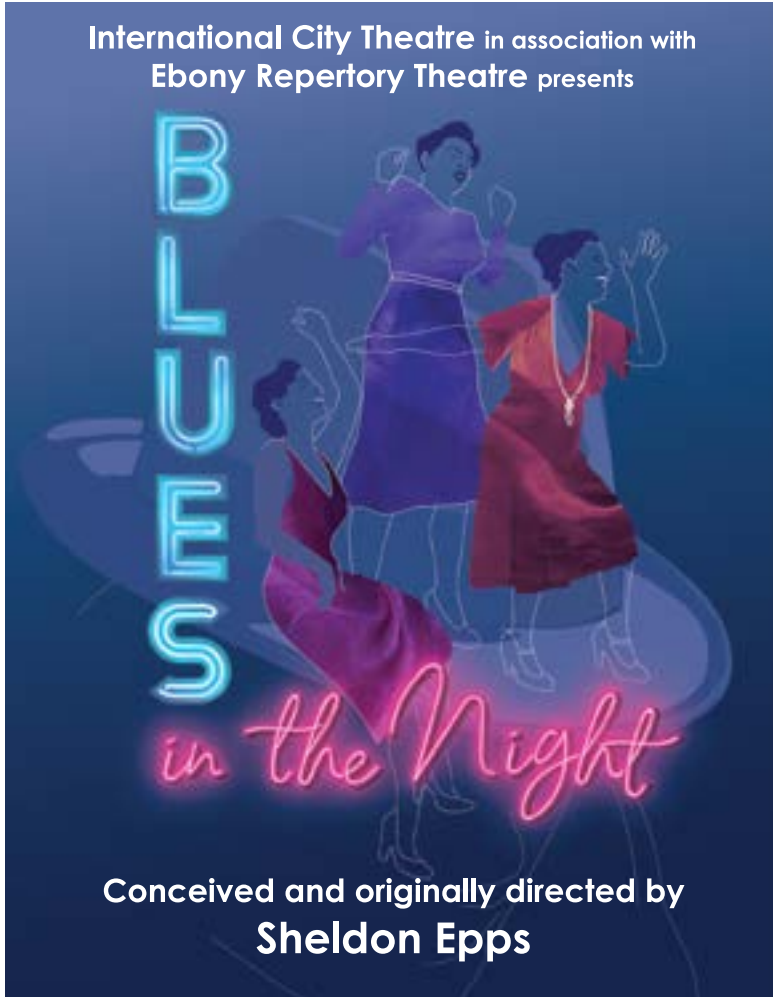




INTERNATIONAL CITY THEATRE

Your Award-Winning Professional Regional Theatre
caryn desai, Artistic Director/Producer



36th Anniversary Season

2021 SEASON HONORARY PRODUCER:

The Ackerman Family/Evalyn M. Bauer Foundation

Honorary Production Producers:

Richard & Amy Lipeles



Beverly O'Neill Theater
330 E. Seaside Way
Info: 562-436-4610
Website: InternationalCityTheatre.org

Previews: Oct 20 & 21
Opening Night: Oct 22
Performances through Nov 7
Thurs-Sat and Previews at 8 p.m.
Sundays at 2 p.m.



*A Note from the
Artistic Director/Producer, caryn desai*

Greetings!

Welcome to International City Theatre! We are delighted to share today's performance with you. In fact there is no performance without you so you play a special role in the continuation of this most human art form. We are also delighted to be producing *Blues in the Night* in association with our friends at Ebony Repertory Theatre.

This is the final production in our 2021 season, and I would like to personally invite you to join us in 2022 – our 37th anniversary. We hope to count on you to celebrate our shared humanity and the importance of storytelling to society as we come together under one roof. ICT is committed to serving our communities with high quality productions and education programs. We keep our prices below most professional theatres because we want to remain accessible to all. Most of our six education programs are offered at no cost (scholarships are offered for those in need).

Our programs serve all demographics from age 4 to 104. According to data from the Educational Theatre Foundation, “many at-risk students, who stand to benefit the most from theatre education, have little to no access to theatre education. Only 28 percent of high schools in high poverty areas offer theatre instruction. Only 4 percent of public elementary schools offer students opportunities to engage in theatre.” Arts education is essential and ICT has a long, deep commitment to providing opportunities for youth, families, and seniors.

Mainstage offers the same opportunity for growth. When you open yourself to new ideas and new ways of thinking, you allow yourself to better understand yourself, your thoughts, your judgments, and your humanity. Subscribing is one way of taking that journey in an entertaining, shared experience as we build bridges of understanding. I hope you will share that theatre-going journey with us in 2022! Thank you for celebrating live theatre with us today. We love seeing you!

My sincere appreciation and warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "caryn desai". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

THEATRE STAFF

Artistic Director/Producer: caryn desai
 Box Office Manager: Denis Nigos
 Executive Assistant: Jordan Gohara
 Development Associate: Cynthia Gellis
 Marketing Associate: Francie Ghose
 Accounting: Ketan R. Sheth, An Accountancy Corporation
 Publicist: Lucy Pollak
 Program Designer: Denis Nigos
 Graphic Designer: Tressa Reddy

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2 **International City Theatre** in association with
Ebony Repertory Theatre presents

Blues in the Night

Conceived and Originally Directed by Sheldon Epps
Original Vocal Arrangements and Musical Direction by Chapman Roberts
Orchestrations and Additional Vocal Arrangements by Sy Johnson

PRODUCTION

Artistic Director/Producer: caryn desai

Director: Wren T. Brown

Musical Director, Conductor, Pianist: William Foster McDaniel

Choreographer: Keith Young

Scenic Designer: Edward E. Haynes Jr.

Lighting Designer: Donna Ruzika

Resident Costume Designer: Kim DeShazo

Sound Designer: John Feinstein

Resident Property Designers: Patty and Gordon Briles

Resident Hair and Wig Designer: Anthony Gagliardi

Production Stage Manager: Mary Michele Miner*

Assistant Stage Manager: Justine Perri

Resident Casting Directors: Michael Donovan, CSA
Richie Ferris, CSA

Wardrobe Crew: LaVonna Miller

Sound Operator: Jesus Rodriguez

Master Electrician: Daniel Moorefield

Photographer: Kayte Deioma

The videotaping or
other video or audio
recording of this
production is strictly
prohibited.

CAST

Jenna Gillespie Byrd*: The Girl with a Date

Karole Foreman*: The Woman of the World

Parris D. Mann: The Man in the Saloon

Vivian Reed*: The Lady from the Road

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

MUSICIANS

William Foster McDaniel: Piano

Scott Mayo: Woodwinds

Del Atkins: Bass

Fernando Pullum: Trumpet

Clayton Cameron: Drums

Place and Time: 1948 Chicago Hotel

Running Time: Approx. two hours with a 15-minute intermission

As a courtesy to the actors onstage and your fellow audience members, please turn off your cell phone, beeper or any electronic device that might make noise during the performance. Also, if you use your cell phone during intermission, please ensure that your phone is turned off before you re-enter the auditorium. Thank you for your cooperation!

Blues Blues

by Bessie Smith; by permission of Frank Music Corp.

Four Walls (And One Dirty Window) Blues

by Willard Robinson; by permission of The Jewel Music Publishing Co., Inc.

I've Got A Date With A Dream

by Mack Gordon and Harry Revel; by permission of SBK/Feist Catalog, Inc.

New Orleans Hop Scop Blues

by George W. Thomas; by permission of Jerry Vogel Music Co., Inc.

Stompin At The Savoy

by Benny Goodman, And Razaf, Edgar Sampson and Cick Webb; by permission of SBK Robbins Catalogue, Inc. and RYTVOC, Inc.

Taking A Chance On Love

by Vernon Duke, John LaTouche and Ted Fetter; by permission by SBK Miller Catalogue, Inc.

It Makes My Love Come Down

by Bessie Smith; used by permission of Frank Music Corp.

Lush Life

by Billy Strayhorn; used by permission of Tempo Music, Inc.

I'm Just A Lucky So-And-So

by Duke Ellington and Mack David; used by permission by T.B. Harms Company, a Polygram International Music Publishing Company and Famous Music Publishing Company

Take Me For A Buggy Ride

by Leola and Wesley Wilson; used by permission of Frank Music Corp.

Wild Women Don't Have The Blues

by Ida Cox; used by permission of Northern Music Company

Lover Man

by Jimmy Davis, Jimmy Sherman and Roger "Ram" Ramirez; used by permission of MCA Music Publishing

Willow Weep For Me

by Ann Ronell; used by permission of the Bourne Company

Kitchen Man

by Andy Razaf and Wesley Wilson; used by permission of MCA Music Publishing

When Your Lover Has Gone

by E.A. Swan; used by permission of Warner Bros., Inc.

Take It Right Back

by H. Grey

ACT TWO

Jam Session (Wild Women Don't Have The Blues)

by Ida Cox; by permission of Northern Music Company

Blues In The Night

by Harold Arlen and Johnny Mercer; by permission of Warner Bros., Inc.

Dirty No-Gooder's Blues

by Bessie Smith; used by permission of Frank Music Corp.

When A Woman Loves A Man/Am I Blue?

by Johnny Mercer, Gordon Jenkins and Bernard Hanighen/
by Grand Clarke and Harry Akst; used by permission of Chappell & Co.,/
used by permission of Warner Bros., Inc.

Rough And Ready Man

by Alberta Hunter; used by permission of Alberta Hunter Music Co.

Reckless Blues

by Bessie Smith; used by permission of Frank Music Corp.

Wasted Life Blues

by Bessie Smith; used by permission of Frank Music Corp.

Baby Doll

by Bessie Smith; used by permission of Frank Music Corp.

Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out

by Jimmy Cox; used by permission of MCA Publishing

I Gotta Right To Sing The Blues

by Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler; used by permission of Warner Bros., Inc.

Four Walls

(Reprise); used by permission of Jewel Music Publishing Co., Inc.

Blues in the Night

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

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

Wren T. Brown (Director) A fourth generation Angeleno, Wren is very proud to be in his fourth decade as an Actor, Producer and Director. Among Wren's film appearances are: *Remember Me: The Mahalia Jackson Story*, *Beyond the Lights*, *Waiting to Exhale*, *Heart and Souls*, *Edmond*, *Biker Boyz*, *Under Siege 2: Dark Territory*, and *Hollywood Shuffle*. Television credits: Partial List: Series Regular: *Whoopi*, *Flipper: The New Adventures*, and *Bless This House*. Recurring Roles: *The Orville*, *Grey's Anatomy*, Guest Stars: *Transparent*, *Dear White People*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Being Mary Jane*, *The Simpsons*, *Frasier*, *Seinfeld*. Voice-Over Narration: *The History Channel's U.S.S. Constellation: Battling For Freedom*, *E! True Hollywood Story* on the life of Diana Ross, and *Bronzeville*. Partial Theatre credits as Actor: *As You Like It*, *On Borrowed Time*, and *The Gospel at Colonus*. Producer Theatre: Partial: *Fraternity*, *The Gospel at Colonus*, and *Five Guys Named Moe*. Director credits: *Fences* and *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*. Wren is the Producing Artistic Director of Ebony Repertory Theatre, Los Angeles' only African American professional theatre company.

William Foster McDaniel (Musical Director, Conductor, Pianist) earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Capital University (Columbus, Ohio) and Master of Music degree from Boston University. He has studied as a Fulbright Scholar in Paris, France. He began his career in musical theatre as pianist/conductor of the original long-running production of *The Fantasticks* in New York's Greenwich Village. He is a two time Helen Hayes Award nominee. National Tours have brought him to Los Angeles as musical director/conductor of *Bubbling Brown Sugar*, *Timbuktu!* and *Ain't Misbehavin'*. In 2020 Mr. McDaniel appeared at the Nate Holden Performing Arts Center as conductor/arranger/pianist for Vivian Reed's Tribute to Lena Horne.

In addition to his many credits in Musical Theatre, Mr. McDaniel is a concert pianist and composer whose works have been performed by the Yonkers Civic Philharmonic Orchestra, the New Symphony of New York, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the Philharmonia of Greensboro, the Bergen Philharmonic, the United States Army Band Brass Quintet, the Antara Ensemble, the Savannah Symphony Orchestra, the Mozart Society Orchestra at Harvard University and the BBC Concert Orchestra in London.

Keith Young (Choreographer) Mr. Young's award-winning work as a choreographer has spanned theatre, film and television. His THEATRE credits include Director/Choreographer of the highly acclaimed and award-winning production of *Five Guys Named Moe* at Ebony Repertory Theatre, choreographing *Sammy* at The Old Globe Theatre (Critics Choice Award for BEST CHOREOGRAPHY), the Broadway production of *On the Town*, and *Crowns*, *Robeson*, and *The Gospel at Colonus*, also at Ebony Repertory Theatre FILM credits include *Rent*, *What Women Want*, *It's Complicated*, *The Holiday*, *The Smurfs*, *Gone with the Bullets* (World Choreography Award for BEST CHOREOGRAPHY) and *The Parent Trap*. TELEVISION credits include *The Academy Awards*, *The Grammy Awards*, *The Emmy Awards*, *The NAACP Image Awards*, *So You Think You Can Dance*, *Dancing With The Stars*, and a plethora of episodic television. Mr. Young has worked with numerous ARTISTS, including Madonna, Babyface, Bette Midler, Josh Groban, Gladys Knight, Earth Wind & Fire, and The Isley Brothers to name a few. Keith would like to thank Sharon, for her wisdom, kindness, love and unwavering support.



Jenna Gillespie Byrd (The Girl with a Date) is honored to join the Blues cast again! An Oxnard, CA native, she graduated with a B.A. in Drama from UC Irvine. Performance credits include: *CW Winner of 2020 Christmas Caroler Challenge*, *Spiritualized The Band* (Colbert Late Night Show), *BAZ: Tour de Force* (Vegas), Ovation Nominated: *Recorded in Hollywood* (Kirk Douglas Theater), Disney's *Frozen Live & Five and Dime*. Music and Film credits include: *Debbie Gibson Int.*

Tour (Keys/Voc.), Original Web-Series *Crazy with a K* (Composer), *Title Of Show* (Assistant Music Director). Jenna is also a singer-songwriter! Follow her instagram @jbyrd_radio for more!



Karole Foreman (The Woman of the World) Karole is thrilled to return to ICT after her appearance as Billie Holiday (Ovation Award) in *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*. Other shows: *A Little Night Music* (SD Theatre Critics Circle nomination), *Stupid Fucking Bird* (Cygnet Theatre); *Porgy & Bess*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Intimate Apparel* (ETC); *Fences* (PCPA and ICT, NAACP Image nom); *Wedding Band* (Stage Raw nom, Antaeus); *Next to Normal* (OC Weekly Award, California Rep);

Difficulty of Crossing a Field, *Queenie Pie* (LB Opera); *Caroline or Change* (PCPA); *Parade*, *Jelly's Last Jam* (Suzi Bass Award, Mark Taper Forum, Alliance Theatre); and *Mamma Mia!* (Las Vegas). Foreman worked with LA Women's Shakespeare, Oregon Shakespeare Festival and numerous regional theatres. TV credits: *Monster*, *Good Trouble*, *NCIS*, *Brooklyn 99*, *How to Get Away with Murder*, *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*,

Rebel, GLOW, Young & the Restless, Stitches, Jane the Virgin, Rizzoli & Isles, Murder in the First, Grey's Anatomy, Bones, Medium, Law & Order and Bold and the Beautiful. Film: *The Banality, I'll Be Next Door for Christmas, 42, Rebirth and Buddy Solitaire.* www.karoleforeman.com



Parris D. Mann (The Man in the Saloon) has toured the United States, Canada and Europe as a principal dancer in productions of *Black & Blue, Wild Woman Blues, Riverdance* and *Just 'n Time*. Parris' Broadway credits include performances in *Riverdance* on Broadway at the Gershwin Theater and *The Joint Is Jumpin'* at the Supper Club. Parris produced, choreographed and directed *Just 'n Time* and *Things Aint What They Used 2 Be. Here's II Lyfe!* is produced alongside his wife, Rashida Khan-Mann. The production features such talents as Freda Payne, Rogelio Douglas, along with co-choreographer Rashida Khan-Mann and the additional stage direction of Barbara Montgomery and Mercedes Ellington, granddaughter of the legendary Duke Ellington. Both shows have toured internationally and premiered in Los Angeles as well as New York. *Just 'n Time* had the distinction of making history during its Russian tour as the first African American tap show presented at the Kremlin Theater. His final version of *Things Aint What They Used 2 Be* premiered on January 7th, 2012 in Los Angeles under the title, *Here's II Lyfe!*



Vivian Reed (The Lady from the Road) Broadway Credits: *Marie Christine, High Rollers, It's So Nice to Be Civilized, Bubbling Brown Sugar, Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope, That's Entertainment.* Other theatre credits include: *Damn Yankees, Show Boat, Sophisticated Ladies, Blues In The Night, Tintypes, Roar of the Greasepaint, Smell of the Crowd, Hallelujah Baby, More than a Song, One For My Baby, Countess of Storyville, Blues for an Alabama Sky, Crumbs from the Table of Joy, Cookin' at the Cookery, The Second Tosca, Pork Pie, and Invisible Life.* Awards: two Tony Award Nominations, Drama Desk, Mabel Mercer, NAACP, Dance Educators of America, Outer Critics Circle, Audelco Pioneer Award and Grammy Award. Also, Vivian has created four one-woman shows: *An Evening with Vivian Reed, Standards and More, Vivian Reed Sings Lena Horne* and *Little Bit of Soul, Little Bit of Pop.* She has performed in major theaters and clubs around the world. Vivian designed and made a line of scarves and ponchos, www.vjrscarves.etsy.com. She taught voice and performance at Berklee College of Music and is presently on the voice faculty at Marymount Manhattan College, theater department. www.vivianreed.com

Edward E. Haynes Jr. (Scenic Design) Regional Credits include: The Muny Theater, Two River Theatre Co., Mark Taper Forum, Ebony Repertory Theatre Company, South Coast Rep., The Kirk Douglas Theatre, Trinity Rep., Marin Theatre Co., The Geffen Playhouse, Berkeley Rep., East West Players, Pasadena Playhouse, The Hollywood Bowl, Lone Tree Arts Center, TheatreWorks, The Intiman Theatre, The Alley Theatre, The Alliance Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, and many

he can no longer remember. Television Credits include MTV's *Spring Break 2011 & 2012*, *Hip Hop Harry* for the Discovery Kids/TLC Channel, and *Culture Clash* for Fox TV. Ed is the proud father of twins, Denis and Wesly, and husband to Director Elizabeth Bell-Haynes.

Donna Ruzika (Lighting Designer) has had the pleasure of designing 24 productions for ICT. For the Utah Shakespeare Festival, she has designed two seasons in the Anes Theatre, two summer seasons in the outdoor Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, seventeen summer seasons in the outdoor Adams Shakespeare Theatre, and four fall seasons in the indoor Randall Theatre. Donna has also created lighting for South Coast Repertory, Ebony Repertory Theatre, Kansas City Repertory, Laguna Playhouse, The Colony Theatre, Pasadena Playhouse, the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and Fullerton Civic Light Opera, where she designed over 100 musicals as Resident Designer. From 2006 through 2019, Donna was the associate lighting designer for the Los Angeles Philharmonic's summer musical at the world-famous Hollywood Bowl. Also, she had the pleasure of working on the 2013 *The Simpson's Take the Bowl* and the 2017 *The Muppet's Take the Bowl*. Her award-winning lighting has also been seen in Barcelona, Spain; Bogota, Columbia; and Cairo, Egypt.

Kim DeShazo (Resident Costume Designer) is Costume Instructor for Theatre and Dance at El Camino College as well as resident costume designer for ICT. Other theatres that have showcased her skills include Pasadena Dance Theatre, LA Opera, Long Beach Opera, Shakespeare Festival/LA, the Gary Marshall Theatre, Odyssey Theatre, and Theatricum Botanicum. College collaborations include designing for Chapman University, Cal State Dominguez Hills, College of the Canyons, LBCC, and Mt. San Antonio College. Her work has been seen at industrial shows for Nike, Adidas, Skechers, Cherokee and Diesel clothing. Commercials include AFLAC, Target, Disney, McDonald's, and Mattel. TV credits range from *The Real*, *The Price is Right*, and an *Ozzy Osbourne's Variety Show*, to work for the Academy Awards, Nickelodeon and the Disney Channel.

Patty and Gordon Briles (Resident Property Designers) have joined their artistic skills as Prop Designers for ICT. Gordon's 3D work in ceramics and fine arts, and Patty's work in theatre, design and illustration have enabled them to collaborate on both property and set dressing. With the assistance of their son, Christopher, it has been an ongoing family production. Their work has included award-winning designs and Ovation nominations as producers as well as designers for theatre and Emmy nominations for TV. Their theatre work has been seen at The Ford Theatre, John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, the Odyssey, the Edgemar and The Matrix. Patty works with young artists at El Camino College.

caryn desai (Artistic Director/Producer) is an award-winning director with awards and nominations from LA Drama Critics Circle, LA Weekly, Drama-Logue, Robby, Ovation and NAACP for her productions. Recent directing: *'ART'*, *Daisy*, *Beast on the Moon*, *Cardboard Piano*, *Uncanny Valley*, and *Doubt*. Selected credits: *Other Desert Cities*, *Red*, *God of Carnage*, *Backwards in High Heels*, *Dinah Was*

(most L.A. Ovation award nominations) “*Master Harold*” and the boys, *A Shayna Maidel*, *Shakuntala* (also adapted by her), *Rashomon*, *Our Town*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Contradictions* (her original work), *Antigone*, and *Oedipus*. Selected musicals: *Raisin* (LADCC “Best Production”), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Once on This Island*, and *Tapestry*. caryn is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. She has an MFA in directing from UC Irvine, a BA from CSU, Long Beach in acting and directing, an AA from LBCC in theatre, and a certificate from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, London. She has certificates in Arts Administration, Marketing and Fundraising. With a full Fellowship, she completed an Executive Program at Stanford University’s Graduate School of Business as one of 50 arts leaders in the nation selected for the initial program. Additionally, she completed an Executive Coaching Program through the Hudson Institute, Santa Barbara. She has served on grant panels for the county and city and as a speaker/panelist for the SRO Theatre Conference at USC on Best Practices, the Technical Theatre Conference about the role of a director, and more. She represented ICT as a National Participant for the Listening Post Project with Johns Hopkins University and was named “Enterprising Woman in the Arts” in Long Beach. caryn was honored with the “We Can Do It” Award from the Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Foundation and nominated as an Amazing Woman in the Arts. She taught college for more than 25 years and most recently taught Nonprofit Arts Management at California State University, Fullerton. She served as a Dramaturgical Responder for the graduate playwriting students at USC and served as Vice Chair for the LA Producers League for Large Theatres. In 2016 she was keynote speaker at the Disneyland Hotel for INTIX. That same year she accepted the L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Season and was recognized as a 2016 Community Hero by the African American History & Culture Foundation. She received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Long Beach City College and in 2018 was named Distinguished Alumna from the College of the Arts at California State University, Long Beach. Most recently caryn is honored to be added to the Long Beach City College Hall of Fame.

Mary Michele Miner (Production Stage Manager) is delighted to be part of live theater returning. Her long career includes Broadway, Off Broadway, Regional (inc: Kennedy Center, NY Public, McCarter, Muny Opera), and Los Angeles (inc: Mark Taper Forum, Ahmanson, Geffen) along with a multitude of benefits and special events. She is very pleased to be working with Assistant Stage Manager, Justine Perri. She is also the author of the slightly tongue-in-cheek mystery novel, *Their Moon Was Cardboard*.

Lucy Pollak (Publicist) has been providing publicity services to the Los Angeles performing arts community for three decades – and her very first client was ICT, with which she has proudly continued to work to this day! Prior to that, she was production manager/staff producer at the Odyssey Theatre, where she co-produced over 100 productions with artistic director Ron Sossi. She is the recipient of a LA Drama Critic’s Circle Award (*Master Class*), an L.A. Weekly Award (*Mary Barnes*), four Drama-Logue Awards (*Mary Barnes*, *Idioglossia*, *Accidental Death of An Anarchist*, *It’s A*

Girl!), and a Women in Theatre Recognition Award. She has served on the boards of directors of the Los Angeles Theatre Alliance, Women in Theatre.

Michael Donovan Casting (Casting Directors) has cast over 100 shows here at ICT. Michael Donovan is the recipient of 9 Artios awards, presented by the Casting Society of America for Outstanding Achievement in casting. Richie Ferris has 3 Artios awards. The company's credits include shows produced at the Ahmanson Theatre, the Mark Taper Forum, the Hollywood Bowl, Pasadena Playhouse, Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Geffen Playhouse, the Getty Villa, the Soraya, Laguna Playhouse, La Jolla Playhouse, the Garry Marshall Theatre, Ebony Repertory Theatre, San Francisco Symphony, Arizona Theatre Company, Arkansas Rep, Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Indiana Rep, the Totem Pole Playhouse, and the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. Other credits include numerous films, TV shows and commercials. Michael is President of the Board for the Foundation for New American Musicals, and serves on the Board for Camp Bravo.

Ebony Repertory Theatre (ERT) is Los Angeles' only African-American professional (Actors' Equity Contract) theatre company, and the Resident Company and Operator of the Nate Holden Performing Arts Center. ERT's commitment is to bring diverse, high standard, professional performing arts to the Mid-City community, as well as the greater Los Angeles area, to engender business development along Washington Boulevard and to continue to make the Nate Holden Performing Arts Center one of Los Angeles' cultural destinations! ERT's mission of cultural diversity and inclusion is tangible in the performances and exhibitions our organization has tendered throughout its nearly 15 years. Performances such as *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Gospel at Colonus*, and *Two Trains Running* have all earned critical acclaim. Our theatres' commitment to diversity and inclusion fosters a unique African American artistic experience that allows the multicultural audiences of our community and beyond to expand their understanding of diverse backgrounds. ERT is honored to share our Producing Artistic Director, Wren T. Brown and the production of *Blues In The Night*. www.ebonyrep.org

Shashin Desai (Founding Artistic Director/Producer) led ICT throughout its first 25 seasons, guiding over 120 productions to its stage and winning over 200 awards for himself and the theatre while running the company in the black for 22 out of 25 years. After ICT's Silver Jubilee Season, in March 2011, Shashin stepped down passing the baton to the new generation of leadership. Since 2011, the same skills he used to visualize stories on stage with trained actors, physical compositions, and use of color and light are the same skills he is now applying to his singular focus - Photography, devoting his time to an art book project, ASIA CONNECTIONS: FACES AND PLACES. To that end, the past years have involved extensive travel to India, Thailand, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Turkey, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, Japan, Sri Lanka, Morocco, and South Africa. According to him, "Many more countries to travel, many more moments to capture." The journey continues. To see his captivating work please go to his website and share your thoughts: www.shashindesaiconnections.com Instagram: @shashindesai

We are grateful to the following companies and organizations for their contributions and support of International City Theatre:



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the work of ICT is very
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John Hancock Family Foundation	Ray & Elizabeth Ward
Michael & Patricia Hausknost	Barbara Wolfe
Sandy Kroll	Mona Panitz & Ed Zwieback

Supporting Role

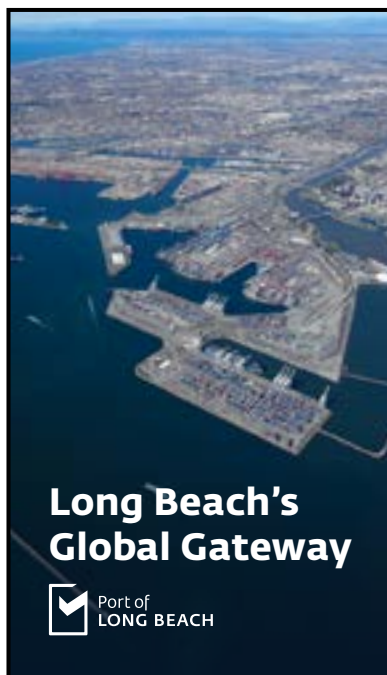
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Penny & John Biroc	Gail Frank
Pamela A. Bleich	Mark Gallon & Zoilan Montemayor
Ricky & Spike Bragg	Sandi Goldstein & Richard Norene
Kristine Brancolini	Gerald & Jacquelyn Grandt
Marlene Brown	Susan & Michael Gray
Christopher & Claudia Ward	Carol Greenberg
Chris Brown & Tanya Finney	Norma & Gary Greene
Frank Buono	William, Madeleine, & Barbara Haskett
David & Rita Carver	Gary Herman & Robin Franko
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Feb 9 - Feb 27

the music of Stephen Sondheim

by Craig Lucas & Norman René

The story of two single strangers who unknowingly live one floor apart is told entirely through songs written early in Sondheim's career or cut from his groundbreaking Broadway musicals.

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Hnath's biting funny, Tony-nominated stand-alone sequel to Ibsen's revolutionary masterpiece

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Aug 24 - Sep 11

by Athol Fugard

A young girl seeks the courage to embrace the future while her grandfather searches for the wisdom to let go of the past. The first post-apartheid play by one of the greatest playwrights in South Africa and the world, *Valley Song* is a poignant and hope-filled coming-of-age story that transcends politics.

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