

MAMA METAL

A **WORLD PREMIERE** PLAY BY SIGRID GILMER
DIRECTED BY DEENA SELENOW

iama

Photo by
Rick Proctor



A LETTER FROM OUR ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

As we look towards the next ten years of IAMA and beyond, we are excited about the future. Not only the future of our ensemble, but the future of LA theater. We believe in the strength of this theater community and are dedicated to ensuring it's vitality through new works. At the core of IAMA is our love of collaboration. For LA theater to really thrive we must all come together and that is why we have built our 2018/2019 season around partnerships with other theaters in LA. Our season begins as guests of the Pasadena Playhouse with the LA premiere of AMERICAN HERO by Bess Wohl. We have been developing new work by Bess since IAMA was created and to finally have the chance to produce her work in LA is so thrilling for us. She is a strong voice which has been gaining attention across the country for over a decade and we couldn't be prouder to bring this comedy to the IAMA stage. We continue to partner this winter with the world premiere of IAMA company member, Jon Caren's CANYON with the Latino Theater Company. We are so lucky to continue our relationship with Jon, after winning the Ovation Award for Best Production for his play THE RECOMMENDATION and we couldn't be more thrilled to begin a new relationship with LTC. LTC shares the same ensemble values that IAMA was built on, we couldn't ask for a better collaboration for LA Theater. We conclude our season with our commitment to produce LA playwright, Sigrid Gilmer's MAMA METAL. This play began as a collaboration with the Humanitas Play LA festival in 2017 and will now move on to a world premiere production. In a time when the arts need all the help they can get, we believe it is our duty as theater artists to reach out and hold the hands of those around us. We are all LA Theater!

Stefanie Black, Katie Lowes, and Christian Durso
IAMA Co-Artistic Directors



MAMA METAL

written by SIGRID GILMER
directed by DEENA SELENOW

Producer: Lexi Sloan
Associate Producers: Camille Jenkins & Jeff Lorch*
Associate Director: Rachel Berney Needleman
Stage Manager: Alina Goodman
Assistant Stage Manager: Kimberly Sanchez
Lighting Designer: R.S. Buck
Props: Shen Heckel
Costume Designer: Halei Parker**
Sound Designer: Jeff Gardner*+ **
Scenic Designer: James Maloof
Scenic Assistant: Sydnie Ponic
Technical Director: Justin Huen*
Casting: Jordan Bass, CSA
Publicity: Lucy Pollak

CAST LIST

Sterling Milburn.....Courtney Sauls*
Louise/Belle.....Lee Sherman
Jon Adam Webb.....Rodney To*
CC Matson.....Chris Gardner*
Bruce Henry.....Graham Sibley*+
Shane Siegel.....Jamie Wollrab*
Pink Orchid.....Christian Telesmar
Blue Orchid.....Cesar Cipriano*

The world premiere of Mama Metal by Sigrid Gilmer was presented by IAMA Theatre Company at Atwater Village Theatre, Los Angeles, CA
Developed in the Colorado New Play Summit by the Denver Center for the Performing Arts Theatre Company.

* Indicates Member of IAMA Theatre Company
+ Indicates Member of Actor's Equity Association
** Indicates Member of IATSE Local 829

CAST



Courtney Sauls* (Sterling Milburn) hails from Houston, TX. After studying acting at Houston's prestigious High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, Courtney went on to receive her BFA from NYU. Theatre credits include: *Little Children Dream Of God* with The Road Theatre and *Sinners Laundry* with IAMA. Film/television credits include: *Dear White People* on Netflix and short film *Girl Callin* with Refinery 29.



Lee Sherman (Louise/Belle) is OTM to be a part of IAMA's production of MM! Thank you Sigrid, for your brilliant mind. Most recently Lee can be seen as Sister Patricia in *Shameless* and recurring as the Director of, '*This Is Mars*' on *Jane the Virgin*. Her pinnacle of achievement in live theatre was doing *Un-Rule-Lee*, Off Broadway.



Rodney To* (Jon Adam Webb) TV: *Barry, Parks and Recreation, Redliners, Corporate, You're the Worst, NCIS, Modern Family, New Girl, Rosewood, Wilfred*. THEATRE: IAMA, CTG, Echo Theater Company, Playwrights Arena, The Public Theater, South Coast Rep, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Victory Gardens, Steppenwolf AWARDS: LA Ovation Award Nomination, Chicago's Joseph Jefferson Nomination, Stage Raw Nomination, Chicago Filipino-American Hall of Fame Inductee. FACULTY: USC



Chris Gardner* (CC Matson) is an award nominated actor (NAACP, *Sunset Baby*) whose career has spanned theater, television, film, print, and radio. Hailing from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, Chris began his work in television on HBO's, *Oz* and NBC's *Law & Order*. Since being in L.A. he's racked up many guest appearances on shows such as *The Practice, The West Wing, Hart of Dixie, Pretty Little Liars* and *NCIS*. Some of his theater credits include

Unbound (IAMA/Hudson Theater), *The America Play* (Theater @ Boston Court), *Sunset Baby* (Odyssey Theater). He is also an accomplished voice-over actor *Star Trek: Into Darkness*, the animated feature *Jungle Shuffle*. Many video games including *Batman: Arkham Asylum, Arkham City, World of Warcraft*.



Graham Sibley* (Bruce Henry) is a founding member of IAMA Theatre Company and that has allowed him the opportunity to work with many more amazing people -- check out www.grahamsibley.com. Thanks to Sigrid, Deena and the IAMA fam for making this production a reality. Love to Marilyn, the boys and my So-Cal fam.



Jamie Wollrab* (Shane Siegel) recent credits include Tod in the West Coast Premiere of *Stockholm*, The Son in Adam Rapp's *Nocturne*, then he starred in the west coast premiere of *The French Waitress* by John Patrick Shanely. Film: *I Won't Say I Love You & Punching Bag* directed by Jamie Anderson and *Always Remember Me* directed by Nell Teare. Other theatre: *Gruesome Playground Injuries, The Glass Menagerie, Red Light Winter, North of Providence, Mud, Miss Julie* to name a few. Jamie is a proud member of IAMA Theatre Company and is the Artistic Director of

The Triptych Theatre Group.



Christian Telesmar (Pink Orchid) is thrilled to be making his IAMA debut. He is best known for his work as Agent Keene in *Bones* on FOX, Danny in The Road Theater Company's *Friends with Guns* and *Othello* with the Montana Shakespeare Company. He obtained his MFA from the University of Washington. www.ChristianTelesmar.com



Cesar Cipriano* (Blue Orchid) Career highlights include: the National Tours of *Miss Saigon* and *the King and I*. Regional: *Romeo and Juliet, Othello, Pacific Overtures, Be Like Water*. TV: *Being Mary Jane, 2 Broke Girls, The New Girl, and Parenthood*. Film: *Insight, Coffeehouse Chronicles, Dark Intentions, Die Fighting, and Valley of Angels*. Web Series: *Pretty Dudes, In the Moment, How To Survive the Zombie Apocalypse*. Plus many print ads.

Instagram: @cesarcipriano Twitter: @cesarcipriano



chandra thomas* (understudy - Sterling Milburn) Originally from New York, chandra thomas is an award-winning actor-writer-producer. Several of her theatre credits include Public Theater, New York Theatre Workshop, SoHo Rep, Guthrie Theater, Centerstage. Some television and film credits include *Labor Day*, *9-1-1*, *Law & Order: SVU*, *Blue Bloods*, *The Good Wife*, *Complete Sentences?* As a writer and producer, chandra has worked in film, theatre and digital content.

Instagram: @chandraithomas | Twitter: @chandra7thomas



Sumerlyn Haynes (understudy - Louise/Belle) is an LA-based actor. She has performed in a multitude of plays including *The Butterfly That Stamped*, *Twelve Angry Jurors*, and *Our Country's Good*. She has also played lead roles in several independent films including *Young Harvest*, *The Butchers*, *The Audition*, and *Contract: Redemption*.



Matt Mendoza (understudy - Jon Adam Webb) was raised in Toronto, Canada. He earned his Bachelor's in Film from Queen's University before training in NYC at Lee Strasberg, Stella Adler, and with famed acting coach Robert X. Modica. He spends his time playing guitar, riding his motorcycle, and contemplating ways to embellish his meager accomplishments.



Garrett Mercer (understudy – CC Matson) is proud to make his debut with IAMA Theatre Company. He most recently played Ethan Cross in *The Tragedy: A Comedy for Ammunition* Theatre company, of which he is a founding member. You can see him make his feature film debut in *Ice Cream in the Cupboard* this fall.



Bryan Staggers* (understudy – Bruce Henry) is a proud Mountaineer from wild and wonderful West Virginia. He is ecstatic to be working with IAMA for the first time! Love to his friends and family. Regional Theatre: *Hair* (Woof), *The Lost Colony* (John Borden). TV: *Animal Kingdom*, *WestWorld*. www.bryanstaggers.com @bryanstaggers. Rock on!



Kellan Rhude (understudy – Shane Siegel) This production marks Kellan's debut with IAMA and the professional theatre scene in Los Angeles. He is excited to work on this show because— "new work are the plays that enlighten us to a wiser future." He can currently be seen in *The Axe Murders of Villisca* on Netflix and has a leading role in the upcoming WWII feature *Dog Company* based on the battle at Pointe Du Hoc which will be released later this year. He holds a BFA in

Theatre Arts- Performance from Boston University.



Jemar Michael (understudy – Pink Orchid) is a Minneapolis native with an incredible passion for the arts. Living in LA, Jemar has worked with some of the top directors in the industry. You can currently catch him on Netflix's *Dear White People* with Season 3 coming soon!



DT Matias* (understudy – Blue Orchid) BA in Molecular Cell Biology and a Music Minor from UC Berkeley. Fave Credits: *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Beijing Spring*, *Chess* and *A Little Night Music* at East West Players; *Snow White* at Disneyland; International Tour of *A Chorus Line*; TV: *Lethal Weapon*, *Criminal Minds*, *The Defenders*, *The Ex List*, *Commander In Chief*.

CREATIVE TEAM



Sigrid Gilmer (Playwright) makes black comedies that are historically bent, totally perverse, joyfully irreverent and concerned with issues of identity, pop culture and contemporary American society. Sigrid burst onto the national theater scene with her play *Harry and the Thief*, an action film/historical/time travel play about a thief who is blackmailed into traveling back in time to deliver a cache of arms to Harriet Tubman. It has since been produced across the country, including runs at the Pavement Group (Chicago), the Know Theatre (Cincinnati), and the Skylight Theatre (LA).

Additional select works include *Slavey* (Clubbed Thumb), *Seed: A Weird Act of Faith, It's All Bueno* (Cornerstone Theater Company), *Filly*, and *White 3: Manifestdestinyland*. Her television work includes: *A Series of Unfortunate Events* (Netflix) and *Claws* (TNT). Sigrid has an MFA in Writing for Performance from Cal Arts, where she was mentored by Suzan-Lori Parks. She resides in Los Angeles.



Deena Selenow (Director) is a director for live performance: REDCAT, East West Players, LATC/Watts Village, La Jolla Playhouse WoW Festival/Chalk Rep, Ammunition Theater, Fountain Theatre, Skirball Cultural Center, Hammer Museum, LA LGBT Center, Machine Project, O'Neill Center, PRELUDE Festival, among others. Faculty: CalArts School of Theater. BFA: NYU, MFA: CalArts. www.deenaselenow.com

Shen Heckel (Prop Designer) is primarily a theatre director and producer but his passion for creating and attention to detail the main factors in why he often finds himself designing props. Shen has worked in many theatre around town including East West Players, The Fountain, Skylight Theatre, Center Theatre Group and The Geffen Playhouse to name a few. He also is the managing director of After Hours Theatre Company which specializes in immersive and tradition theatre infusion. For more info please visit <http://shenheckel.weebly.com>

James Maloof (Set Designer) Thank You Deena and IAMA Theatre Company LOS ANGELES: The Fountain Theatre, UCLA, South Coast Rep, Geffen Playhouse NEW YORK: The York Theatre Company, Origin Theatre, The Irish Rep, AADA, Pace University ATLANTA: Theatrical Outfit, Dad's Garage Theatre, Alliance Theatre For the Very Young, Habima Theatre.

Halei Parker** (Costume Designer) is an Ovation nominated and LA based costume designer for theatre, dance, opera, and film. She is thrilled to be working with IAMA for the first time. Halei's designs can be seen on stages all across LA, most recently at Walt Disney Concert Hall, The Getty Villa, East West Players, The El Portale, Rogue Machine Theatre, and Odyssey Theatre. Halei is a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829, holds an MFA in Costume Design from UC San Diego, and a BFA in Theatre Design from University of North Texas. www.HaleiParker.com

R.S. Buck (Lighting Designer) is an international lighting designer for performance and mixed media, and a creator of immersive environments and interactive art. Their performance designs have been seen in LA at the Ford, the Wallis, REDCAT, LATC, and more. MFA in Design from CalArts; BA in Dramatic Arts from UNC-Chapel Hill

Jeff Gardner*** (Sound Designer) Previous designs for IAMA include *The Recommendation*, *A Dog's House*, and *Canyon*. Other designs include *Les Blancs* for Rogue Machine Theatre (Ovation Nomination, Stage Raw Award); *Native Son* for The Antaeus Company (LADCC, Stage Raw Award); *Dry Land* at the Kirk Douglas Theatre (Ovation Award); *Trevor* for Circle X Theatre; *A Raisin In The Sun* for A Noise Within; and *The Cake* for The Geffen Playhouse. www.jeffthomasgardner.net

Alina Goodman (Stage Manager) is a graduate of the California Institute of the Arts with a BFA in Stage Management. Stage Management experience in Theater: Cabrillo Stage, Pasadena Playhouse, Deaf West, SoundStage Live, Lewis Family Playhouse, ShelterV64, Company of Angels, IAMA. Stage/Production Management Experience in Events: Mycotoo and Epic Entertainment Group.

Kimberly Sanchez (Assistant Stage Manager) is earning her BA in Theatre Design, Technology, and Management at Wagner College. Her recent credits in Stage Management include *Dead Boys* (Celebration Theatre), *Cult of Love* (IAMA Theatre), *Everybody* (Wagner College), and *Pirates of Penzance* (Wagner College).

Rachel Berney Needleman (Associate Director) is pleased to return to IAMA after working on *American Hero* last year. Other directing projects include *Five Second Chances* (PRT Co-op) and *Cowgirls* (EST/LA), as well as multiple new play readings and workshops at The Blank, Skylight and Theatricum Botanicum. She has assistant directed and dramaturged at theaters including South Coast Rep, Arizona Theatre Co. and Antaeus.

Lexi Sloan (Producer) Producing and acting balance Lexi out as she works full time for ABC Studios. Producer: *Mama Metal* (IAMA Theatre Company), Key Art Posters (Geffen Playhouse), *Fairy Tale Theatre 18 & Over: The Musical* (Ammunition Theatre Company), *Toyer* (Polymath Theatre Company) *A-ha Art Photo Series*, *Boys Don't Wear Dresses* (Spectrum Laboratory), *The One Day Plays 2018* (IAMA); Co-Producer: *Stockholm* (Triptych Theatre Company); Associate Producer: *American Hero* (IAMA). Lead Actress: Film: *Dusk* (Music Video), *Keepsafe Unlisted* (Commercial), *Kerb* (Commercial); Theatre: *Twelfth Night*, *25th Annual Putnum County Spelling Bee*, *Grease*, *Oklahoma*; Improv: The Groundlings Theatre. Thank you to IAMA and the Mama Metal team for the trust and support!

Jeff Lorch (Associate Producer) Production: *Mama Metal* (Associate Producer), *A-ha Art Photo Series* (Producer). Actor: Theatre: *Ameryka* (Kirk Douglas Theatre), *Rhinoceros*, *A View From The Bridge*, *Rocket to the Moon*, *Of Mice and Men* (Pacific Resident Theatre); *Husbands and Wives* (Ensemble Theatre Company); *Need to Know*, *Uploaded* (Rogue Machine Theatre); *Modigliani* (Open Fist); *My Antonia* (Rubicon); many years of improv at Groundlings, iOWest, and UCB. In film, he's worked with Robert Zemeckis and Jon Gries. Television work includes *Master of Sex* and *Criminal Minds*.

Camille Jenkins (Associate Producer) is a producer, director, and playwright whose work lives at the intersection of multi-genre exploration and the human condition. Producing credits include: *The Goddesses Guide: Adura for the Women of African Diaspora*, *Spoken Perceptions: Interactive Poetry Showcase*, and *The Bitter Game*. Camille is currently the Artistic Coordinator at The Wallis in Beverly Hills, where she has been a part of the producing team since 2017.

Jordan Bass, CSA (Casting) is thrilled to be working with IAMA again! Select Film: *Wind River*, *Annabelle*, *The Leisure Class* (HBO Project Greenlight), *The Pretenders*, *Izzy Gets the F*&% Across Town*, *A Violent Separation*, *Mine*, *Martyrs*, *Hard Sell*, *Summer of 8*, *The Last Exorcism*. Select TV: *Hyperlinked* (YouTube Red), *The 5th Quarter* (Verizon Go90), *Beerfest* (CW Seed), *Suit Up*, *Svetlana*, *Big Time Rush*, *Spartacus*. www.basscasting.com

MUSIC CREDITS

Am I Evil. Written by Sean Harris and Brian Tatler. Published by Universal Music Publishing Group.

Blitzkreig. Written by Phillip Jones and Brian Ross. Published by Atlantic Screen Group.

Belly of the Beast. Written by Diamond Head. Permission granted by the band.

Crash Course in Brain Surgery. Written by Burke Shelley, Tony Bourge, and Ray Phillips. Published by Tro Essex Music Group.

Into the Void. Written by Anthony Iommi and Terrence Butler. Published by Tro Essex Music Group.

Solitude. Written by Anthony Iommi and Terrence Butler. Published by Tro Essex Music Group. Music clearances by BZ/Rights & Permissions, Inc.

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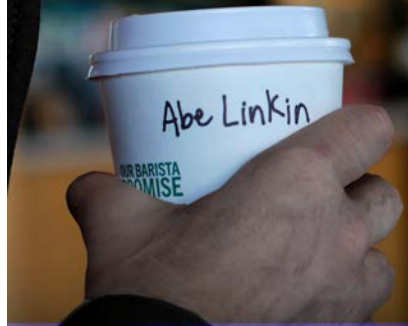
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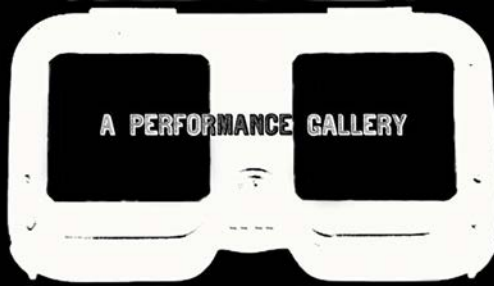
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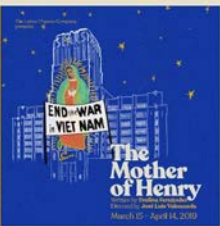
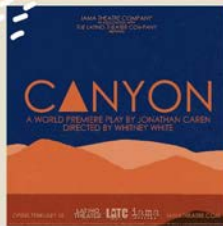
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The Denver Center For The Performing Arts

Tim Wright and Atwater Village Theater

about iama theatre company

IAMA Theatre Company is a Los Angeles-based ensemble of artists committed to invigorating live performance for a streaming generation. Through cutting-edge, cool and hyper-modern stories, IAMA is invested in the immediacy of production and strives to bring audiences out of their personal space and into a shared experience.

Designated by Playbill.com as "one of 20 regional houses every theater lover must know," IAMA was founded in 2007 by a group of young artists eager to create theater in Los Angeles. Working with a shared commitment to exploration and development, we seek to challenge ourselves and our audience by producing original works through our collaborative, multi-disciplinary ensemble. Fueled by the exciting work of our former Artist-In-Residence, Leslye Headland, and her Seven Deadly Plays, we have grown from a fledgling company to an award winning home for artists on the national theater scene. We have produced 14 world premieres, 2 LA premieres and 1 west coast premiere. New work generated at IAMA has traveled to off-Broadway, Second Stage, Playwrights Horizons, the Roundabout Underground, and then gone on to be performed regionally and internationally. Our passion and innovative material has garnered recognition from The Los Angeles Times, Entertainment Weekly, Stage Raw, StageSceneLA, The Hollywood Reporter, Backstage, BuzzFeed, Salon, MetromixLA, Broadway World, and The New York Times.

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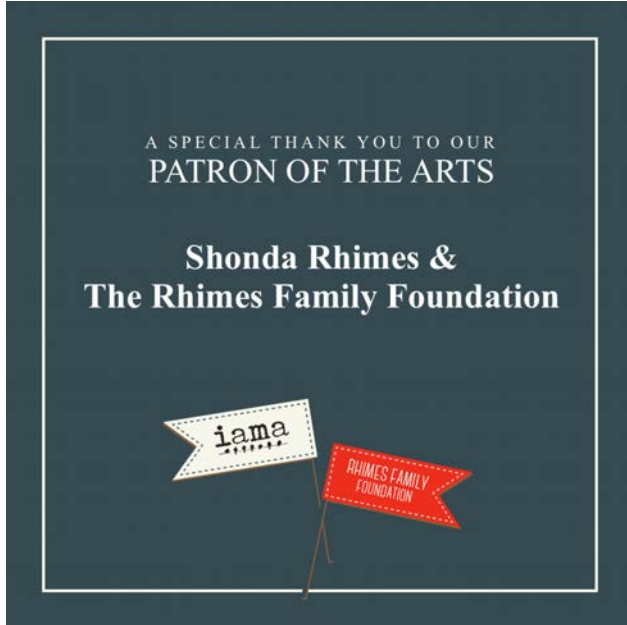
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