, Tyler produces and directs onstage around Los Angeles, and he has served as a Board Member of the SRS Production Wing for the past three years. His film credits include *Separation Anxiety*, *Travelling Salesman*, and his award-winning short, *Life, Perfected*.



JESSICA SHIELDS (Production Stage Manager) is very excited to be part of the Fountain Theatre for the first time. She is a native Texan with over 17 years of experience with theater, dance, film, TV, and production. Since she has moved to Los Angeles three years ago she has gained SAG/AFTRA Union status and worked alongside many influential creators. Her recent favorite experiences include Stage Manager for the Valley Theater Awards Nominated, Best Musical, *Orange is the New Musical*, featured clapper on *Superstore*, and Producer for the critically acclaimed story telling series *Tasty Words*. She is thankful to be working with such a great Theatre. "Thank you to the cast and crew of Runaway Home for accepting me as one of your own." - Jessica Shields (jessica.com)

FOUNTAIN THEATRE STAFF



JAMES BENNETT (Producer) joined the Fountain team in 2009 and has smiled and whistled, much to the irritation of everyone else, every day ever since. James enjoys chatting, hobnobbing, and wine sipping with all the theatre's many fine friends, family, and patrons. For work, he can be found running the whole stack of theatre activities, whether that's toiling on a pile of paperwork, coiled into a pretzel in the tech booth, or producing fabulous Flamenco shows. He's enjoyed co-producing the Fountain's Rapid Development Series for 2 seasons so far, and is looking forward to many more scrumptious seasons to come. If you see him bouncing, skipping, or galloping about it's safe to assume he's having a blast. He's compelled to the theatre by its immediacy, its intimacy – the visceral impact of being so close to real humans with real sweat and real spit. In a world that's increasingly disjointed, behind glass, and far away – theatre becomes more powerful than ever.



BARBARA GOODHILL (Director of Development) is a seasoned marketing and development professional. Before joining The Fountain Theatre's staff, Barbara served as Director of Advancement at Inside Out Community Arts, a nationally honored nonprofit that empowers under-served youth through theater-arts based programs. Prior senior staff positions include Sinai Akiba Academy and PS#1 Elementary School. Barbara brings a wealth of experience, sincere dedication and innovative thinking to every project. Also active as a volunteer on Boards of Directors, Barbara has a keen understanding of the non-profit sector. Barbara received her B.A. from UC Berkeley in English and History and attended UCLA's Masters program in Theatre Arts.

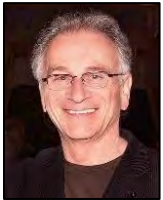


FOUNTAIN THEATRE STAFF



DEBORAH LAWLOR (Co-Artistic Director) began her career as a dancer, choreographer and actor in New York's "Downtown" scene. After passing five years in South India where she was involved in the initial development of the international township of Auroville, she created two full-length outdoor dance/theatre pieces celebrating the community. She spent the next 10 years in Australia and France studying ancient cultures of India and Egypt and translating several books in these fields from French into English. Returning to

the US in 1986, she became deeply involved in the intimate theatre scene and, in 1990, she and Stephen Sachs co-founded the Fountain Theatre, which is now in its 26th year of theatrical and dance events. Deborah is responsible for the Fountain's extensive dance involvement. The 1995 season included, *The Women of Guernica*, Deborah's flamenco-based adaptation of Euripides' *The Trojan Women*, which she also directed. She directed two one-act plays by Tennessee Williams and created and directed three full-evening Dance-Theatre pieces for the Fountain, *Declarations: Love Letters of the Great Romantics*, *The Path of Love*, and directed the "dance opera," *The Song of Songs*, with music by Al Carmines. She directed a production of *The Path of Love* in South India, as well as *The Great Secret* by Mira Alfasa. She next directed Yussef El Guindi's *Acts of Desire* at the Fountain to considerable acclaim. In 2006, she directed the delightful *Taxi to Jannah* by Mark Sickman. And, as a producer of Flamenco, her Forever Flamenco series, now in its 15th year, continues to play to enthusiastic crowds. Actors' Equity Association honored Ms. Lawlor with its Diversity Award, for her dedication to presenting work at the Fountain that is culturally diverse. In 2013, she received special commendations from the City of Los Angeles and the Spanish Consulate for her contributions to the art of Flamenco. Her new theatre/dance work, *Freddy*, opens Sept 28 as a partnership between the Fountain Theatre and LA City College Theatre Academy.



SIMON LEVY has been the Producing Director of the Fountain Theatre since 1993. The Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle honored him with the Milton Katselas Award for Lifetime Achievement in Directing. In 2016, he directed the critically-acclaimed West Coast premiere of Tennessee Williams' *Baby Doll*. He will direct *The Chosen* for 2018. Other critical successes for the Fountain include: the West Coast premieres of *The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek* and *Reborn in 2015*; *The Normal Heart* in 2013/2014; the world premiere deaf/hearing production of *Cyrano* in 2012; Tennessee Williams' rarely-produced *A House Not Meant to Stand* in 2011; the L.A. premiere of *Opus* by Michael Hollinger in 2010; and the West Coast premiere of Anna Ziegler's *Photograph 51* in 2009 - all of which received numerous awards and nominations and Critic's Choices. He has directed over 80 productions (20 for the Fountain) that have won hundreds of awards. His stage adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* (Finalist for the PEN Literary Award in Drama) inaugurated the new Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis, and is being produced widely across North America. It is the only stage adaptation authorized by the Fitzgerald Estate, and is published by Dramatists Play Service, along with his adaptations of *Tender is the Night* (winner of the PEN Literary Award in Drama) and *The Last Tycoon*. He has been the producer of many productions at the Fountain, including the world premieres of *Building the Wall* and *Citizen: An American Lyric*, *Bakersfield Mist*, and all the Athol Fugard premieres. *What I Heard About Iraq*, which he wrote and directed, was produced worldwide. His other directing credits at the Fountain include: *The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore*; *The Gimmick* with Dael Orlandersmith (winner Ovation Award Solo Performance); *Master Class* (winner Ovation Award for Best Production); *Daisy in the Dreamtime*; *Going to St. Ives*, which went to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival; *The Night of the Iguana*; *Summer & Smoke* (winner of the Ovation Award for Best Production); *The Last Tycoon*, which he wrote and directed, (5 Back Stage West awards, including Best Adaptation and Direction); and *Orpheus Descending*, (6 Drama-Logue awards, including Best Production and Direction), among many others. Prior to coming to Los Angeles, he lived in San

Francisco where he was the General Manager of *Beach Blanket Babylon*, Artistic Director of The One Act Theatre Company, and Executive Director of Theatre Bay Area. He belongs to many theatre, human rights, and political advocacy groups. www.simonlevy.com



STEPHEN SACHS (Co-Artistic Director) is an award-winning playwright, director and the co-Artistic Director of the Fountain Theatre, which he co-founded with Deborah Lawlor in 1990. He is the author of thirteen produced plays, including *Dream Catcher*, *Citizen: An American Lyric* (Adaptor, Stage Raw Award) world premiere at Fountain Theatre and inaugurated CTG's Block Party at Kirk Douglas Theatre, *Heart Song*, *Cyrano* (LA Drama Critics Circle Award) *Bakersfield Mist* (2012 Elliot Norton Award) which enjoyed a 3-month run on London's West End starring Kathleen Turner and Ian McDiarmid and is now being produced in regional theatres across the country and translated into other languages and performed worldwide, *Miss Julie: Freedom Summer*, *Gilgamesh*, *Open Window* (Media Access Award), *Central Avenue* (PEN USA Literary Award Finalist), *Sweet Nothing in my Ear* (PEN USA Literary Award Finalist, Media Access Award), *Mother's Day*, *The Golden Gate* (Dramalogue Award), and *The Baron in the Trees*. He wrote the teleplay for *Sweet Nothing in my Ear* for Hallmark Hall of Fame which aired on CBS starring Marlee Matlin and Jeff Daniels. Directing credits include the West Coast Premiere of *Broomstick*, the Los Angeles Premiere of *My Name is Asher Lev*, the US Premiere of Athol Fugard's *The Blue Iris*, *Bakersfield Mist* (World Premiere), *Completeness* by Itamar Moses starring Jason Ritter; Warren Leight's *Side Man* starring Christine Lahti and Frank Wood; a 3-city China tour of *Top Secret* (LA Theatre Works), *The Train Driver* by Athol Fugard (US Premiere), Conor McPherson's *Shining City* (LA Premiere), Athol Fugard's *Coming Home* (LA Weekly Award), the U.S. Premiere of Athol Fugard's *Victory* (NAACP Award); *Miss Julie: Freedom Summer* Canadian Stage Company in Toronto and the Vancouver Playhouse; the world premiere of Fugard's *Exits and Entrances* at the Fountain (Ovation Award and LA Drama Critics Circle Award) and Off-Broadway at Primary Stages in New York, and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland, the LA premiere of Fugard's *The Road to Mecca*, Arthur Miller's *After the Fall* (Ovation Award), *Sweet Nothing in my Ear*, *Hippolytos* inaugurating the Outdoor Classical Theater at the Getty Villa in Malibu, and many others. Sachs has twice been nominated for the SDC Zelda Fichandler Award, recognizing an outstanding director who is making a unique and exceptional contribution to theatre in their region. Sachs was recently honored with a Certificate of Commendation from the Los Angeles City Council for "his visionary contributions to the cultural life of Los Angeles."



SCOTT TUOMEY (Technical Director) has been Technical Director at the Fountain since its inaugural production of *Winter Crane* in 1990. He has overseen virtually every Fountain production, on and off site, including their numerous flamenco shows, and has appeared here on our stage in *Declarations: Love Letters of the Great Romantics*, and the Fountain's hit productions of *Master Class* and *Joe Turners' Come and Gone*. Scott's talents as actor-singer-guitarist were also seen in the Shakespeare Festival L.A. productions of *As You Like It* and *Twelfth Night* at the Globe Theatre in West Hollywood and in the film *A Day in the Life of Sunny Paradise*.

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Rabbi Anne Brener, LCSW

Runaway Home depicts the way in which normal developmental tensions mushroom in the context of a communal tragedy, like the mold left by the water as it creeps up the walls in people's houses. As usual, The Fountain Theatre brilliantly focuses two lenses, at once examining the broad issues that challenge our century and zooming in to explore the human issues that play out on that stage.

I grew up in New Orleans and returned as a volunteer after the levees broke. The emotional fallout from the trauma of Hurricane Katrina was as toxic as the mold. As we survey damage in the aftermath of e Harvey, it is important to assess not only the physical devastation, but also the emotional toll that those in its wake will long continue to pay, even if the material reconstruction proceeds rapidly.

Katrina, Sandy, and now, Harvey, show us that climate change is not only real, but also that its coming floods and fires are increasingly inevitable. We often think of its consequences in global terms, as we try to predict its effect on large communities. However, each individual in those communities will be uniquely impacted, straining personal relationships and creating a mental health crisis that imperils humanity as much as the rising water. As the waters rise, I thank the Fountain Theatre for continuing to raise our consciousness and reminding us of our obligation to remain informed and to respond with intelligence and compassion.

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The Fountain Theatre is deeply grateful to the extraordinary friends who are generously supporting our world premiere of *Runaway Home* and serving as Executive Producers and Underwriting Producers.

Executive Producers



Karen Kondazian is an acclaimed, award-winning actress and author. She felt compelled to become an Fountain Theatre Executive Producer because “I choose to support great theater that transforms and inspires.”

Quoting John Lahr, Karen adds, “Any play that makes an audience think out of the box, that makes connections to life and names our pain and by doing so makes our pain subject to thinking and the process of understanding, is doing something inherently political.”

Diana Buckhantz has been involved with nonprofits for over 25 years. When she read *Runaway Home* she “was touched by the beauty of the writing and inspired by a story with heart and wisdom. As someone who is involved with runaway and homeless youth, I was moved to see such a creative portrayal of a 14-year-old searching to piece together her life. I am always impressed by the quality of the work at the Fountain and the risks Stephen Sachs takes to present meaningful, important and challenging subjects.”



Lois Fishman is an attorney in Los Angeles. “I was moved by families struggling to return to a kind of normalcy after a horrific experience like loss of home and loved ones. Now, after Hurricane Harvey, the play seems even more important to present. This theater has smarts and heart. It has a finger on the pulse of stories that matter today and the playwrights and acting talent that can bring them to audiences. I love the spirit of the Artistic Directors and the sense of community that is fostered among all who participate. Sometimes thinking big takes place in the smallest of spaces. That appeals to me.”

Don Zachary is an attorney and **Suzanne Zachary** is a psychologist. “Suzanne and I wanted to support this play,” explains Don. “We felt that it tells the universal story of people finding their way back to the people who mean the most in their lives, despite the adversity they face. We support the Fountain because it continually presents meaningful plays that reflect the diversity of our city.”



Ejike and Victoria Ndefo are theatre lovers and have been supporting the Fountain for many years. Ejike is a retired Aerospace Engineer and a Fountain Board member. **Dorothy and Stanley Wolpert** came to LA from New York and are delighted to have made the Fountain their theatre home. **Dick Motika and Jerrie Whitfield** are longtime fans of the Fountain Theatre and both serve on the Board of Directors

Our Underwriting Producers for *Runaway Home* are **Rabbi Anne Brener LCSW, Elle Johnson, Rita Rothman, and Barbara and Barry Shaffer.**

Interested in becoming an Executive Producer or Underwriting Producer for an upcoming Fountain production? Contact Barbara Goodhill, Director of Development
(323) 663-1525 ext. 7

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Special Thanks: Jaime Andrews, Armenian Dramatic Arts Alliance, Hand Prop Room, John Henninger at Thymol Arts Studio, Hollywood Welding, Pat Oliansky & Peter Barna, Rita Rothman, Don & Suzanne Zachary.

