



**I**NTERNATIONAL **C**ITY **T**HEATRE

Your Award-Winning Professional Regional Theatre

caryn desai, Artistic Director/Producer

*39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season*



# THE DOUBLE

by

**Carole Eglash-Kosoff**

**Honorary Season Producers:**

**The Ackerman Family/Evalyn M. Bauer Foundation**

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Port of  
**LONG BEACH**  
THE PORT OF CHOICE

**Dr. Minnie Douglas  
A. Stephanie Loftin, Esq.**

Previews: August 21 & 22; Opening Night: August 23, 2024

Performances through September 8

Thurs-Sat and Previews at 7:30 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m.

Beverly O'Neill Theater - 330 E. Seaside Way; 562-436-4610 [InternationalCityTheatre.org](http://InternationalCityTheatre.org)

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



This show launches our subscription campaign for next year and **we are delighted to embark on a very special and significant anniversary – our 40th year in 2025!** I'm delighted to share our new season with you and invite you to join us on an adventurous journey. At the time of printing, we have 4 of the 5 offerings contracted for 2025 (negotiating the 5th) – all of which are premieres! You will be the first to experience these extraordinary stories in our region!

The 40th season is an adventure! As we invest in the future of this art form and support these relevant new works and voices, we are also investing in our community with stories that can expand our horizons, bring our community together, free our creative spirits, and help us grow. In the current divisive political scene, we need the arts to bring us together and remember our shared humanity. Theatre gives us an opportunity to escape some of that negative energy for a moment of calm and healing.

However, theatre doesn't happen without YOU. Your subscription is an investment in ICT, our community and theatre. It is never easy but all of us at ICT believe in the benefits of theatre for our community on many levels through our main stage and the six education programs we provide.

We also face challenges with increasing costs for labor and supplies. We will be raising prices for 2025 (and we will still be lower than most professional theatres). We are offering an early-bird special. **Subscribe by September 8 to receive 2024 prices.**

I hope you'll take a moment to review our exciting lineup in this program and stop by our subscription table in the lobby before you leave to ensure your seats for 2025! Thank you!

*Caryn Desai*

## THEATRE STAFF

Artistic Director/Producer: caryn desai  
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# International City Theatre

Your Award-winning Professional Regional Theatre presents

## THE DOUBLE V

by Carole Eglash-Kossoff

Directed by Michael A. Shepperd

### PRODUCTION

Artistic Director/Producer: Caryn Desai

Director: Michael A. Shepperd

Scenic Designer: Tim Mueller

Lighting Designer: Crystal R. Shomph

Costume Designer: Kimberly DeShazo

Sound Designer: Dave Mickey

Resident Property Designers: Patty and Gordon Briles

Resident Hair and Wig Designer: Anthony Gagliardi

Production Stage Manager: Jamie Tucker \*

Assistant Stage Manager: Jaclyn Gehringer

Resident Casting Director: Michael Donovan, CSA

Resident Casting Director: Richie Ferris, CSA

Wardrobe Crew: Amber Pegler

Sound Crew: Ethan Shanklin

### CAST (In order of appearance)

Ira Lewis: Nic Few \*

Madge Evans: Jennifer Shelton \*

Jimmy Thompson: K.J. Powell

Annie Culver: Nicolette Ellis

Frank/Clem Thompson: Idrees Degas \*

William Taylor/Peter: Lee James

Charlie Simpson: John E. Phillips

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

**Place:** Various U.S. Cities

**Time:** 1942

**Running Time:** Two hours (includes a 15-minute intermission)

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*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!*



**James G. Thompson, letter to the  
Pittsburgh Courier proposing Double V (Jan. 31, 1942)**

*Like all true Americans, my greatest desire at this time, this crucial point of our history; is a desire for a complete victory over the forces of evil, which threaten our existence today. Behind that desire is also a desire to serve, this, my country, in the most advantageous way. Most of our leaders are suggesting that we sacrifice every other ambition to the paramount one, victory. With this I agree; but I also wonder if another victory could not be achieved at the same time. After all, the things that beset the world now are basically the same things which upset the equilibrium of nations internally, states, counties, cities, homes and even the individual. Being an American of dark complexion and some 26 years, these questions flash through my mind: "Should I sacrifice my life to live half American?" "Will things be better for the next generation in the peace to follow?" "Would it be demanding too much to demand full citizenship rights in exchange for the sacrificing of my life." "Is the kind of America I know worth defending?" "Will America be a true and pure democracy after this war?" "Will colored Americans suffer still the indignities that have been heaped upon them in the past?" These and other questions need answering; I want to know, and I believe every colored American, who is thinking, wants to know. This may be the wrong time to broach such subjects, but haven't all good things obtained by men been secured through sacrifice during just such times of strife? I suggest that while we keep defense and victory in the forefront that we don't lose sight of our fight for true democracy at home. The "V for Victory" sign is being displayed prominently in all so-called democratic countries which are fighting for victory over aggression, slavery and tyranny. If this V sign means that to those now engaged in this great conflict then let colored Americans adopt the double VV for a double victory—The first V for victory over our enemies from without, the second V for victory over our enemies within. For surely those who perpetrate these ugly prejudices here are seeing to destroy our democratic form of government just as surely as the Axis forces. This should not and would not lessen our efforts to bring this conflict to a successful conclusion; but should and would make us stronger to resist these evil forces which threaten us. America could become united as never before and become truly the home of democracy. In way of an answer to the foregoing questions in a preceding paragraph, I might say that there is no doubt that this country is worth defending; things will be different for the next generation; colored Americans will come into their own, and America will eventually become the true democracy it was designed to be. These things will become a reality in time; but not through any relaxation of the efforts to secure them. In conclusion let me say that though these questions often permeate my mind, I love American and am willing to die for the America I know will someday become a reality.*

**Carole Eglash-Kosoff (Playwright)** is a novelist, playwright, and documentary filmmaker. She lives and writes in Valley Village, California. She graduated from UCLA and pursued a successful business career. When her husband died in 2006, she traveled and worked in the black townships of South Africa for two years. That work yielded her 1<sup>st</sup> book and stage play, *The Human Spirit*. Since then, she has been teaching, writing, and traveling to more than eighty countries. She also established the CEK Foundation to fund scholarships to deserving high school seniors. She has published ten novels, produced two documentary films, including the award-winning *The Life & Art of David Labkovski*. She has written and produced four stage plays, including the Ovation Award-winning musical, *When Jazz Had the Blues*. She also hosts a Facebook group, Carole's Snippets of History...more than 70 short essays on significant historic events. ([www.caroleessnippetsofhistory.com](http://www.caroleessnippetsofhistory.com)) ICT's staging of *The Double V* will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> staging of this true and important story. ([www.caroleeglashkosoff.com](http://www.caroleeglashkosoff.com))

**Michael A. Shepperd (Director)** is excited to be back at ICT, this time as a director. Michael has appeared in *Raisin* (Walter Lee; NAACP nomination), *Fences* (Troy; Ovation, LADCC Nominations), *Valley Song* (Buks; Stage Raw Award) LA directing credits include: *The Boy From Oz* (Ovation Award, LADCC Award, Best Director), *Rotterdam* (LADCC Award Best Production, Stage Raw award for Best Production and Director, nom West Addams, (LA Times Critics Choice), *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* (Director of the Year, Scenie Award, Broadway World nom, Best Director), *Sucker Punch, Too Heavy for Your Pocket* (LA Times Critics Choice), *[title of show]*, *Rent*. Acting roles include *Matilda* (Trunchbull), *The Producers* (Roger; Ovation Award nominee), *Boo! Candy* (LADCC nom, Ovation, Stage Raw Win), *The Color Purple* (Mister; Ovation award), *Steel* (Ovation Award), *Master Harold and the Boys* (NAACP theatre award nom), *Intimate Apparel* (NAACP Theatre Award), *Choir Boy* (NAACP nom),. Broadway/Regional credits include: *Cathy Rigby is Peter Pan*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Caroline, or Change*, *Whipping Man*. TV: Bosch, Why Women Kill, Curb Your Enthusiasm, Hot In Cleveland, Wizards of Waverly Place, Monk, NCIS



**Nic Few (Ira Lewis)** Winner of 2024 NAACP Best Supporting Actor award! Brown University Conservatory M.F.A. in Acting/Directing, Clark Atlanta University M.A. in Ed/Admin. Theater: Guthrie Theatre: A Midsummer Nights Dream "Oberon/Theseus" Odyssey Theatre: When Stars Align "Faris/Charlie/minister", Robey Theatre: The Talented Tenth "Bernard" Robey Theatre: God's Favor "Butchie," Guthrie Theatre: Confluence "Death" A Christmas Carol "Ghost of Christmas Present," The Old Globe theatre: A Midsummer Nights Dream "Demetrius" "The Merchant of Venice" "Morocco" Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are dead "Horatio" Theatre@ Boston Court: The Dinosaur Within "Eli", Los Angeles Shakespeare Center Theatre: Romeo and Juliette, NY Theatre Workshop Misanthrope, 'Eugene O'neil Center' The Ballad of Emmitt Till "Wheeler", Trinity Rep theatre: A Christmas Carol "Topper", Cherry Orchard "Nicholi" " Chautauqua Théâtre: Measure for Measure "Angelo Television Film Chicago Med, The Real Mvp, Tab Time, Open, GO ON, 90 Days "Taylor," Major Crimes "Big Hazard, The Exes "Dusty", The Mulaney Show "Jones" The Chadwick Journals "Donovan," 11thhour "Lawrence, Blotter "Officer Jim Carter." @nicfew



**Jennifer Shelton (Madge Evans)** toured with the 1<sup>st</sup> National Co. of *Ragtime* and performed with such companies as the Hollywood Bowl Orch, Long Beach Symphony, McCoy Rigby, and Sacramento Music Circus. For ICT: *A Doll's House Part 2* (Nora), *Let's Misbehave* (Alice), *Master Class* (Sharon), *Ain't Misbehavin* (Nell), *Songs for a New World*, *Five Course Love*, and *The Story* (Yvonne). Favorite credits: *Seven* (Hafsat) - LA Theatre Works; *Clybourne Park* (Francine) - Laguna Playhouse; *All Night Strut* and *Jacques Brel* - Colony; *Fanny* (Fanny), *One Touch of Venus* (Venus), *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (Spider Woman), and *It's a Bird ... Superman!* (Lois Lane) - MTG; *Proof* (Claire), *The Baby Dance* (Rachel), *Miss Reardon Drinks a Little* (Ceil), and *Raisin in the Sun* (Ruth) - CCAP; *Man of La Mancha* (Aldonza) - Rubicon; *Into the Woods* (Cinderella) - Lamb's; *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle) and *Ragtime* (Sarah) - Moonlight; *Hot Mikado* (Yum-Yum) and *World Goes 'Round* - MTW. TV/Film credits include: *Unprisoned*, *American Auto*, *Station 19*, *I Love That for You*, *Seal Team*, *Physical*, *Criminal Minds*, *Shameless*, *B&B*, *Y&R*, *Days of Our Lives*, *Girlfriends*, and *Prom*.



**KJ Powell (Jimmy Thompson)** K.J. Powell, a Miami native, began his entertainment journey at 14. A Pepperdine University graduate, he has worked in both theatre and TV, making his debut with International City Theatre. His theatre credits include *Farragut North* at Theatre 68, and he's been recognized as an August Wilson Monologue Finalist, a Spotlight Award recipient, and a California Educational Theatre Association scholarship winner. On-screen, K.J. has appeared in

*Grown-ish*, *Henry Danger*, *Young Sheldon*, *Station 19*, and *The Secret Life of Cheerleaders*.



**Nicolette Ellis (Annie Culver)** is so excited to be a part of *The Double V* as Annie Culver. From acting, writing, producing and her own business itsRandom, she has always been immersed in the world of storytelling. The Newark Film Festival and LA Drama Critics Circle Best Performance nominated actress has demonstrated her performance in the ALLBLK original series *Makeup x Breakup*. She's also been in numerous plays, films, commercials, and more. She continues her love for creating as a

multi-hyphenate in LA.



**Idrees Degas (Frank/Clem Thompson)** a dynamic actor driven by a passion for storytelling. He infuses every role with authenticity and depth, whether it is a Shakespearean classic or a cutting-edge contemporary drama. With a knack for captivating audiences and a commitment to pushing artistic boundaries, Idrees is poised to make a lasting impact on the stage and screen alike. Idrees has lit up stages in various venues, earning accolades for his captivating performances. Recent highlights

include his performance, where Idrees showcased his versatility and ability to connect with audiences on a profound level. With a blend of talent, charisma, and a tireless work ethic, Idrees is poised for even greater success in the ever-evolving world of theatre.



**Lee James (William Taylor/Peter)** ICT: *Into the Breeches!* LA: ARTCO's *Mack & Mabel* (Frank). Chicago: *The Boys in the Band* (Jeff Award), *Chicago Fire* (NBC), Marriott Lincolnshire, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Drury Lane Oakbrook, Paramount Theatre, About Face. Vegas: *Mamma Mia!* Regional and national commercials. Training: Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, The School at Steppenwolf. SAG-AFTRA. Repped by Avi Simon at Rectangle Entertainment. Much

love to Dad, Laura, and Lennon. For Mom.



**John E. Phillips (Charlie Simpson)** is thrilled to make his International City Theatre debut and contribute to such a powerful story. He'd like to express his love and gratitude to Alex, Waylen, and Sergeant Slinky. Best known for his comedy work, John can be found pandering for laughs at CoffeeCops.org or as "Smee" in Theatricum Botanicum's *Peter Pan*. @jonny\_raindance

**Tim Mueller (Scenic Designer)** The set design for *The Double V* is the fourth show at ICT for Tim Mueller. He is currently full-time faculty at Golden West College in Huntington Beach where he teaches scenic, lighting and projection design as well as scenic painting and stagecraft. Tim designed and built his first theatrical set in 1984 and since then he has completed more than 1000 projects in theater, corporate events, theme park décor, live events, holiday décor, TV and film and other areas of entertainment. In 1996 Tim founded and lead Gothic Moon Productions, a professional scenic company, that, among other projects, built seven shows for ICT between 2005 and 2007. He closed the company in 2012 for a career in full-time teaching. The thing that he enjoys most about all the projects he works on is the opportunity to collaborate with other artists as we all work together to tell the story you now see on stage.

**Crystal R. Shomph (Lighting Designer)** has been a lighting designer for over 27 years, lighting many musicals, dance shows, and plays. In her most recent work at Golden West College, she lit the beautiful production of *Never the Sinner, Hairspray, Waiting for Godot*, and *Orphans*. She is currently a lighting designer for the Irvine Valley College Performing Arts Center. Crystal's beautiful work at Irvine Valley College includes *Elephant Man, Guys and Dolls*, and *9 to 5*. She is also a lighting instructor at Orange County School of the Arts. She has lit for Tustin in Tustin's Broadway in the Park and the Lythgoe Family Productions of *Wizard of Oz, Cinderella*, and *Grease* this summer. Crystal is excited to be back working with International City Theatre and Michael A. Shepperd where she has previously designed *The Andrews Brothers, Valley Song, Deathtrap*, and *The Outsider*.

**Kimberly DeShazo (Resident Costume Designer)** is Costume Instructor for the Theatre and Dance at El Camino College as well as resident costume designer for International City Theatre. Other theatres that have showcased her skills include Pasadena Dance Theatre, L.A. Opera, Long Beach Opera, Shakespeare Festival/LA, the Gary Marshall Theatre, the Odyssey Theatre, Theatricum Botanicum, PCPA and Ebony Rep. College collaborations include designing for the Theatre as well as the Dance Department at Chapman University, and at UCI, Cal State Dominguez Hills, College

of the Canyons, LB City College, 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. Television 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.

**Dave Mickey (Sound Designer)** has designed sound, video, interactive, and lighting for theatre productions at Off-Broadway's Theatre Row, 59E59 NYC, Virginia Stage Company, International City Theatre, The Colony Theatre, The Rubicon Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, South Coast Repertory, the Chance Theatre, the Blank Theatre, and Syzygy theatre. Mr. Mickey received the 2023 Stage Scene LA "Scenie" Award for Outstanding Sound Design (Multiple Productions). He also received the 2014 NAACP Best Sound Design for *BREATH & IMAGINATION*, the Robert E. Cohen Sound Achievement Award, a national award in sound design sponsored by USITT, three Editor Choice Awards from the Maker Faire, Honorable Mentions for the Garland Awards, Outstanding Achievements by StageSceneLA.com and nominations for the LA Weekly Theater Awards. Mr. Mickey holds an MFA from the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) and is the Associate Dean for the College of the Arts at CSUF.

**Patty and Gordon Briles (Resident Property Designers)** have joined their artistic skills as Property Designers for ICT. Gordon's three-dimensional 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 television. Their theatre work has been seen at (Inside) The Ford Theatre, John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, the Odyssey, the Edgemar and The Matrix. Both work with young artists at Loyola and El Camino College.

**Jamie A. Tucker (Stage Manager)** is excited to be returning to ICT. He last served as Stage Manager for *The Cardboard Piano* in 2018. Jamie completed his MBA in Marketing, at the University of Redlands, in 2014; to go along with his MFA in dance, specializing in stage management, from UC Irvine, in 1994. Professionally he has worked at South Coast Repertory, where he has stage-managed or assisted on over 65 productions. Some of his favorites have been the world premieres of Richard Greenberg's *Three Days of Rain*, *The Violet Hour* and *The Dazzle*; Rolin Jones' *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*; and Noah Haidle's *Mr. Marmalade*. Other favorites include *Elemeno Pea*, *Jitney*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Fences*, *Anna in the Tropics*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *A View from the Bridge*, *Chinglish*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Hamlet* and *The Light in the Piazza*. Currently he is the professor and head of the stage management program at CSUF and a proud member of Actors' Equity.

**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: *What the Constitution Means to Me*, *Exit Wounds*, *Under the Skin*, *Valley Song*, *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, 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 received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Long Beach City College. 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 the keynote speaker at the Disneyland Hotel for INTIX. That same year she accepted the LA Drama Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Season and was recognized as a 2016 Community Hero by the African American History & Culture Foundation. In 2018 caryn was named Distinguished Alumna from the College of the Arts at California State University, Long Beach. Prior to the pandemic, she returned to teaching Nonprofit Arts Management at CSU, Fullerton. Recently she was honored to be included on the Long Beach City College Hall of Fame and to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Long Beach NAACP. Most recently she was honored to be named an LA 2023 Inspirational Woman by the LA Times and had the privilege to serve as Mace Marshall for UC Irvine’s graduates from the School of Arts, School of Education, and School of Physical Sciences. She is honored to be the recipient of the 2024 Eternity Award by the Los Angeles Women’s Theatre Festival for lifetime achievement in making a lasting contribution to the world of theatre.

**Lucy Pollak (Publicist)** has been providing publicity services to the Los Angeles performing arts community for the past 31 years – and her very first client was International City Theatre, 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 Los Angeles 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 (L.A. Stage Alliance), Women in Theatre.

**Michael Donovan Casting (Casting Directors)** has cast over 125 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, the Wallis Annenberg, the Kirk Douglas Theatre, 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.

**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: COMPELLING FACES AND IMAGES IN SEARCH FOR STORIES. 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.

## Free Saturday Family Theatre Series

**Saturday, August 31, at 11 am**

### **AESOP'S FABULOUS FABLES**

After each story, children come up with their own morals before being told what Aesop said!

**Call 562.436.4610 or visit us at [ictlongbeach.org/fsft](http://ictlongbeach.org/fsft)**

*Free Saturday Family Theatre was created to offer an accessible & affordable program for families of Southern California to be able to introduce their children to the theatre. Free Saturday Family Theatre is one of ICT's 6 education programs.*



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the work of ICT is very  
much appreciated.**

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Dr. Patricia Toliver  
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## Featured Role

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## Supporting Role

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 Gary & Carole Anne Bacher  
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 Paul Garman

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 Norma & Gary Greene  
 Sharon Harrison  
 Gary Herman & Robin Franko  
 Linda Herman  
 Mary M. Hester  
 Debra Hilliard  
 Christopher Hogan  
 Louise Houdyshell & Richard Rivera  
 Carol Howerton  
 Dolly Ickler  
 Robert Jackson  
 Jaye & Rick Johnson In Honor of  
 Margaret Leake  
 Anne Jones  
 Dale & Betty Jorgenson  
 Joseph Justo & Michael Repp  
 Clark Kasunich & Pamela Bleich  
 Lynne Katz  
 Natoma L. Keita  
 Joel & Ronna Kizner  
 Hans Kohnlein  
 James Krampert  
 Sandra Kroll  
 Betty Kurkjian  
 Joseph & Margo Lazzari  
 Jo Lee  
 Pam Lee in Honor of Marlene Temple  
 Shelly Levinson  
 Joanne & Jerry Levy

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 Ajit & Nirvi Shah  
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 Grace Martin Sheldon  
 Lee & Barbara Shoag  
 Patricia Simonian  
 M. & S. Sinclair  
 Tatyana Skevin  
 Ruth Smith  
 Warren & Josie Sterling  
 Elizabeth Stroh & Ron Costin  
 Linda F. Tatum  
 Linda Van Couvering  
 Margery R. Vandament  
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 Arline Walter  
 Ray Ward  
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 Beverly Yamagata

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## 2025 - ICT's 40th Anniversary Season

### DESPERATE MEASURES, an American musical comedy (February 19 – March 9)

Book & Lyrics by Peter Kellogg; Music by David Friedman

When the dangerously handsome Johnny Blood's life is on the line, he must put his fate into the hands of a colorful cast of characters including a mysterious sheriff, an eccentric priest, a narcissistic governor, a saloon girl gone good, and a nun out of the habit.

"I laughed until I cried! I promise you will love this hilarious and clever musical." — *The Today Show*

"A delight...such a hoot! Wonderful!" — *New York Times*

#### Winner:

A LOS ANGELES PREMIERE

- Drama Desk Awards for Outstanding Musical and for Outstanding Lyrics
- Outer Critics Circle award for Outstanding New Off-Broadway Musical
- Off-Broadway Alliance Award for Best New Musical

### THE VIOLIN MAKER, Based on the Stories from the Violins of Hope (April 23 – May 11)

AN AMERICAN PREMIERE

By Lisa Pearl Rosenbaum and Ronda Spinak; Musical curation by Dr. Noreen Green

The Israeli violin maker, Amnon Weinstein, founder of the Violins of Hope collection, restored violins played during the Holocaust. He died in 2024 at age 84, but his extraordinary story, and the true stories of the violins are masterfully interwoven with music in this powerful and uplifting play.

### THE ANGEL NEXT DOOR – A Romantic Comedy (June 11 – June 29)

By Paul Slade Smith

A LOS ANGELES PREMIERE

Young Oliver Adams is on the brink of a major success. His novel *The Angel Next Door* is set to be published, and famed Broadway playwrights Charlotte and Arthur Sanders have already adapted his book for what is sure to be a huge stage hit. As leading lady, they have their eye on Margot Bell, the very person Oliver adores and about whom he has written his novel. When they all converge for a weekend in Newport, Rhode Island, the thin walls of the mansion reveal that the angel may not be angelic. Only the power of theatre can save the play, Oliver's novel, and his heart.

"*THE ANGEL NEXT DOOR* is a glittering, effervescent hit romantic comedy. It's an elegant, sweet-dry glass of champagne, bubbling over with non-stop laughs, merriment, glamor, and high-spirited hijinks. It's hard to think of more fun you could have at the theatre right now, or really, more fun anywhere." — *BroadwayWorld*.

"Capturing the sheer joy, sophistication, and wit of those early screwball comedies, playwright Smith has cheekily and efficiently modernized most of the lines and patter for clearer audience sensibilities." — *The Show Report*.

### MASALA DABBA by Wendy Graf (August 27 – September 14)

A WORLD PREMIERE

by Wendy Graf

Secrets, lies and unresolved conflicts play out against a background of familial memories of food and cooking in *Masala Dabba*, a deeply felt family drama where food is love, loss and a portal into the past. Long buried truths surface through stories inspired by each of the spices in a grandmother's masala dabba, an Indian spice box. Though *Masala Dabba* focuses on an Indian/African American family, all families can see themselves in the stories about the past, culture, identity and the choices we make.

### SHOW #5 TO BE ANNOUNCED (October 15 – November 2)

# ictlongbeach.org/subscriptions

2025 Season Subscription form

**Mail:** International City Theatre (ICT) - Attn. Box Office

67 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802-4804

Phone: 562.436.4610

E-mail: ict@ictlongbeach.org

Website: InternationalCityTheatre.org

## WEEK 1

Wednesday Prev (7:30 pm)

Thursday Prev (7:30 pm)

Opening Night\* (7:30 pm)

Saturday (7:30 pm)

Sunday (2 pm)

## WEEK 2

Thursday (7:30 pm)

Friday (7:30 pm)

Saturday (7:30 pm)

Sunday\*\* (2 pm)

## WEEK 3

Thursday (7:30 pm)

Friday (7:30 pm)

Saturday (7:30 pm)

Sunday (2 pm)

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Desperate Measures

The Violin Maker

Theatre People...

Masala Dabba

TO BE ANNOUNCED

Feb 19 Apr 23 Jun 11 Aug 27 Oct 15 ... \$ 165

Feb 20 Apr 24 Jun 12 Aug 28 Oct 16 ... \$ 165

Feb 21 Apr 25 Jun 13 Aug 29 Oct 17 ... \$ 225

Feb 22 Apr 26 Jun 14 Aug 30 Oct 18 ... \$ 210

Feb 23 Apr 27 Jun 15 Aug 31 Oct 19 ... \$ 225

Feb 27 May 1 Jun 19 Sep 4 Oct 23 ... \$ 210

Feb 28 May 2 Jun 20 Sep 5 Oct 24 ... \$ 210

Mar 1 May 3 Jun 21 Sep 6 Oct 25 ... \$ 210

Mar 2 May 4 Jun 22 Sep 7 Oct 26 ... \$ 225

Mar 6 May 8 Jun 26 Sep 11 Oct 30 ... \$ 210

Mar 7 May 9 Jun 27 Sep 12 Oct 31 ... \$ 210

Mar 8 May 10 Jun 28 Sep 13 Nov 1 ... \$ 210

Mar 9 May 11 Jun 29 Sep 14 Nov 2 ... \$ 225



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\*Opening Night includes after-show  
cast party

\*\*Week 2, Sunday - Post-Show  
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\*\*\*Like all non-profit theatres, ticket  
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