

SPECIAL THANKS

Heidi Levitt, Lezline Platt, Center Theatre Group, Lap Chi Chu, Zen Center of Los Angeles, Deborah Thorsen, Betsy Brown, Jitsujo Gauthier, The Young Actors Studio, John Henningsen, Kinetic Lighting, Arman Marzvaan, Wendy Nakao, Richard Augustine, Remington Brimmer, Safie Makes Finlay, Richard Gibney and Casey Childs

Circle X Theatre Co. and Echo Theater Company are nonprofit organizations, supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, the California Arts Council, Capital Group Companies, and individual donors.



A COMMUNITY OF YOUNG ARTISTS.



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Circle X Theatre Co. & Echo Theater Company
present the World Premiere of

An Undivided Heart

By Yusuf Toropov
Directed by Chris
Fields

Atwater Village Theatre
3269 Casitas Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90039

The play is set in Massachusetts in the summer of 1992.

CAST A:

Matthew Gallenstein (Mike)
Ann' Jewel Lee (Chorus/Little Girl)
Alana Dietze (Lynne)
Tim Wright (Max)
Paul Eiding (Antonelli)
Tracey A. Leigh (Janice)
Jeff Alan-Lee (Father White)
Kaleb King (Keenan)
Alison Martin (Ruth)
William Salyers (Cardinal)

CAST B:

Matthew Gallenstein (Mike)
Ann' Jewel Lee (Chorus/Little Girl)
Alana Dietze (Lynne)
Tim Wright (Max)
Bob Clendenin (Antonelli)
Jennifer A. Skinner (Janice)
Jesse Bush (Father White)
Michael Sturgis (Keenan)
Sigute Miller (Ruth)
John Getz (Cardinal)

Cast is listed in order of appearance.

Please check the signage in the lobby to see which actors are featured in this performance.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Actors appear courtesy of AEA.



Produced by Tim Wright and Chris Fields
Associate Producer: Allen Lucky Weaver
Assistant Producers: Kenzie Caplan, Alexander Pine
Scenic Design: Amanda Knehans
Lighting Design: Rose Malone
Sound Design: Cricket Myers
Costume Design: Dianne K. Graebner
PSM: Venice Yue Yang
FX Make Up: Julia Hapney
Carpenters: Andrew Lia and Lydia Runge
Electrics: Jennifer Bass, Colin Cardille, James Cowan and Mary Sader

This play was first workshopped at the National Playwrights Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center.

This production is dedicated to the loving memory of Joanne Goldapple.

Cultural structures and forms are there, no doubt. There is no such thing as getting along without them or treating them as if they did not exist. But there eventually comes a time when like Moses we see that the thornbush of cultural and religious forms is suddenly on fire and we are summoned to approach it without shoes, and probably also without feet. Is the fire other than the Bush? Or is it more than the Bush itself? The Burning Bush of Exodus reminds us strangely of the Prajnaparamita Sutra: 'Form is emptiness and emptiness is form; form does not differ from emptiness (the Void); emptiness does not differ from form; whatever is form, that is emptiness, whatever is emptiness, that is form ...' So too the words from the flame-and-bush in Exodus: "I am what I am." These words go beyond position and negation; in fact, no one quite knows what the Hebrew means.

– Thomas Merton, *Zen and the Birds of Appetite*

ASSOCIATE COMPANY MEMBERS: Josh Adams, Melvin Alas, Nick Barnes, Jacqueline Besson, Kenzie Caplan, Jose Corea, Anthony DiGrgorio, Matt Dowling, Lindsay Graves-Fisher, Troy Johnson, Andrea MaGee, Arman Marzvaan, Tommy Nguyen, Kaiti O'Connor, Rachael Olsem, Alejandro Pina, Christian Prentice, Erin Scerbak, Joey Stromberg, Amanda Wagner, Alexander Waxler, Rachel Zink

ADVISORY BOARD: Maria Bell, Jenny Bicks, Pat Carroll, Shannon Clark, Charles S. Dutton, Anne Fletcher, Jessica Goldberg, David Guc, Zeljko Ivanek, Heidi Levitt, Joe Mantello, Tim Sanford, Russ Smith, Daniel Talbott

The Echo would like the following Backers and donors whose generous support has helped make this production possible:

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Tammie Arnold
David A. Horwitz

CAST



Jeff Alan-Lee (Father White): Credits include Jerry in *At Home at the Zoo* at The Wallis Annenberg, *The Suitcase*, *Assassins*, *Detective Partner Hero Villian*, *Exit the King*, *Frankie and Johnny in the Claire Delune*, *Hello and Goodbye*, *Huck and Jim* (directed by Broadway legend Joshua Logan), *Snoopy* (with Andrea McArdle), *Losing It*, off-broadway and many regional and stock theater credits. Film /TV: *As the World Turns*, *Could it be a Miracle*, *No Big Deal*, & *The Beniker Gang*. He is an NYU grad and Artistic Director of The Young Actor's Studio.



Jesse Bush (Father White) is thrilled to be making his Los Angeles theatrical debut with this production. Favorite roles include Karl/ Steve in *Clybourne Park*, Davis in *Red Light Winter*, Ludie in *A Trip to Bountiful* and Lt. Kaffee in *A Few Good Men*. Television: *Lethal Weapon*, *9-1-1*, *Better Things* and *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*. Film: *Birdman*. This performance is indebted to the love and support of Jennifer, Harper and Luna and, as always, Mom and Pop. www.jessebush.com



Bob Clendenin (Antonelli) is extremely proud to have been a founding member of Circle X. He was in *City*, *The Eight*, *Great Men of Science*, *Marley's Ghost* and most recently, *Trevor*. He has also performed at 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 boys, and a pug named Marge. www.robertclendenin.com



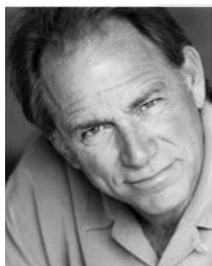
Alana Dietze (Lynne) - Also with the Echo: *Fugue*, *Bob*, *God's Ear*, *Everything Will Be Different* (3 Ovation Nominations including Best Leading Actress), also with Circle X: *Lascivious Something*. Recent work elsewhere: *The Imposter* (New Guard), *The Red Letter Plays* (Illyrian Players), *The Devil's Wife* (Skylight), *Macbeth* (Vagrancy). On screen: *Rose is a rose is a rose*, *Thrashers*, *The Magic Bullet* (Slamdance), *Dark Space*. She is also an Ovation nominated Director and the Echo's Literary Manager.



Paul Eiding (Antonelli) has performed at the Antaeus Company, L.A. Stage Company, PRT, L.A. Public Theatre, Actor's Theatre St Paul, Chanhassen, Kenley Theatre, in Flint, Mi. TV/Film: *Grey's Anatomy*, *ER*, *Star Trek: TNG*, *House of Lies*, *CSI: Miami*, *West Wing*, *Providence*, *American Zombie*. Web Series: *Aliens Anonymous*, *Empty Space*, *Riley Parra*. Voiceover: *Monsters U*, *WALL-E*, *Up*, *A Bug's Life*, *Ben 10*, and over 100 video games. He's proud to be here!



Matthew Gallenstein (Father Mike Cleary): This is Matthew's debut with the Echo. Recently, he has played Orlando in *As You Like It* & Alan Seymour in *Picnic* at Antaeus Theatre Company. He also appeared in *The Suppliant Women* at The Getty Villa with Rogue Machine Theatre Company & has played various roles in *If All The Sky Were Paper* at the Kirk Douglas Theater, The John F. Kennedy Center, and Chapman University. Matthew studied Screen Acting at Chapman University.



John Getz (Cardinal): *Eurydice* and *The Brothers Karamazov* (Circle X), *Tartuffe* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Seagull* (Old Globe San Diego), *The Good Book of Pedantry and Wonder* (Boston Court), *M. Butterfly* (Broadway), *Measure for Measure* (NY Shakespeare Festival), Film: *Blood Simple, Don't Tell Mom The Babysitters Dead!, The Fly, Zodiac, Nanking, Social Network, Trumbo, Certain Women*. Recent TV: *Timeless, Transparent, Ghosted, Grace and Frankie, Better Call Saul, Homeland*. And I'm happy to be here.



Kaleb King (Father Keenan) is thrilled to be making his Echo Theater debut! Originally from San Antonio, Texas, Kaleb recently meandered to the City of Angels in search of a dream. Film: *Men, Women, and Children* (Jason Reitman), *Everybody Wants Some!!* (Richard Linklater), and *Hurricane Bianca* (Matthew Kugleman). TV: *Law and Order True Crime : Menendez Murders* (2018). Catch Kaleb in the upcoming feature *Oh Boy!* (pre-production). Special thanks to Chris Fields, for always taking heart.



Ann'Jewel Lee (Chorus/Little Girl) was definitely born to be an Entertainer. She has been performing since she was able to walk, and she naturally gravitates to performing arts. She was born in Los Angeles, California and is the youngest of two children. Ann'Jewel Lee made her debut in theater in *Not Your Mama's Monologue*. She has appeared in music videos, commercials, and a short film. She starred in her first feature film, *The Last Word*, and recently completed filming a second film, *Payment Received*. Ann'Jewel Lee is well on her way to making her mark in Hollywood.



Tracey A. Leigh (Janice): An Obie Award and NAACP Theatre Award recipient, appearances include *Mr. Burns* (Sacred Fools); *Easy Targets* (Best Comedy, 2017 Hollywood Fringe Festival); *Collective Rage* and *Colony Collapse* (The Theatre @Boston Court); *All the Way* (South Coast Repertory), and productions at Shakespeare Center/LA, Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, EST/LA, A.C.T. and The Guthrie. Television credits include *Modern Family, Grey's Anatomy, Criminal Minds, Strong Medicine* and *Law and Order*. Many thanks to the teachers at Zen Center LA. www.traceyaleigh.com

Dedicated to nurturing writers and producing new work, the multiple award- winning Echo Theater Company was anointed "Best Bet for Ballsy Original Plays" by the LA Weekly in its 2014 Best of L.A. issue and was a recipient of a 2016 "Kilroy Cake Drop"— one of only 13 theaters in the country to be surprised by cakes to honor the efforts they are making to produce women and trans writers. Most recently, the company was nominated for 13 Ovation while our production of Bekah Brunstetter's THE CAKE will be moving to The Geffen in the fall. The company is also recognized for its acting ensemble; in the Los Angeles Times, Charles McNulty wrote, "Echo Theater Company, which has cultivated a community of top flight actors, would be my go- to place in Los Angeles for symbiotic ensemble acting." KCRW's Anthony Byrnes stated, "It's time to start paying attention to the Echo Theater Company... What's made these choices pay off is the acting and casting has been superb. The company has made bold choices and backed them up."

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: Chris Fields
DIRECTOR OF NEW PROGRAMS: Andrew Shafer
ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE/LITERARY MANAGER: Alana Dietze
GENERAL MANAGER: Rachael Zambias
BOX OFFICE MANAGER: Kevin Johnson
AUDIENCE SERVICES MANAGER: Nancy Ma

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Andrew Shafer, Sam Catlin, David Erickson, Chris Fields, Rya Kihlstedt, Kathryn Phillips, Elizabeth Rose, Steven Poster

COMPANY MEMBERS: Chris Aguila, Jeff Alan-Lee, Boni Alvarez, Gil Bellows, Blake Berris, Ahmed Best, Meredith Bishop, Troy Blendell, Renee-Marie Brewster, Zach Callison, Virginia Carter, Vincent Castellanos, Jennifer Chambers, Mindy Cohn, Katherine Cronyn, Gary Cole, Drew Dalzell, Makeda Delect, Alana Dietze, Julie Dretzin, Jesse Fair, Randy Finch, Elena Flores, Alexandra Freeman, Matthew Gallenstein, Jeff Gardner, Jessica Goldapple, Adrian Gonzalez, Andrea Grano, Eric Neil Gutierrez, Daniel Hagen, Graham Hamilton, Hutchi Hancock, Garrett Hanson, Karl Herlinger, Marin Hinkle, Lauren Hirte, Ben Horwitz, Justin Huen, Eric Hunicutt, Rhys Hyatt, Miki Johnson, Lauren Katz, Connor Kelly-Eiding, Rya Kihlstedt, Mara Klein, Amanda Knehans, Lily Knight, Mackenzie Kyle, Jennifer Lafleur, Anna Lamadrid, TW Leshner, West Liang, Hamish Linklater, Carol Locatell, Malcolm Madera, Jeremy Maxwell, Hannah McDowell, Sigute Miller, Landon Mirisciotti, Sarah Jane Morris, Gabriel Notarangelo, Riel Paley, Parker Phillips, Larry Poindexter, Deborah Puette, Kacie Rogers, Marc Rose, Teagan Rose, James Leo Ryan, Darrett Sanders, Amanda Saunders, Christopher Shaw, Mandy Siegfried, Jenny Soo, Steven Strobel, Michael Sturgis, Daniel Talbott, Clarissa Thibeaux, Rodney To, Beth Triffon, Tonatiuh Elizarraraz, Lindsey Vaerst, Joseph Valdez, Allen Lucky Weaver, Jacqueline Wright, Carolyn Zeller



CIRCLE X THEATRE CO.

CircleXTheatre.org

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 was founded in 1996 by seven theatre artists drawn together by a common desire to create an artistic home in Los Angeles. Innovation and the idea of “imagination over budget” is a guiding principle of our work, and we strive to make it the core of every element of production, beyond our selection of thought-provoking, highly theatrical plays. This extends into everything from design, performance and direction to administration and marketing, creating the unique aesthetic for which Circle X is known.

Next up:

May 2018 special event to celebrate Tim Wright’s time as Artistic Director and welcome our new Artistic Director, Kate Jopson.

World Premiere of Octavio Solis’ *Hole in the Sky*, fall 2018. *Hole in the Sky* explores complex issues around water rights and wildfires in rural Siskiyou County, northern California. About the play: Disillusioned with her life in San Francisco, Connor returns to her rural hometown. She finds her father desperately trying to keep their ranch afloat during a 10-year drought. In order to save her home, she must get help from her community and face a tragedy that has haunted her for 20 years. Set in a fictional town in the near future, Octavio Solis’ *Hole in the Sky* is based on interviews with community members of Siskiyou County in rural Northern California.

Sign up for our newsletter at CircleXTheatre.org.

CIRCLE X THEATRE CO. BOARD

Richard Augustine, Rebecca Avery, Bob Clendenin, Fielding Edlow, Jim Leonard, Gwyn McColl, James Schipper, Tim Wright

CIRCLE X THEATRE CO. STAFF

Tim Wright – *Artistic Director (through May 1)*
 Kate Jopson – *Artistic Director (after May 1)*
 Camille Schenkkan – *Managing Director*
 Jen Kays – *Associate Artistic Director*

Circle X is proud to be supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Capital Group Companies, the National Endowment for the Arts, and individual donors. Our preferred lighting rental company is Kinetic Lighting.



Alison Martin (Ruth): Alison began her acting career in Boston in *Shear Madness*. While in Boston, she won an Emmy for *A Likely Story*. In New York, she made her Broadway debut in Neil Simon’s *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*. In L.A., she has appeared in numerous TV shows- including *Grace & Frankie*, *There’s Johnny*, *Code Black*, *Will & Grace*, etc. With the ECHO- ANON and *The Dirty Laundry of Marjorie*. She is grateful to the Echo and her family.



Sigute Miller (Ruth) is a longtime member of The Echo Theater Company and has been seen here in "Anon", "Better" and "The Suitcase". She recently performed in "Emergency Operation" at Sacred Fools and "The Guys" - tribute to 9/11 - at The Victory Theater. She is a widely recognized Lithuanian actress, twice winning Best Actress Awards at International Theater Festivals. Her other passion is competitive swimming and recently has been appointed Western Regional Director of the Lithuanian Scout Association.



William Salyers (Cardinal): Bill has been a member of Circle X since their 1998 production, “Texarkana Waltz,” by Louis Broom. He’s appeared in many of the company’s other shows, including “Louis Slotin Sonata,” and “An American Book Of the Dead,” both by Paul Mullin, “Battle Hymn,” by Jim Leonard, and “Naked Before God,” by Leo Geter. His most recent theatrical appearance was as The Colonel in “Pure Confidence,” by Carlyle Brown, for the Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble.



Jennifer A. Skinner (Janice) has appeared in Circle X’s productions of *The Bigger Man* by Sam Marks, Leo Geter’s *Naked Before God*, and the 10 Minute Play Festival where she performed in Lee Blessing’s *Workshop*. Her TV credits include *Major Crimes* and film credits include *Magic Mike*. For Circle X, Jennifer also directed Casey Smith in the award winning *Violators Will be Violated* and *At Some Point in the Process of the End of the World*.



Michael Sturgis (Father Keenan): Echo: Jack in *Blueberry Toast*; associate literary manager. Other: HERO Theatre company member - *Festival Irene*; Waiter in *The Madwoman of Chailot* at A Noise Within. USC (BA Theatre): Fortinbras in *Fortinbras*; Joshua in *Ring Round the Moon*; Sir Wilfull Witwoud in *The Way of the World*; John Ritter Award for Comedic Performance. Web series: *Dick Hopper* on Amazon; *Janny Jelly*. Upcoming: HERO Theatre’s Benefit for Puerto Rico, *The Super Sabado Show*; Falstaff in Show Me State Rebel’s *Henry IV Part I* at Aerial House.



Tim Wright (Max): Graduate of Montclair State University with a BFA in Theatre. After graduation, Tim served as Managing Director of 12 Miles West Theatre Co., and as general manager for Circle X before taking on the role of Artistic Director in 2004. Produced *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* and *Trevor*, winner of the 2015 Ovation Award for best production intimate theatre, for Circle X at Atwater Village Theatre. Circle X acting credits include *ElectroPuss*, *Eurydice* and *Flu Season*.

CREATIVE TEAM

Yusuf Toropov (Playwright) is an American writer who emigrated to Ireland in 2015 and opted to stay following the 2016 US election. A convert to Islam, he is the author of the novel *Jihadi: A Love Story* and of dozens of nonfiction books, including pop culture guides such as *Who Was Eleanor Rigby?* and religious works such as *Beyond Mere Christianity* — a rebuttal to C.S Lewis' *Mere Christianity* citing common sources and themes shared by Islam and Christianity. His other plays include *Seven Affidavits on Authority* and *The Job Search*, which was produced at the Manhattan Punch Line in New York City. As an actor, he has performed in productions or adaptations of *The Tempest*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Macbeth*. He has appeared on more than 100 local and national broadcast programs.

Chris Fields (Director) is a director, actor, and teacher. He founded and is currently Artistic Director of The Echo Theater Company. He also founded and was Artistic Director of the Ojai Playwrights Conference. Most recently, he directed Erik Patterson's *One of the Nice Ones* and Miki Johnson's *American Falls* for The Echo. He won an LADCC Award for Direction for *Firemen* and the LA Weekly Award for Best Comedy Direction for Gary Lennon's *A Family Thing*. As an actor, he has appeared on and off Broadway, regionally, in film and on TV. He was adjunct professor of drama at SUNY Purchase and maintains a private workshop class in Los Angeles. Thanks to all.

Dianne K. Graebner (Costume Designer) has designed, and won awards and nominations, for over 100 productions nationwide and internationally and has originated the costumes for many new works and world premieres. Including *Church & State* Off-Broadway, *Breath & Imagination* (NAACP nomination), and *The Brothers Karamazov* (Ovation nomination) and *Battle Hymn* (L.A. Weekly nomination) for Circle X, just to mention a few. She is a member of United Scenic Artists Local-829. www.diannegraebner.com

Kate Jopson is the incoming Artistic Director of Circle X Theatre. She specializes in experienced-based productions. Recent credits: *Candide* (Santa Cruz Shakespeare); *Fefu & Her Friends* (Circle X Theatre/J.U.S.T Toys Productions, LA); *1984* (Greenway Court Theatre, LA); *An Accident* (Griot Theatre, LA), *Twelfth Night* (Coourage Theatre Co. LA); *Second Skin* (The West/The Flagship Ensemble); *A Willow Grows Aslant* (La Jolla Playhouse—Without Walls Fest.). www.katejopson.com

Jen Kays (Circle X Associate Artistic Director) is an actor, painter, producer, director and all around theatre artist living in Los Angeles. She is the Associate Artistic Director overseeing Literary and Production and has been a Circle X staff member since 2003. Her work with the company includes Literary Direction, Dramaturgy, Producing, Acting and Scenic Painting. All that said, painting is her jam.

Amanda Knehans (Scenic Design) is a Los Angeles based Scenic Designer and Art Director. Recent theatre credits include *Dry Land* (Kirk Douglas Theatre), *Welcome to the White Room* and *Year of the Rooster* (Theatre of Note), *Blueberry Toast*, *One of the Nice Ones*, and *A Small Fire* (The Echo), and *ICU* (Circle X). Recent film credits include Art Director *East Los High* Season 4 and 5 (Hulu) and *Sing It!* Season 1 (YouTube Red).

Rose Malone (Lighting Design) is a lighting designer who uses a wide array of technologies in her visual storytelling. She received an MFA in design from California Institute of the Arts. Some of her productions in LA include designing *With Love and a Major Organ* at Boston Court, and *Rachel Calof* at the Pico Union Project. Additionally, she has designed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and assisted with Deaf West Theatre's production of *Spring Awakening* on Broadway.

Cricket S. Myers (Sound Designer): On Broadway, Cricket earned a Tony Nomination and a Drama Desk Award for her design of *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*. Regional designs include La Jolla Playhouse, The Ahmanson, The Mark Taper Forum, South Coast Rep, The Kirk Douglas Theater, Pasadena Playhouse, and the Geffen Theater. She has earned 20 Ovation Nominations in Los Angeles. www.cricketsmyers.com

Alexander Pine (Assistant Producer) is an actor/writer and Associate Member of The Echo Theater Company. Watch him deliver food for Postmates in the *Untitled Alexander Pine Project* series on FB @AlexanderPineProject. His latest play, *Immortality Crisis*, about a suicide hotline that exists in a world where people can't die, can be found at www.APmaterial.com.

Camille Schenkkan (Circle X Managing Director) joined Circle X in 2004 as an intern and never left. She's the Program Director for Next Generation Initiatives at Center Theatre Group. To her son Ezra: school bus! Dump truck! Kitty cat!!!

Venice Yue Yang (Production Stage Manager) has received a BFA from California Institute of the Arts in creative management. She believes that theater and arts are concepts that can make this world a better place, and will always devote herself to being a part of the change. Her recent work includes: *Legally Blonde The Musical* Asia Tour, *Fantomas* (World Premiere at China Wuzhen Theater Festival), Dorset Theatre Festival 2017 (Stage Management Apprentice).