

A tornado...

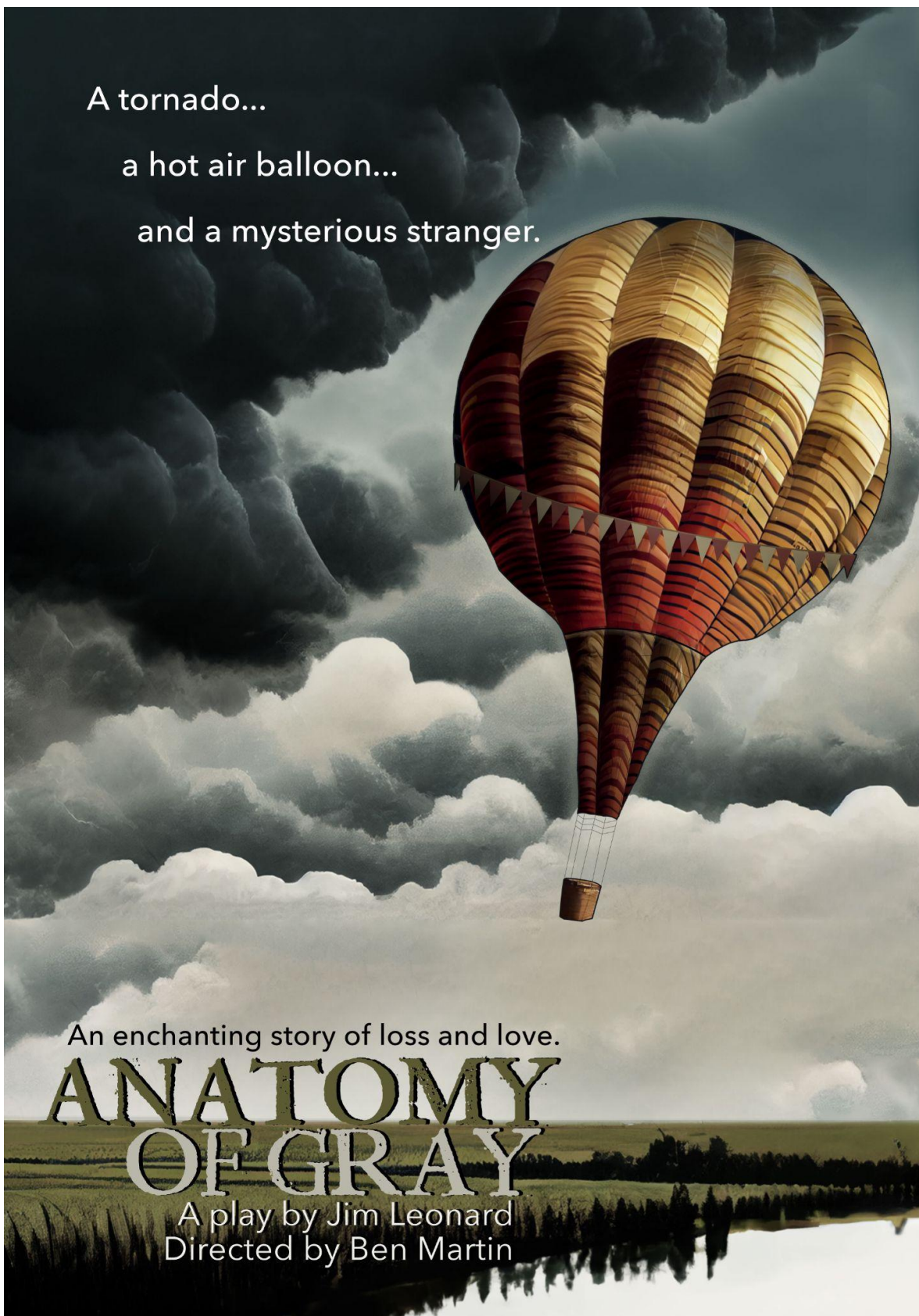
a hot air balloon...

and a mysterious stranger.

An enchanting story of loss and love.

# ANATOMY OF GRAY

A play by Jim Leonard  
Directed by Ben Martin





presents

# Anatomy of Gray

**Written by Jim Leonard  
and Directed by Ben Martin**

Featuring:

Lane Allison\* • Rosie Byrne • Martha Demson • James Fowler • Joe Garcia\* •  
Jeremy Guskin\* • Alex Hogy • Erica Mae McNeal • Caleb Petre • Rebekah Paugam •  
Alina Phelan\* • Beth Robbins\* • Debba Rofheart • Alexander Wells\*

Scenic Design  
**Jan Munroe**

Costume Design  
**Mylette Nora**

Lighting Design  
**Gavan Wyrick**

Sound Design  
**Marc Antonio Pritchett**

Properties  
**Ina Shumaker & Bruce Dickinson**

Scenic Artist  
**Stephanie Crothers**

Production Stage Manager  
**John Dimitri**

Publicist  
**Lucy Pollak**



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This presentation is supported, in part, by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the LA County Dept of Arts & Culture Commission



## Mission

Open Fist Theatre Company is a self-governing community of theatre artists who believe in the transformative imperative of inclusive and collaborative theatre. Dedicated to expanding social awareness through art, we seek, through diverse voices and artistic visions, to celebrate difference, nurture empathy and advance social change.

## Board of Directors

Martha Demson, Elizabeth Gerberg, Richard Michael Knolla, Christopher Lore, Schuyler Mastain, Charles Otte, Malhar Pagay, Katie May Porter, Ina Shumaker

## Company Staff

Artistic Director..... **Martha Demson**  
Co-Associate Artistic Directors..... **James Fowler/Amanda Weier**  
Managing Director..... **Katie May Porter**  
Co-Production Managers ..... **Art Hall/Amanda Weier**  
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Associate ..... **Carmella Jenkins**  
Literary Manager..... **Barbara Schofield**  
Marketing & Social Media Manager ..... **Debba Rofheart**  
Membership Manager..... **Beth Robbins**  
Financial Director ..... **Richard Michael Knolla**  
Education Director ..... **Laura Richardson**  
Outreach Director ..... **Dionna Veremis**

## Our Members

Hetty Abbott, Lane Allison, Christine Avila, Tisha Terrasini Banker, Bryan Bertone, Phillip William Brock, Timothy Brown, Sandra Kate Burck, Rosie Byrne, Spencer Cantrell, Christopher Cappiello, Edward "Teddy" Chen, Stephanie Crothers, Carolyn Crotty, Martha Demson, Bruce Dickinson, Elle Engelman, James Fowler, David Gironda Jr., Syanne Green, Art Hall, Alex Hogy, Laura James, Carmella Jenkins, Kassie Johnston, Caroline Klidonas, Richard Michael Knolla, Tim Labor, Elizabeth Lande, Sherry Larson, Howard Leder, Dylan Maddalena, Derek Manson, Ben Martin, Schuyler Mastain, Kacey Mayeda, Angel Miguel, Jan Munroe, Jennifer Palumbo, Erica Mae McNeal, Rod Menzies, Heather Mitchell, Amy Moorman, Scott Mosenson, Ethan Niven, Tom Noga, Jason Paige, Stevie-Jean Placek, Katie May Porter, Tina Preston, Laura Richardson, Anna Laurie Rives, Beth Robbins, Scott Roberts, Debba Rofheart, Jade Santana, Judith Scarpone, Barbara Schofield, Jack Sharpe, Michael Sheppard, David Shofner, Ina Shumaker, Casey Sullivan, Janine Venable, Dionna Veremis, Amanda Weier, Alexander Wells, Ann Marie Wilding, Jennifer Zorbalas

### JOIN THE CONVERSATION



@openfist

# Anatomy of Gray

## Cast of Characters

Dr. Galen P. Gray .....	Jeremy Guskin*
June .....	Erica Mae McNeal Rebekah Paugam
Homer .....	Alex Hogy Caleb Petre
Rebekah .....	Martha Demson Alina Phelan*
Pastor Phineas Wingfield .....	Alexander Wells* Joe Garcia*
Tiny Wingfield .....	Lane Allison* Mary Jo Kirwan
Belva Collins .....	Rosie Byrne Beth Robbins*
Crutch Collins .....	James Fowler
Maggie .....	Beth Robbins* Debba Rofheart



\* Member, Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. This production is presented under the auspices of the Actors' Equity Los Angeles Membership Company Rule.

## **DIRECTOR'S DEDICATION**

This production is dedicated to Leslie Martin and to all those we've lost ... and loved.

***Special Thanks to...***

***Kim Wright and Rabbi David Vorspan***

## The Cast



**Lane Allison** (SAG-AFTRA) (*Tiny Wingfield*) is delighted to return to the Open Fist stage with this production. Earlier this season, she directed *In the Next Room*, or the vibrator play. Previously, at The Open Fist, Lane performed as “Maggie” in *Dancing at Lughnasa* and directed the world premiere of Anne Kenney’s

*Last Call*. Other OFTC credits: *What Matters Now?!*, *DeLEARious*, *1yr Later*, *Welcome to Your Alternative Reality* and *Don’t Let the Censors Stop Us*. Other LA credits include the musical *Working* and *I Fart in my Sleep: Confessions of an Embarrassing Life* (Prod. Co.), *Only the Moon Howls* (Actors Co.), *No Ex’p Required* (Complex), and the world premiere of *Paradise St.* (Attic). Recently, you may have spotted Lane on ABC’s *The Rookie*, as well as roles on HBO’s *Generation* and *Perry Mason*, and you can catch her in Jay Alvarez’s upcoming film *Something is More Than One Thing*. For more info please visit [IMDb.me/laneallison](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1045744/) and/or [LaneAllison.com](http://LaneAllison.com) You can also follow her on Instagram @thelaneallison Special thanks to Mark for his constant love and support ~ you are a gift cherished beyond measure.



**Rosie Byrne** (*Belva Collins*) is excited to make her debut as an Open Fist company member with this show. This year she’s been lucky enough to perform several shows with Ron West’s *This Week This Week* as well as ongoing performances with *A Faery Hunt* which brings site-specific theatre to children around Los Angeles.

Previous credits include *Tonight We Improvise*, *The Sign* in Sidney Brustein’s *Window*, *Three Sisters*, *Burial at Thebes*, *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*, *Three Women in Four Chairs*, *How To Use A Knife*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *The Seagull*. Rosie can also be seen in the dark medieval comedy short *The King Is Dead*. She holds a BA in Theatre from UC San Diego where she graduated Magna Cum Laude with Departmental Honors with Distinction. At UCSD, she won the Arthur Wagner award for achievements in Acting while maintaining high academic integrity.



Martha Demson

### **Martha Demson**

(*Rebekah, Producer*) is a long-time member of the Open Fist. Her first role with the Company was playing Johannes, a teenage boy, in Bertolt Brecht’s *BAAL*. Favorite roles include Queen Christina in *THE*

*ABDICATION*, Greta in *JAMES JOYCE’S THE DEAD*, Fish in *DUSA*, *FISH*, *STAS* and *VI*, and Frankie in *GETTING FRANKIE MARRIED... AND AFTERWARDS*. This performance is dedicated to her own teenage daughter Haley, and to all young people who have worked so hard to sustain their dreams during COVID.





**James Fowler** (*Crutch Collins*) is grateful to appear on the Open Fist stage for the first time since being named a new Co-Artistic Director of the Fist. He has been performing for over 15 years and has appeared on stages both regionally and nationally. Theatre: *Jim*, *Big River* (Richard Israel), *Lead Male*, *Two Boys From Brooklyn* (Al Kasha) *Romeo*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Devon Armstrong) *Harold Hill*, *Music Man* (Alison Bretches) *Warbucks*, *Annie* (Alison Bretches) *Curtis Taylor Jr*, *Dreamgirls* (Gray Sorenson) *Laurence*, *Suicide* (Tai French) *Malcolm X*, *The Meeting* (Odell Ruffin) *Henry Brooks*, *Miravel* (Jake Broder) *Donald*, *You Can't Take it With You* (Barbara Schofield) *Bill Sykes*, *Oliver* (Chris Robertson) Film: *Eugene*, *I Snatched Andy Warhol* (Devon Armstrong) *Bernard*, *The Partnership* (David Jite) *Mark*, *Jessica's Room* (Erik Knight) *Lead Male*, *Aphasia* (Devon Armstrong) *Vincent*, *Roadies* (Devon Armstrong) [jameshfowler22@gmail.com](mailto:jameshfowler22@gmail.com) Thanks, and Enjoy the show!



**Joe Garcia** (*Pastor Phineas Wingfield*) This is Joe's first production with The Open Fist Theater. Originally from Houston, Texas, Joe has worked in theaters

across America. Credits include over 100 plays Produced locally including critically acclaimed roles in *Play Strindberg*, *A Most Secret War*, *Only the Dead Know Burbank*, *Someone To Watch Over ME*, and *The Puppetmaster Of Łódź* for which he won an LA Ovation Award. In addition, Joe is also a faculty member at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts Los Angeles campus.



**Jeremy Guskin** (*Galen P. Gray*)(AEA), born and raised in New York City, has two MFA degrees, one from Carnegie Mellon University and the other from The Moscow Art Theatre School (MXAT) in Moscow, Russia. Film: *Art School Confidential*, *What?*, *Pulse*, *The Hero Of Color City*, *Get Dead*, *Simone*. TV: *Just Add Magic* (recurring), *Henry Danger* (recurring), *Danger Force* (recurring), *'Til Death* (recurring), *Rizzoli & Isles* (recurring), *General Hospital* (recurring), *Roswell* (recurring), *Just Roll With It*, *NCIS: LA*, *Raising Hope*, *The Mentalist*, *The Finder*, *Life*, *NCIS*, *Alias*, *NYPD Blue*, *Angel*, *Six Feet Under*, *E.R.*, *King Of Queens*. Theatre: *Figaro* (*A Noise Within*), *Shakespeare* (Alex Theatre), *The Curse Of Ravensdurn* (Barnsdall Gallery Theatre), *Nothing Sacred* (South Coast Rep), *6 RMS RIV VUE* (Sierra Madre Playhouse- Winner Best Performance By An Actor), *You Can't Take It With You* (Antaeus), *The Lower Depths* (MXAT), *Basketball Jones* (New Victory Theatre, NY). Audio Books: *C Street*, *The Family*, etc. Jeremy currently teaches at Aveson GLocal Leadership Academy and has also taught at LACHSA, and Burbank High School, as well as others. You can currently see Jeremy at the UCB Theatre in Hollywood with his sketch team MONEY PLEASE.



**Alex Hogy** (he/him) (Homer) is an actor, writer, and composer from Sacramento, CA. He studied Chekhov at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting in New York and received his BFA in Acting from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in Los Angeles. He has performed at Celebration Theatre, The Road Theatre, and

Theatre of Note. He is also a former company member of Sacra-Melo Musical Parody Playhouse. Alex has written a one-act play and a rock opera adaptation of Antigone. Much love to his bae. Much gratitude to his Higher Power. Alex is currently seeking theatrical and commercial representation. IG/TikTok: @alexhogy



Erica Mae McNeal

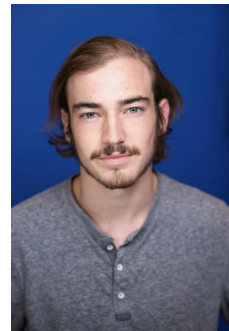
**Erica Mae McNeal** (June) grew up in a small town in Colorado where she found her love for theatre. She decided to make the big move to Los Angeles where she received her BFA in Acting at AMDA LA. She studied in both

Los Angeles and New York. Erica Mae is so excited to pursue her dreams as an actor and tell the stories of those who cannot tell them themselves.



**MARY JO KIRWAN** (Tiny Wingfield) is pleased to return to Open Fist Theatre Company, having appeared in their recent production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. She has worked frequently with Downtown Repertory

Theater Company, including Much Ado About Nothing, Romeo and Juliet, and Hamlet. Other recent appearances include Coeurage Theatre's Romeo and Juliet and Double Falsehood. She has worked with numerous companies in NY and LA, including the Celtic Arts Center, The Actors' Company, and A Noise Within. [mayrozez@gmail.com](mailto:mayrozez@gmail.com)



**Caleb Petre** (Homer) is a young actor with a love for theatre, born and raised in rural Texas he moved to LA after graduating Highschool to pursue his dream of being on stage and screen. After graduating from the American Academy of

Dramatic Arts he started the "Gwydion Theatre Company" with a group of fellow actors and is hoping to bring more theatre to Los Angeles





**Rebekah Paugam** (*June*) is a classically trained actress having studied at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, stArt - a Juilliard summer program, and going to The Osceola County School of the Arts when she was just 13.

*Rebekah has played roles in plays such as Anne Frank in The Diary of Anne Frank, Suzy in Wait Until Dark, and Catherine from A View From The Bridge. She is elated to have the opportunity to reprise the role of June and wants to thank Ben Martin for giving her this opportunity once again.*



**Beth Robbins** (*Maggie alt: Belva*) A proud member of The Open Fist for over twelve years, Beth is so grateful to have participated as an actress in the shows; The Dead, Everything is Enough, Rock 'n Roll, The

Good Woman of Setzuan, Welcome to your Alternative Reality, Both, Stage Door, Political Pop-up #'s 1, 2, 3 and 4, Musical Fools and now Anatomy of Gray. As a co-producer, Under Milkwood and Anna in the Tropics. At other theatres; Barefoot in the Park, Spike Heels, Women of Troy, Assassins, Sweet Charity, I'm Getting My Act Together, and Taking It On the Road to name a few.



**Alina Phelan** (*Rebekah*) is happy to be back at Open Fist, where she was last seen in *All Night Long*. Other credits: *For the Love Of (or the Roller Derby Play)* at The Kirk Douglas Theatre as part of CTG *Block Party*. Theatre of Note: *Rio Hondo*, *Entropy*,

*Niagara Falls*, *Hamlet: The First Quarto* (Winner-Garland Award) *I Wanna Hold Your Hand & Hearts Like Fists*. ICT: *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *All In The Timing*. Chalk Rep: *Family Planning*, *Circle X: Lascivious Something*. Film and TV credits include *Grey's Anatomy*, *How to Get Away With Murder*, *NCIS: LA*, *NCIS*, *Lucifer...* among others.



**Debba Rofheart** (*Maggie*) is an LA-based actor, a proud Open Fist Theatre Company (OFTC) member, and Playground-LA company member. Most recently, she was seen playing Peter Quince in OFTC's

acclaimed reimagining of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." She holds a BFA in Theatre Performance from the University of Florida. Thank you for coming and keeping live theatre alive.



**Alexander Wells** (*Pastor Phineas Wingfield*)

has appeared in numerous critically acclaimed stage productions in LA. His most recent appearance with Open Fist Theatre Company was in *A Midsummer Night's*

*Dream* directed by James Fowler, also this year: *In the Next Room or the Vibrator Play*, directed by Lane Allison. He also appeared in *Rorschach Festival* in 2020. This summer: *The Romantics* with Classical Theatre Lab/WeHo's Free Theatre in the Parks. Also with CTL: *Pinch* in *The Country Wife*; he directed *The Drag* by Mae West. With Son of Semele Ensemble: *Love and Information*, *Our Class* and one-man show, *A Very Short History of the Second World War*. The New American Theatre: *The Three Sisters*. He won an LA Weekly Award for Best Male Comedy Performance for *Fatboy*. He thanks his wife Susan for her support and his cat, Greta, for leaving him relatively unscathed.

## The Creatives

**Ben Martin** (Director) has directed more than 150 stage productions in regional theaters, summer stock, and academic settings. His production of Dylan Thomas's "Under Mild Wood" received universal acclaim from Los Angeles critics. He received his master's degree in Stage Directing from Carnegie Mellon University and is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers. For twenty-five years he has served on the faculty of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, where he teaches acting and directs productions. Ben Dedicates this production to Leslie, his late wife, who gave him two wonderful daughters ... and fifty-three years of love.

**Jan Munroe** (Scenic Design) has been a member of OPEN FIST for the last decade during which time he appeared as SHU-FU in GOOD WOMAN OF SZECHUAN, a vampire in MAD FOREST, and a ghost in John O'Keefe's GHOSTS. He also directed and designed O'Keefe's DON'T YOU EVER CALL ME ANYTHING BUT MOTHER and ALL NIGHT LONG for OPEN FIST as well as designing/building Playwrights'Arena's A HIT DOG WILL HOLLER at the Skylight. As an actor, he has appeared numerous times on TV (This Is Us, Criminal Minds, Brooklyn 99), in movies (A Few Good Men, Catch Me If You Can, Ford V Ferrari), and on stage. He is currently in the cast of DETAINED at the Fountain Theatre. His early childhood memoir THE DEMENTIA COOKBOOK: What I remember before I forget (available at LULU.COM.) was published in June 2021. He is a recipient of eleven L.A. Weekly and Drama-Logue awards, an Ovation Award, two NEA Theatre fellowships, a CAC "New

Genre" fellowship, and a Rockefeller Playwright's fellowship.

### **Stephanie Crothers** (Scenic Artist)

Stephanie is a long-time OFTC company member, actress, and self-taught artist born and raised in Los Angeles. In 2015, Stephanie started her own company designing yoga mats from her abstract watercolor paintings and has since gone on to larger works both personal and professional utilizing her skills in murals and scenic painting. Her recent scenic painting credits include the LAVENDER MEN at The Skylight Theatre, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, and IN THE NEXT ROOM, OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY, both staged and produced by The Open Fist Theater Company. You can also spot her murals on AirBnBs around Joshua Tree and Yucca Valley. Special thanks to fellow OFTC company member, Spencer Cantrell, for being the best painting assistant around. Follow Stephanie's artist page on IG! @ladylucet

### **Gavan Wyrick** (Lighting Design)

is a Los Angeles-based lighting designer for plays, musicals, and everything in between. Open Fist credits include *To The Bone* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Other recent credits include *Driver's Seat* (Theatre 68); *Remembering the Future*, *God of Carnage* (The Odyssey); *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *James and the Giant Peach Jr.* (Desert Theatricals); *World Goes 'Round*, *Our Lady of the Tortilla*, *I'm Not Rappaport*, *Marry Me a Little* (IVRT). Web: [gavanwyrickdesign.com](http://gavanwyrickdesign.com); Instagram: @gavanwyrickdesign

**Marc Antonio Pritchett** (Sound Design) is a working Actor, Director, Fight Coordinator, and Session Singer in the Los Angeles area. He is also one of the Artistic Directors at Sacred Fools Theatre Company. Recent sound/music credits include *The Mousetrap* at Theatre Palisades, *The Latrell Show* at IAMA Theatre, *The Play You Want* at the Road Theatre, *Sweat and Cry It Out* at the Chance Theatre, *An Octoroon*, *The Children* and *Detained* at the Fountain Theatre. Nucleus Talent Management represents him. For additional info visit: [www.marcantoniopritchett.com](http://www.marcantoniopritchett.com)

**Mylette Nora** (Costume Design) "Musical Fools", "Dancing at Lughnasa", "In The Next Room" are a few of her shows that she has the pleasure of doing with OpenFist! Ovation Award and NAACP Theatre Awards for best costumes, listed in the honors edition of The Cambridge Registry of Who's Who Among Executive and Professional Women, works worldwide her credits consist of television, film, video, and stage, and was seen nightly on "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno and now "You Bet Your Life" with Jay Leno and Kevin Eubanks, and weekly on "Jay Leno's Garage". The famed artist Synthia St. James noted Mylette as being the inspiration for her world-renowned painting "Ensemble" which graced the cover of the best-selling novel "Waiting To Exhale" by Terry McMillan. Mylette's designer lines are, doggie wear, [www.FromTheHeartDoggieWear.com](http://www.FromTheHeartDoggieWear.com), heirloom dolls, "My Mind's Eye", and now face mask by, Mylette!

**Bruce Dickinson & Ina Shumaker** (Props Design) Began designing props and set pieces for the OpenFist Theatre Company over 20 years ago. Specializing in creating realistic fake foods and period set dressings, some of their favorite past shows include: James Joyce's *The Dead*, *Doo Doo Love*, and *Dancing at Lughnasa*. *Carpe diem*.

**John Dimitri** (Stage Manager)