



Circle X Theatre Co. PRESENTS



a comedy

by Mara Nelson-Greenberg
directed by Halena Kays
January 21–February 25, 2023
Atwater Village Theatre
circlextheatre.org

Do You Feel Anger?

By Mara Nelson-Greenberg

Directed by Halena Kays

Featuring: Rose Portillo, Paula Rebelo, Tasha Ames, Casey Smith, Napoleon Tavale, Rich Liccardo, and Charlotte Gulezian with special guests Bob Clendenin, William Salyers, John Getz, Jan Munroe, Tony Amendola, and Silas Weir Mitchell

Understudy Cast: Elizabeth Rainey, Melissa Ortiz, Charlotte Gulezian, Christian Haines, MJ Sieber, Zackary Stone Gearing, and Kat Haan

Actors appear courtesy of Actors' Equity Association



What is the absurdity — and danger — of a world where the feelings of some people matter more than those of others?

When Sofia is hired as an empathy coach at a debt collection agency, she finds she has her work cut out for her. These employees can barely identify what an emotion is, much less practice deep, radical compassion for others.

As they painstakingly stumble towards enlightenment, someone keeps mugging Eva in the kitchen, and the unspoken dynamics of their seemingly blithe workplace culture become increasingly unsettling.

**RUNNING TIME: 90 MINUTES
THERE WILL BE NO INTERMISSION**

Do You Feel Anger? is produced by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.
concordtheatricals.com

Do You Feel Anger? was produced by the VINEYARD THEATRE, Douglas Aibel, Artistic Director, Sarah Stern, Artistic Director, Suzanne Appel, Managing Director, New York City, 2019. World premiere in the 2018 Humana Festival of New American Plays at Actors Theatre of Louisville.

Producers – Kat Haan, Jen Kays, and Tim Wright
Assistant Director – Lee Hannah Conrads
Set and Lighting Design – François-Pierre Couture
Lighting Design – Stephen Azua
Costume Design – Dianne K. Graebner
Sound Design – Jesse Mandapat
Prop Master – Kat Haan
Specialty Prop Design – Richard Maher
Production Stage Manager – Roella Delloso
Assistant Stage Manager – Yaesol Jeong
Box Office Manager and Front of House Manager – Jasmine Leung
Publicist – Lucy Pollak
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CIRCLE X THEATRE CO. STAFF

Jen Kays – Artistic Director
Tim Wright – Executive Director
Kat Haan – Literary Director
Nicole Le – Literary Associate
Lee Hannah Conrads – The Evolving Playwrights Group Producer
Elizabeth Rainey – Director of Community Engagement
Kathleen Ressegger – Membership Director
Casey Smith – Associate Artistic Director of Original Programming as it relates to himself



Circle X Theatre Co.

Atwater Village Theatre – Theatre #1

3269 Casitas Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90039

www.circlextheatre.org • Instagram/Twitter: @circlextheatre • Facebook.com/circlextheatreco

Dear Friends and Supporters of Circle X,

Three years ago feels like another world. We never thought it would be this long before we would be producing and then we wondered if we would ever be able to again. The whole time, all of us, missing our community, looking for ways to stay creative and take care of each other and looking for the story we wanted to tell.

This is the one. The one about empathy. In such an isolating time, we wanted to celebrate Mara Nelson-Greenberg's writing because it made us laugh and dream and reckon with ourselves. To be reminded of each other. *Do You Feel Anger?* has given us that and the joy of bringing together this extremely talented group of artists so that we could make something we loved and share it with you.

Making theatre would be pointless without you. Thank you for being here today. We are so grateful for your support and your contribution is invaluable to us. Thank you for making it worth the wait. It's like breathing again.

If you would like to learn more about Circle X, get involved with the company, or make a donation, do not hesitate to approach us after the show or reach out to us via our website. We are eager to meet you!

We hope you enjoy the show.

Sincerely,



Artistic Director

SPECIAL THANKS

Richard Azurdia, Brad Bentz, Fin Fun Mermaid, Ezra Fisher, Alex Gomez, Jenny Graham, Dustin Hughes, Kate Jopson, Kinetic Lighting, Ericka Kreutz, Jeff Lorch, Hilaire Nollette, Joshua McClellan, Zoe McCracken, Cricket Myers, Elizabeth Rainey, Courtney Rhodes, William Salyers, Anthony Sanchez, M. Glenn Schuster, Aaron, Eric and everyone at Coffeehouse Industries Inc.

THANK YOU

**WE COULDN'T DO IT
WITHOUT YOU**



**kinetic
lighting, inc.**

MAIN CAST



SOFIA'S MOTHER:

Rose Portillo (she/her/hers) is an accomplished Theater Artist: actor, writer, director, educator. Rose is a 40-yr *Veterana* of theater, film and television. Her career began with a lead role in Luis Valdez's *Zoot Suit* creating the role of Della (original L.A. production, Broadway, and film), and more recently appeared in its LA revival as Mama Reyna. Other highlights in a long career include starring in the award winning film *...and the earth did not swallow him* based on the ground-breaking novel by Tomás Rivera; performing in the San Francisco Symphony's production *Peer Gynt*, conducted by Michael Tilson Thomas; performing at Disney Hall with the LA Philharmonic in the 2-character play *Mother Goose*, and performing the lead role in Cherrie Moraga's *The Mathematics of Love* at Brava Theater in San Francisco. Her voice-over work includes narrating the award-winning documentary *Ruben Salazar: Man in the Middle* by Phillip Rodriguez. She is currently gaining notoriety for her role in a Subaru commercial and her voice will appear role in an upcoming Disney feature animation. As Associate Director of LA's acclaimed theater company About...Productions (1992-2016), Rose partnered with Theresa Chavez on more than 9 critically acclaimed theater productions as co-author/co-director and actor. Other collaborators included Alejandro Escovedo, Luis Perez of Los Lobos, and many other well-known artists. A respected master teaching artist, Rose also founded About...Production's *Young Theaterworks*, creating programs which target youth in Continuation/Options schools and which have been featured in the LA TIMES and on NPR. In addition, she has developed program content for Shakespeare Center LA's Will Power to Youth and Veterans in the Arts programs, and the California Institute of the Arts' Community Arts Partnership (CAP) at Plaza de la Raza, and LACER – all received the Nation's *Coming Up Taller Award*. At the invitation of Pomona College (2007-present), Rose designed, and continues to teach and direct 'Theater with Young Audiences' in which college students engage with middle and high school students from the city of Pomona to create original work and witness the power of theater to transform. She has also created devised work with youth through Pomona College's P.A.Y.S. program and Pitzer College's *Native Youth to College* program. She has been a California Arts Council Artist-in-Residence recipient, Writer-in-Residence at the William Inge Center for the Arts and was the first Artist-in-Residence (with Theresa Chavez) at the University of California, Merced. Honors include: The Los Angeles Womens Theater Festival's Maverick Award; *La Opinion's* Mujeres Destacadas Award; Playwrights' Arena *Lee Melville Award* for outstanding contributions to the L.A. Theater Community; Recognitions by the City of Los Angeles for various artistic contributions. She is currently Master Artist for LA's new Outside In Theatre where she will work with multi-generational members of Highland Park to build a new theater piece reflecting their community, their home. Rose's home and visual art work have been also featured in the LA Times, local television, and on the podcast *Home: Stories From LA*.



SOFIA:

Paula Rebelo is a Brazilian-American-Portuguese actress based in Los Angeles. Select credits include *Cry It Out* (Company of Fools), *The River Bride* (Arizona Theatre Company), *The Clean House* (Boise Contemporary Theater), Theatre Movement Bazaar's *Grail Project* and *Big Shot* (South Coast Repertory, Bootleg Theatre, and tours to China and Scotland), Four Larks's *The Temptation of St. Antony*, and *Prometheus Bound* (Getty Villa). Paula has received two Ovation Awards for her work in *The Temptation of St. Antony* (2015) and *Grail Project* (2019). She is currently performing in the LA production of *Stranger Things: The Experience*. Up next Paula will be working on Theatre Movement Bazaar's production of *Tiny Little Town* based on Gogol's *The Government Inspector*. Paula is delighted to be making her debut with Circle X. Paula holds a BFA from CalArts. www.paularebelo.com



EVA:

Tasha Ames had the thrill of working with Circle X in their acclaimed production of *Trevor*, with Laurie Metcalf and Jimmi Simpson, in 2015. She's ecstatic to be back with this stellar group of artists. Born and raised in Southern California, she attended NYU's Tisch before graduating from USC (BFA Theatre). Theater highlights: *Hooded Or Being Black For Dummies* (Echo Theater), *Miss Lilly Gets Boned* and *Honky* (Rogue Machine), *Kimberly Akimbo* and *Rabbit Hole* (Malibu Stage—Ovation Winner "Featured Actress"), *Crimes of the Heart* (Rubicon), *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof* (Edinburgh Fringe). Film/TV credits include: *Welcome To Chippendales*, *Little Fires Everywhere*, *Sicario: Day of the Soldado*, *Women And Sometimes Men*, *The Originals*, *Quickdraw*, *2 Broke Girls*, *Shameless*, the voice of French Fry on *Apple & Onion* and the upcoming Hulu adaptation of Cheryl Strayed's *Tiny Beautiful Things*. An eternal music seeker, she also works as a music supervisor/coordinator in television and film. Special thanks to Aaron LaPlante, the best partner anyone could have.



JON:

Casey Smith is the Circle X Theatre Associate Artistic Director of Original Programming as it Pertains to Himself. Originally from Seattle, WA, Casey has lived in Los Angeles for years and years and years. As a member of Circle X Theater Co., he has appeared in Paul Mullin's *Grendel*, Jillian Armenante and Alice Dodd's *Laura Comstock's Bag Punching Dog*, and Tom Jacobson's *Sperm*. His critically acclaimed show *At Play In The Valley Of The Shadow Of Chet* received an LA Weekly Award nomination for Solo Performance. His solo show *Violators Will Be Violated*, directed by Jennifer A. Skinner, won the 2009 LA Weekly Award for Solo Performance. *Violators Will Be Violated* appeared in the 2010 Hollywood and New York Fringe Festivals and by special invitation at the 2012 XFest

Festival of Experimental Theater in Edwardsville, Illinois. His most recent solo show, also directed by Jennifer A. Skinner, is called *At Some Point In The Process Of The End Of The World*. Other work in Los Angeles includes Arlecchino in Marivaux's *The Triumph of Love* (A Small Company and Chautauqua Theatre Alliance), Ike in David Davalos' *Darkfall* (Sacred Fools), and the Cow in Padraic Duffy's *Feet* (Sacred Fools). Before leaving Seattle, Casey created a show called *Frog1* with Chuck Harper and Jesse Aasheim, which premiered at Sit'n'Spin and was part of artsEdge Festival of Experimentation in the Arts. Other work with Aasheim and Harper includes Christopher Durang's *Titanic* and Joe Orton's *The Erpingham Camp*. Casey is a graduate of the University of Washington.



JORDAN:

Napoleon Tavale was born in American Samoa and raised in St. Paul, MN. He got his BA in Theatre from Whittier College and his MFA in Acting from University of Virginia. Tavale is grateful and proud to be making his Circle X Theatre debut. This is his 1st in person stage role since June '19! Coming up next, Tavale will make an appearance on NBC's revived television series, *Magnum P.I.* Follow & support on IG: @napoleontavale (currently looking for an LA based theatrical agent) Theatre: Griffith Park Shakespeare *Much Ado About Nothing*, Bootleg Theater *The Willows*, Shakespeare Orange County *Hamlet*, San Diego Repertory *The Oldest Boy*, Griot Theatre *Othello*, Victory Theatre *Our Lady of 121st Street*, Kingsmen Shakespeare Company *Hamlet / The Tempest* and East West Players (Theatre of Youth) TV: *American Horror Story*, *Hawaii Five-O*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Young & Hungry*, *The Fosters*, *NCIS: Los Angeles*, *NCIS: Hawai'i*, *Criminal Minds*, *CSI:NY*, *The Young & the Restless*, *General Hospital*, and recently a TV movie: *Groundswell* on Hallmark Movies & Mysteries starring Lacey Chabert.



HOWIE:

Rich Liccardo Originally a Chicagolander, Rich Liccardo is an actor, director, and educator living right here in Los Angeles. He started his career in New York, and quickly began globe hopping, teaching and performing on three continents. He spent a few years working with local drama groups and schools; teaching, devising new work, writing, and performing short plays, solo performance and Shakespeare. After returning to the United States, Mr. Liccardo spent several years both acting and teaching acting, voice and speech, improvisation, physical character, and movement with the Denver Center Theatre Company, Perry Mansfield Performing Arts School, Merrimack Rep, Colorado Theatre Guild, Studio School LA, The Echo Theatre Co, Joffrey Ballet School's summer intensive, The Rage, and most recently right here at Circle X. Mr. Liccardo received his MFA from the National Theatre Conservatory.
www.richardliccardo.wordpress.com



JANIE:

Charlotte Gulezian is an actor/writer/producer. She is nutty with delight to be working with Circle X again on this wondrously batty, tragic little comedy. Charlotte studied Film and Theatre for Social Change in undergrad and received an MFA in Acting from USC. Some favorite roles include *Blackbird* (Una), *Hit The Wall* (Peg) and *Fool For Love* (May) at her home theatre: The LA LGBT Center, *Stupid Fucking Bird* (Mash) at The Theater @ Boston Court/Circle X, and *Dracula* (Renfield) at Zach Theatre; Austin, Texas. Charlotte won the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award (Best Featured Performance) for her role as “Peg” in the LGBT Center’s production of Ike Holter’s *Hit the Wall*. She has won two LADCC awards, and has two Ovation and Stage Raw nominations. Charlotte has produced and directed in Boston, San Francisco, Austin and Los Angeles. Thank you to M'ladies Mara and Halena and Jen for creating such rad and important theatre and for bringin’ on a toothy gal like me. Also I love you so much Dharma, Kush & M’chong. ADOPT DON’T SHOP :))



OLD MAN 1 (Jan 19-22):

Bob Clendenin is extremely proud to have been a founding member of Circle X and is thrilled to be returning to their stage. Previous Circle X shows include *The Eight*, *City*, *Great Men of Science*, *Marley’s Ghost*, and most recently, *Trevor*. Other theatres include the Old Globe, The Utah Shakespeare Festival, Pennsylvania Center Stage, The Fulton Opera House and the Hangar Theatre. He lives in Burbank with his loving and patient wife Erin, two amazing boys, and an aloof pug named Marge. www.robertclendenin.com



OLD MAN 2 (Jan 26-29):

William Salyers is best known for voicing popular characters in animation and video games. Bill has lent his voice to such characters as Rigby in Cartoon Network’s Emmy Award-winning *Regular Show*, The Penguin in WB/DC’s animated features, *Return of the Caped Crusaders* and *Batman vs. Two-Face*, Reverend Putty in Adult Swim’s *Moral Orel*, and Joseph Stalin in WB/DC’s *Superman: Red Son*. In interactive entertainment, he has voiced Mordin Solus in *Mass Effect 3*, The Fixer in *Ratchet and Clank: Rift Apart*, Palmer in the *Final Fantasy VII Remake*, Hoffman in *Back 4 Blood*, Bruce Banner in Marvel’s *Midnight Suns*, and the performance-capture portrayal of Otto Octavius in Sony and Insomniac’s universally praised Marvel’s *Spider-Man* for PS4 and PS5. You may also hear him as Oswald Cobblepot in WB’s soon-to-be-released Elseworlds animated feature, *Batman: The Doom That Came to Gotham*. He is happy to return to the Circle X stage, where he has performed many roles over the years.



OLD MAN 3 (Feb 2-5):

John Getz has appeared On, Off, and Off Off, Broadway, the New York Shakespeare Festival in the Park and at Lincoln Center, at regional theatres across the country, Boston Court, Echo, and Circle X in LA in *The Brothers Karamazov* and *Eurydice*. In the films *The Fly*, *Blood Simple*, *Zodiac*, *Social Network*, *Trumbo*, and, most importantly, *Don't Tell Mom The Babysitter's Dead*. And all over your TV for decades, most recently *Alaska Daily*, *Doom Patrol*, *Dirty John*, and *Bosch*, and soon in *Fatal Attraction* and *The Last Of Us*. He's happy to be right here, right now.



OLD MAN 4 (Feb 9-12):

Jan Munroe has been involved with the creation of new performance work since early studies with Marcel Marceau and Etienne Decroux, where he also performed and toured with Le Palais Des Merveilles, a street circus whose pinnacle was a performance for Salvador Dali and his wife Gala in the living room of their home. In Los Angeles he was a founding member of The Mystic Knights of the Oingo-Boingo and the L.A. Mime Company before moving to the Bay Area and founding The Theatah of the Apres-Garde which explored the gray area that exists between theatre, movement and visual art that became know as "performance art". Other new work: *Alligator Tails* (published West Coast Plays, 1985), *Nothing Human Disgusts Me* (L.A. Weekly Best Solo Show, 1992), *Little Monsters* (for 5 performers and 27 tvs) and *Woodworks* (7 dancers and a percussion ensemble) to name a few. He is a recipient of two NEA Theatre fellowships, a California Arts Council New Genre fellowship, a second level Rockefeller Playwrights fellowship, 11 L.A. Weekly and Drama-Logue Awards for theatrical excellence and an Ovation Award as being part of the ensemble for *Waiting for Godot* at the Mark Taper Forum. As an actor, he has originated roles in premieres by Thomas Babe (*Demon Wine*, *LATC*), The Modern Artists Company's *Plato's Symposium*, Austin Pendleton's *Booth*, Bart DeLorenzo's *Hard Times* and 2022's *Detained* at the Fountain Theatre as well as appeared in numerous TV shows and movies. He had had an ongoing directorial relationship with John O'Keefe whose plays he's guided for the Open Fist Company and Padua Hills Playwrights Festival. He has also done a lot of designing, most recently *The Vibrator Play* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Open Fist Company and *A Hit Dog Will Holler* for Playwrights' Arena at the Skylight Theatre.



OLD MAN 5 (Feb 16-19):

Tony Amendola is a near 40-year veteran of film and television and theater. Among his film credits are Ted Demme's *Blow* with Johnny Depp; Martin Campbell's *The Mask of Zorro* alongside Anthony Hopkins and Antonio Banderas; and John Sayles's *Lone Star*, with Chris Cooper. Other memorable works include *Annabelle* and *The Meddler*. On television, Amendola has had recurring roles as the iconic Gepetto in ABC's *Once Upon a Time*, as well as Edouard Kagame in *Continuum* and Master Bra-tac in *STARGATE SG1*. Other TV guest appearances include roles on *Blackbird*, *Dexter*, *Seinfeld*, *West Wing*, *Will & Grace*, *Shooter* and *Law And Order*. Amendola spent the first 12 years of his professional life in the theatre. Appearing Off-Broadway in an acclaimed production of *Filumena* and in leading roles on the stages of America's top regional theatres, including the Mark Taper Forum, Berekeley Repertory, American Conservatory Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Oregon, Utah and California Shakespeare Festivals, La Jolla Playhouse and the Old Globe. His stage credits include *Cyrano*, *Iago*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Shylock*, *Salieri*, *Lear* and *Jack Henry Abbot* in *The Belly Of The Beast*. He also appeared at Disney Hall in their premiere First Night series for Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*. Tony's VO/MO-CAP work includes *World Of Warcraft*, *Black OPS* and *Star Wars*. In addition he is a founding member and past Co-Artistic Director of the Antaeus company, a well respected Los Angeles theatre dedicated to producing the Classics. Born in New Haven, Connecticut into a blue collar family, Tony was the first member of his family to attend college. He grew up on the East Coast before heading west to follow his dreams. He currently lives in Silver Lake with his wife Judith.



OLD MAN 6 (Feb 23-25):

Silas Weir Mitchell has been working steadily since the mid-nineties, appearing in many films as well as hundreds of episodes of TV. He is probably best known for his 6 seasons on NBC's *Grimm*, and 2 seasons on FOX's *Prison Break*, among many others — including *My Name Is Earl*, *Dexter*, *Six Feet Under*, *The Mentalist*, *Cold Case*, *Burn Notice*, *The Closer*, *The Shield*, *24*, *Law & Order*, *CSI*, *NYPD Blue*, *ER*, etc. He recently completed work on the new iteration of *Criminal Minds* for the Paramount+ network. On stage, Silas has appeared in New York Off-Broadway (Playwrights' Horizons, The Harold Clurman Theatre, HERE Theatre, Ludlow St. Theatre); in Los Angeles (Circle X, The Actors' Gang, Atwater Village Theatre, Stella Adler Theatre, The MET Theatre, Zoo District); and regionally in California (La Jolla Playhouse), Ohio (The Porthouse Theatre) and most recently in Oregon at the Portland Center Stage in *Constellations* and a revival of *Three Days of Rain*, both under the direction of Chris Coleman. He has produced and directed numerous revivals both in New York and Los Angeles, and has helped generate and shape numerous new works.

UNDERSTUDY CAST



SOFIA'S MOTHER:

Elizabeth Rainey is a Los Angeles based theatre artist, teaching artist and foley artist who loves LA and it's many, varied stories. She has worked as an actor, director, teaching artist, and community dialogue facilitator with various theatre and social justice organizations throughout LA including as the program director of the nationally recognized, Will Power to Youth (SCLA). As a foley artist she designs and performs sound effects for the Film and TV industry. She is always on the lookout for opportunities to talk about feelings and to dismantle the patriarchy.



SOFIA:

Melissa Ortiz is overjoyed to work with Circle X. Favorite roles include: Lizzy in *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley* (Marin Theatre Company), Anna in *Anna Considers Mars* (PlayGround), Ariel in *Shoot Me When...* (SF Playhouse), Gemma in *FLIGHT* (PlayGround Solo Fest), Regan in *King Lear* (SF Shakes), Masha in *The Seagull* (Utopia) and many more. She has done a bunch of commercials recently... so that's probably why she looks familiar to you! She received her MFA from the National Theatre Conservatory. Love to her family and insanely talented husband.



EVA:

Charlotte Gulezian See BIO in MAIN CAST



JON:

Christian Haines is excited to work with Circle X. Acting Credits include: *Straight White Men* (MTC), *Water by the Spoonful* (Cygnet), *Sapience*, *Anna Considers Mars*, *Value Over Replacement* (Playground), *Operation Ajax* (Little Fish), *Death of a Salesman*, *This is Our Youth* (Actors Theater of SF), *Bartleby the Scrivener* (The Albatross) and dozens more. He is the founding artistic director of Amios and AmiosWest where he has acted and directed hundreds of short plays. He holds an MFA from the National Theatre Conservatory and loves his wife, Melissa Ortiz.



HOWIE:

MJ Sieber is thrilled to make his Circle X debut with *Do You Feel Anger?* A recent transplant from Seattle, some previous theatrical credits include: Vanya in *Life Sucks* (Cygnet Theatre/San Diego), *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Outside Mullingar*, *Dry Powder*, *Photograph 51*, *What the Constitution Means to Me* (Seattle Rep), *Oslo*, *The Crucible*, *Lt. of Inishmore*, *Stupid Fucking Bird* (ACT Theatre), *Native Son* (Intiman), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Winters Tale* (Seattle Shakespeare Co.), *Gutenberg the Musical*, *Prelude to a Kiss*, *The Elephant Man* (StrawShop), *Barefoot in the Park*, *Sleuth*, *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Village Theatre). He was a founding member and Associate Artistic Director of New Century Theatre Company appearing in their award winning productions of *The Adding Machine*, *O Lovely Glowworm*, *Festen* and directed the West Coast Premiere of Annie Baker's Pulitzer Prize winner *The Flick*. Film and Television: *Z Nation* (SyFy), *Danger Diva*, *Grassroots*, *The Gift* and *News Team 9*. Find out more at: mjsieber.com



JORDAN:

Zackary Stone Gearing is an actor from Las Vegas, Nevada. He's been acting since he was 11 years old and has been acting professionally in Los Angeles since 2017. Before making his way to LA, he received the award for best duet scene at the International Thespian Festival in 2012. In 2017, he received his BFA in acting from CALarts, and he's been at it ever since. His first few paid acting gigs were in commercials, including brands such as Diet Coke and Google. In 2019, he had the pleasure of portraying a troubled ex-Marine named Isaac in Taylor Mac's groundbreaking play, *H/R*, directed by Bart Delorenzo at the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble. Later that same year, he was cast as Mickey in Gregory S. Moss's *punkplay*, which coincidentally was his first time working with the fearless team here at Circle X. Since then, Zack's work in the commercial world has expanded to work with companies such as Dos Equis, Noodles & Co., and Volvo. Zack is absolutely elated to be working with Circle X once again, and he is honored to be understudying for Jordan in Mara Nelson-Greenberg's *Do You Feel Anger*. He wishes you all a lovely time at the theatre and hopefully you'll leave here with a need to return for more. Thank you and enjoy your time with us here at Circle X.



JANIE:

Kat Haan is an actor and theatre-maker based in Los Angeles. She first worked with Circle X in 2010 as the stage manager for *The Good Book of Pedantry and Wonder*, a co-production with the Theatre @ Boston Court. She joined the staff in the fall of 2010 and has worn many hats (both literal and figurative) working on productions of *The Chinese Massacre (Annotated)*, *Bad Apples*, *Naked Before God*, *Stupid Fucking Bird*, and *Trevor*, in addition to many readings and workshops. She stepped into the role of Literary Director in 2021. Kat has also had the opportunity to work with Amios NYC, Antaeus Theatre Company, Boston Court, East West Players, The Falcon Theatre, The Getty Villa, Troubadour Theatre Company, Shakespeare's Globe, and the Edinburgh, Ithaca, and Toronto Fringe Festivals. She holds an MA in Theatre from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

CREATIVE TEAM

KAT HAAN (Producer)

See BIO in UNDERSTUDY CAST

JEN KAYS (Producer)

Jen Kays is a painter and theatre-maker living in Los Angeles. She joined Circle X in 2003 and has worked on over 40 productions on the west coast as an actor, producer, director, dramaturg and scenic painter. In addition to her work with Circle X, Jen has collaborated with Ghost Road, Boston Court, Teatr ZAR, Temporary Space LA, Odyssey Theatre Ensemble, Printer's Devil, Shakespeare Festival LA and Center Theatre Group; she has performed at The Broadwater, The Getty Villa, South Coast Repertory, and The Grotowski Institute in Warsaw, Poland. Jenkays.com

TIM WRIGHT (Producer)

Graduate of Montclair State University with a BFA in Theatre. After Graduation, Tim served as Managing Director of 12 Miles West Theatre Co., and then as general manager of Circle X before taking on the role of Artistic Director in 2004. Tim stepped down as Artistic Director in 2018 and assumed the role of Executive Director. Recent producing credits include *Battle Hymn*, *Naked Before God* and *Lascivious Something* for Circle X at [Inside] The Ford, Co-Produced *The Good Book of Pedantry & Wonder* and *Stupid Fucking Bird* with The Theatre @ Boston Court, and produced *Bad Apples*, *Trevor* and *An Undivided Heart* (Co-Production with Echo Theatre) for Circle X at Atwater Village Theatre (AVT) where the company has been in residence since 2009. Tim co-founded AVT and is responsible for the management and day to day operations of the four-theatre performing arts complex, which is home to several L.A. based theatre companies.

MARA NELSON-GREENBERG (Playwright)

Mara Nelson-Greenberg's work has been produced or developed at the Vineyard Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Playwrights Horizons, Clubbed Thumb, SPACE on Ryder Farm, Berkeley Rep and ACT Theatre, among others. She is a former member of Youngblood at Ensemble Studio Theater and Clubbed Thumb's Early Career Writers Group. She received her MFA from UC-San Diego under Naomi Iizuka.

HALENA KAYS (Director)

Halena Kays is a theater maker from Chicago. She is an Artistic Associate with the Neo-Futurists where she has directed the world premieres of *Wildcats*, *Comfortable Shoes*, *Pop/Waits*, *44 Plays for 44 Presidents*, *Burning Bluebeard*, *Daredevils*, *Daredevils Hamlet* and *Fake Lake*. Selected Chicago directing credits: *Endgame*, *Ivywild*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author* (The Hypocrites); *The Magic Play* (The Goodman), *Lord of the Flies* (Steppenwolf); *How a Boy Falls* (Northlight Theatre); *On Clover Road* (American Blues Theater); *Feast* (part of a collaboration) with The Albany Park Theatre Project (The Goodman). Regionally: *The Welkin* (Nashville Story Garden), *The Magic Play* (The Olney Theater Center, The Actor's Theater of Louisville, Portland Center Stage and Syracuse Stage), *Love Song* (Nashville Story Garden), and *Secretary* (Nashville Rep's Ingram New Works Festival). Halena is a founding member of The Ruffians, former member of the Big Apple Circus Clown Care unit, and past AD of The Hypocrites and Playmakers Lab. Halena is an assistant professor of MFA acting and directing at Northwestern University. She has been nominated for Jefferson awards for Best Supporting Actress, Best Direction, Best New Work, and Best Production, and is a recipient of the prestigious 3Arts award. Proud member, SDC.

LEE HANNAH CONRADS (Assistant Director)

Lee Hannah Conrads is a LA-based theater director, raised and trained in the Midwest, whose productions ask big questions, wrestle with paradox, and stage impossible things. Lee is also a staff member at Circle X and the producer of the Evolving Playwrights Group. Recent directing credits include *Indecent* (Carleton College), *Roots*, an evening of one-acts (Theater of Note), *Vinegar Tom*, *Three Sisters*, and *The Burial at Thebes* (Northwestern University), *If We Were Birds* and *The Naked I: Insides Out* (20% Theatre Company Twin Cities), *Trestle* at Pope Lick Creek (Carleton College), *No Exit*, *Medea* and *Winter House* (The Amber Bastards), as well as assistant directing credits in Chicago at Steppenwolf and Northlight, in Minneapolis at Ten Thousand Things, Mixed Blood, and the Playwright's Center, and in New York at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival. Lee holds a BA from Carleton College, and an MFA from Northwestern University. leeannahconrads.com

FRANÇOIS-PIERRE COUTURE (Set and Lighting Designer)

Originally from Montréal, Canada, François-Pierre Couture has been working in Los Angeles, his adoptive home, and the United States as a scenic, lighting and projection designer since 2006. His multifaceted and dynamic approach to his craft has given him the opportunity to work across multiple environments and venues. As a visual artist, he focusses on street pen-&-pencil sketches and mix media paintings, aiming at capturing the vibrancy and complexity of the rich, and often disjointed layers of Los Angeles. His theater designs include: *Romeo & Juliette* (Paris) L.A. Dance Project *Metamorphoses*, *Frankenstein*, *A Noise Within*. *The Present*, *The Future*, *Invisible Tango*, Geffen Playhouse; *Everything that Never Happened*, *With Love and Major Organ*, Boston Court Theatre; *Destiny of Desire*, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Arena Stage Theatre, South Coast Repertory & Goodman Theatre; *Jackie Unveiled*, Wallis Theatre; *The Mexican Trilogy*, *an American History*, Los Angeles Theatre Center; *Carmen Jones*, *Metamorphoses*, *Everything is Illuminated*, Ensemble Theatre Company. Instagram @fpcouturedesign @fpcouturestudio www.fpcouture.com

STEPHEN AZUA (Lighting Designer)

Stephen is delighted for his very first light design at Circle X Theatre. He is usually found at East Los Angeles College, light designing productions and educating students in technical theatre and design. Previous Theatres and organizations he has designed lights for include Los Angeles Dance Project at their 2022 Gala, and The Black Hills Playhouse designing *Steel Magnolias*, *Grease*, and *The Boys Next Door*, among others.

JESSE MANDAPAT (Sound Designer)

Jesse Mandapat has been nominated in Los Angeles for a 2021 Ovation Award in Sound Design for *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Greenway Court Theatre). Off-Broadway highlights: *Bundle of Sticks* (INTAR), *Tell Hector I Miss Him* (Atlantic Theatre Company), *Fool For Love* (Theatre for the New City), *Fish Men* (INTAR), *Locusts Have No King* (INTAR). Los Angeles highlights: *West Adams* (Skylight Theatre), *Red Ink* (Playwright's Arena), *Defenders* (The Broadwater), *The Chinese Lady* (Artists At Play), *Be A Good Little Widow* (Odyssey Theater Ensemble), *Exit Strategy* (LA LGBT Center), *1984* (Greenway Court Theatre). Special projects: *The Castle Rock Live Experience* (San Diego Comic-Con 2018), *The Fantastic Kim Sisters* (East West Players Theatre For Youth) and *What Goes Around* (Kaiser Permanente Educational Theatre). He has a BA in Music from UC San Diego, MFA in Sound Design from CalArts.

DIANNE K. GRAEBNER (Costume Designer)

Dianne K. Graebner (Costume Designer) has designed costumes (and won some awards and nominations along the way) for well over 100 productions nationally and internationally. She has originated the costumes for many new works and world premieres. Some of her favorite credits include: *Church & State* Off-Broadway 2017, *Fallen Angels* (Indy award-Santa Barbara), *Breath & Imagination* at The Colony (NAACP nomination), *The Judas Kiss*, *The Brothers Karamazov* (Ovation nomination) and *Battle Hymn* (L.A. Weekly nomination) for Circle X Theatre Co. just to mention a few. She is a member of United Scenic Artists Local-829. www.diannegraebner.com

KAT HAAN (Prop Master)

See BIO in UNDERSTUDY CAST

RICHARD "AUGIE" MAHER (Specialty Prop Designer)

Richard grew up in Southern California and began 'adapting' toys and household items into props at a young age. After receiving his MFA he moved to Los Angeles and co-founded the award winning Circle X Theatre Co. Among their many awards is one from the LA Weekly Awards for his set design. His transition from theater to film and television included 13 years of prop and set building for Universal Studios *Halloween Horror Nights*, and creating larger than life props for the Emmy winning *The Aquabats Supershow!* He is the primary Prop Master for Arête Custom Builds, (www.aretela.com), where he has created wild and diverse props for shows including *Paradise Run*, *Double Dare*, *Forged in Fire: Knife or Death*, and most recently, *The Final Straw* among many others. He is always excited and honored to assist his Circle X family when he can!

ROELLA DELLOSA (Production Stage Manager)

Roella earned her BA in Theater this past year at the University of California, Los Angeles with a concentration in Stage Management and Directing. Recent credits include *Driver's Seat* (SM) at Theatre 68 Arts Complex, *Remembering the Future* (SM) at the Odyssey Theatre, *On Warner Street* (Co-Producer, SM) at the Pacific Resident Theater, *Venus in Fur* (SM) at the Atwater Village Theater, *How We Got On* (ASM) with Sacred Fools Theater Company and *She Kills Monsters* (SM) and *Now. Here. This.* (Assistant Director) through UCLA's Theater Department. Roella is excited and grateful to be working with this wonderful group of theater makers. She would especially like to thank her family and friends for their constant love and support.

YAESOL JEONG (Assistant Stage Manager)

Yaesol Jeong (She/Her) is an LA-based Stage Manager who recently worked on *The Conduct of Life* by María Irene Fornés at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. As a result of her enduring passion for art and culture, Yaesol has been a recipient of the Colburn Community School of Performing Arts Scholarship, a member of the Conservatory of Fine Arts Program, and beneficiary of the Global Citizen Scholarship. Her deeply rooted background in music and fine arts education has rounded her to be a competent Stage Manager, with a B.A. in Theatre Arts at California State University, Fullerton. Dedicated to the theatre, she is passionate about creating dramatic, sensational, and engaging live productions.

STAFF

JEN KAYS (Artistic Director)

See BIO in CREATIVE TEAM

TIM WRIGHT (Executive Director)

See BIO in CREATIVE TEAM

KAT HAAN (Literary Director)

See BIO in UNDERSTUDY CAST

NICOLE LE (Literary Associate)

Nicole lives in San Diego, California. She joined Circle X as a reader in 2017 and has been involved in literary discovery and development ever since. She has worked with the lit departments at South Coast Repertory, The Playwrights' Center, and The Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, and previously served on Literary Council for The Bay Area Playwrights Festival. Most recently, Nicole led the 2022 cohort of Circle X's Evolving Playwrights Group.

LEE HANNAH CONRADS (The Evolving Playwrights Group Producer)

See BIO in CREATIVE TEAM

ELIZABETH RAINEY (Director of Community Engagement)

See BIO in UNDERSTUDY CAST

KATHLEEN RESEGGER (Membership Director)

Kathleen was introduced to Circle X in 2007 and jumped into stage managing after not working in the Theater since graduating from UCLA in 2000. She has worked with the Reading Series, Stage Managing, and Front of House. After leaving to do bit of traveling, she's back and excited to be working with the company again.

CASEY SMITH (Associate Artistic Director of Original Programming for Projects Related to Himself)

See BIO in MAIN CAST

CIRCLE X'S MISSION

Circle X Theatre Co. is a not-for-profit ensemble of artists dedicated to highly provocative, boldly theatrical productions of new and rarely-seen plays and the development of new works for the stage. We believe in imagination over budget, adrenaline over inertia, irreverence over convention and excellence over all.

Circle X Theatre Co. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit. To make a donation, please visit CircleXTheatre.org or talk to a staff member. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Circle X Theatre Co. is currently located at Atwater Village Theatre which stands on the traditional territories of the Tongva, Chumash, and Kizh people, who stewarded this land for generations. We respectfully offer this acknowledgment as a commitment to beginning the process of dismantling the ongoing legacies of colonialism. We invite you to consider the land on which you live and the legacies which have converged to bring you to the place you stand today.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

Circle X Theatre Co. is supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, The Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles via their CARES Act, Capital Group Companies, Kinetic Lighting, our preferred lighting rental company, as well as individual donations from people including Jay Bevan, Matt Bretz, Bob Clendenin, Carol des Cognets, Susanna Erdos, Joe Gold, Nicki Heskin, Kate Jopson, Jen Kays, Vernon Kays, Ilana Krechmer, Charles Kuehmann, Jim Leonard, Jeffrey Lopez, Peter Donald Maher III, Myron Meisel, Tim Miller, Heather Narulli, Elizabeth Rainey, Camille Schenkkan, Maria Vasileva, Annie Yee, Sabina Zuniga Varela

If you are in a position to give, we would appreciate your support. It helps us to continue to offer programming while we wait to get back in the theatre again.

Donations can be made at: <https://www.circlextheatre.org/donate>



CIRCLE X PRODUCTION HISTORY

* denotes World Premiere

2019

punkplay

By Gregory S. Moss
Co-Directed by
Matt Bretz and
Lisa Sanaye Dring

2018

*Hole In The Sky**

By Octavio Solis
Directed by
Kate Jopson

*An Undivided
Heart**

By Yusuf Toropov
Directed by
Chris Fields
(A co-production
with Echo Theater
Company)

2017

*Fefu and Her
Friends*

By Maria Irene
Fornes
Directed by
Kate Jopson
(A J.U.S.T. Toys
production in
association with
Circle X Theatre
Co.)

*Liana and Ben**

By Susan Rubin
Directed by
Mark Bringelson

2016

*Bad Apples**

By Jim Leonard
Directed by
John Langs
Music and Lyrics
by Beth Thornley
and Rob Cairns
(A co-production
with ACT – A
Contemporary
Theatre and
ArtsWest in Seattle,
Washington)

Death Play

By Lisa Sanaye
Dring
Directed by
Jessica Hanna

2015

*ICU**

By Fielding Edlow
Directed by
Brian Shnipper

Trevor

By Nick Jones
Directed by
Stella Powell-Jones

At Some Point In

*The Process Of
The End Of The
World**

By Casey Smith
Directed by
Jennifer A. Skinner

2013/2014

Stupid Fucking Bird

By Aaron Posner
Directed by
Michael Michetti
(A co-production
with The Theatre
@ Boston Court)

2012/2013

*Bad Apples**

By Jim Leonard
Directed by
John Langs
Music by Beth
Thornley and
Rob Cairns

2011/2012

*Naked Before
God**

Written and
Directed by
Leo Geter

*Circle X-Mas**

By Larry Clarke,
Fielding Edlow,
Leo Geter,
Brian Groh,
Bill Lawrence,
Mike O'Malley,
Tim Mason, and
Lina Patel

2010/2011

The Chinese

*Massacre
(Annotated)**
By Tom Jacobson
Directed by Jeff Liu

Sex/Love or

Love/Sex:

Circle X 10-Minute
Play Festival*

By Lee Blessing,
James Duff,
Fielding Edlow,
Leo Geter,
Jim Leonard,
Timothy Mason,
Melanie Marnich,
Mike O'Malley, and
Meredith Stiehm

The Good Book

*of Pedantry &
Wonder**

(A co-production
with The Theatre
@ Boston Court)
By Moby
Pomerance
Directed by
John Langs

Lascivious

*Something**

By Sheila
Callaghan
Directed by
Paul Willis

Violators Will Be

*Violated**

By Casey Smith
Directed by
Jennifer A. Skinner

2008/2009

*Battle Hymn**

By Jim Leonard
Directed by
John Langs

2007/2008

The Flu Season

By Will Eno
Directed by
Jonathan
Westerberg

Love Loves a

*Pornographer**

By Jeff Goode
Directed by
Jillian Armenante

2006/2007

Eurydice

By Sarah Ruhl
Adapted by
John Langs

The Bigger Man

By Sam Marks
Directed by
David Vegh

2005/2006

The Brothers

Karamazov

Adapted by
Anthony Clarvoe
Directed by
John Langs

King Henry IV

part 1
(in association
with SFLA)
By William
Shakespeare
Directed by
Tara Flynn

2004

*Sperm**

By Tom Jacobson
Directed by
Tim Wryght and
Tara Flynn

2003

Marley's Ghost

By Jeff Goode
Directed by
Matthew Bretz

2002

Laura Comstock's

Bag-Punching

*Dog**

By Jillian
Armenante,
Alice Dodd and
Chris Jeffries
Directed by
Jillian Armenante

An American Book

of the Dead – The

*Game Show**

By Paul Mullin
Directed by
Jim Anzide and
Jonathan
Westerberg

*ElectroPuss**

By Trista Baldwin
Directed by
Paula Goldberg

2001

Dirigible

By Dan Dietz
Directed by
Debbie Falb

Grendel

By John Gardner
Adapted by
Paul Mullin
Directed by
Jim Anzide

*Schadenfreude**

By Carlos A. Murillo
Directed by
Jonathan
Westerberg

Edward II

By Bertolt Brecht
Directed by
Michael Michetti

2000

*The Veil Plays**

By Karen Hartman
Directed by
Julia Hamilton

In Flagrate

*Gothicto**

By Alice Dodd and
Jillian Armenante
Directed by
Jillian Armenante

*Fathers and Sons**

By Ivan Turgenev
Adapted by
Brian Senter
Directed by
Michael Jaeger

1999

Louis Slotin

*Sonata**

By Paul Mullin
Directed by
Jim Anzide and
Jonathan
Westerberg

*Beatrice**

By Suzanne
Maynard
Directed by
Michael Michetti

Show and Tell

By Anthony
Clarvoe
Directed by
Luck Hari

In the Sherman

Family Wax

Museum

By Alexander Woo
Directed by
Wade McIntyre

1998

*Texarkana Waltz**

By Louis Broome
Directed by
Allison Narver

The Rover

By Aphra Behn
Directed by
Michael Michetti

Great Men of

Science Nos. 21

*and 22**

By Glen Berger
Directed by
Jillian Armenante

1997

The Eight

By Jeff Goode
Directed by
Richard Augustine

*City**

By Scott Organ
Directed by
Martha McFarland

1996

The Eight

By Jeff Goode
Directed by John
Lovick